PATRICK M. ALLEN

Cabinet Secretary



Dear Patients and Caregivers,

June 14, 2023

On June 16, 2023, Senate Bill 242, which establishes new rules for cannabis medical identification cards and patient and caregiver enrollment, will go into effect. There are several changes you should know (and a few reminders based on questions the program has received):

- 1. Starting on June 16, 2023, enrollment in the medical cannabis program will be for **two (2)** years from the approval date of the application.
  - a. The "Annual Recertification", **previously required every year** to maintain your active enrollment and participation in the program, is no longer necessary.
  - b. Current patient enrollment expiration dates will not change. Medical Cannabis ID Cards issued before this change are still valid. So, if you have a "3-year card" you can continue to use it until the expiration date on the card.
    - i. When re-enrolling (renewing), you should start the process 30 days in advance of the expiration date on your medical cannabis ID card.
    - ii. When it is time to re-enroll (renew), **you must visit your medical provider** for them to start the application through the Online Patient Portal. To access the Online Patient Portal, and for instructions on how to access your digital medical cannabis ID card, please visit: <a href="http://mcp.patients.doh.nm.gov/">http://mcp.patients.doh.nm.gov/</a>
  - c. To correspond with the enrollment changes, there is a new card format. The digital medical cannabis ID card will automatically update. The new card looks like this:



- 2. If you are a current patient or caregiver and you have not yet used the Online Patient Portal, please visit: <a href="http://mcp.patients.doh.nm.gov/">http://mcp.patients.doh.nm.gov/</a> to create an account and access your digital card now.
- 3. Dispensary employees are required to check your State of New Mexico Identification (Driver's License/ID) and your patient enrollment card at each purchase, so please make sure you have both with you. You may show a print-out or screenshot of your digital (electronic) card.
- 4. As a reminder, pursuant to NMSA 7-42-3 C, <u>all medical cannabis patients are exempt from paying taxes on cannabis purchases up to 425 units every 90-days.</u> If you are offered a discount, this should be in addition to the tax-free status, not instead of the tax.

If you have questions about your enrollment or the patient cards, please contact us at: <a href="medical.cannabis@doh.nm.gov">medical.cannabis@doh.nm.gov</a> or 505-827-2321. A similar letter was sent to all Cannabis Licensees to ensure they are also aware of these changes.

Sincerely,

NMDOH Medical Cannabis Program