

June 1, 2016

Medical Cannabis Growing in Florida: Four of Florida's dispensing organizations are authorized to grow medical cannabis. Medical cannabis cannot be grown legally by any other person or business. Patients are not allowed to grow cannabis under section 381.986, Florida Statutes.

Dispensing organizations must receive cultivation authorization, processing authorization and dispensing authorization prior to selling medical cannabis products to patients. No dispensing organization has been given clearance to sell to patients. *Therefore, there is currently no legal way for patients to purchase or possess medical cannabis in Florida.*

Dispensing Medical Cannabis: Dispensing organizations are required by Florida Administrative Code Rule 64-4.005, to begin dispensing to patients no later than 210 days of being granted cultivation authorization, which will be in September 2016. However, the Department anticipates product being available for dispensing to patients as early as mid-July.

The Compassionate Use Registry: The Department's secure, electronic registration system for physicians and patients will be available at the end of this month. Once available, the registry will be accessible to law enforcement.

Florida Has Six Dispensing Organizations: Approved dispensing organizations are the only businesses allowed to grow or sell cannabis in Florida. Besides patients or their legal representative, dispensing organization employees are the only individuals allowed to transport medical cannabis. Florida's approved dispensing organizations are:

1.	Chestnut Hill Tree Farm	(Alachua County)
2.	Grandiflora (San Felasco Nurseries)	(Alachua County)
3.	*Trulieve (Hackney Nursery)	(Gadsden County)
4.	*Knox Nursery	(Orange County)
5.	*Modern Health Concepts (Costa Nursery Farms)	(Miami-Dade County)
6.	*Surterra Therapeutics (Alpha Foliage, Inc.)	(Leon & Hillsborough Counties)

* Represents a dispensing organization that has received cultivation authorization

For More Information: If you have questions related to medical cannabis regulations, please reach out to the Office of Compassionate Use at (850) 245-4657 and visit <u>http://www.floridahealth.gov/OCU</u>