

Quick Reference Guide for Kentucky Authorized Practitioners

How to provide Medical Cannabis Certifications

After receiving authorization from their respective state licensing board, Practitioners must register with the Kentucky Office of Medical Cannabis (OMC) in order to provide written certifications recommending use of medical cannabis. **The following steps illustrate how an authorized medical cannabis practitioner provides a qualified patient with a written certification:**



Diagnosing Qualifying Medical Conditions

For a patient to qualify for a medical cannabis card, an authorized practitioner must diagnose the patient with, or confirm the diagnosis of, a **qualifying medical condition** contained in **KRS 218B.010(26)** and believe the patient is likely to receive safe and effective therapeutic or palliative benefit from the use of medical cannabis.

Note: **Executive Order 2026- 318**, issued on June 2, 2026, clarifies the statutory definition of “qualifying medical condition.” You can read more [on our website](#).

Qualifying Medical Conditions

Specified in KRS 218B.010(26):

- ▶ Cancer of any type or form
- ▶ Chronic or severe pain
- ▶ Epilepsy or other intractable seizure disorders
- ▶ Multiple sclerosis, muscle spasms, or spasticity
- ▶ Chronic nausea or cyclical vomiting syndrome
- ▶ Post-traumatic stress disorder

Examples clarified by E.O. 2026-318:*

- ▶ Fibromyalgia
- ▶ Crohn's disease
- ▶ Parkinson's disease
- ▶ HIV/AIDS
- ▶ Ulcerative colitis
- ▶ Glaucoma
- ▶ Terminal illness

*Not a complete list. See KRS 218B.010(26), Executive Order 2026-318, and 915 KAR 2:050 for additional information.

Standards of Care for Certifications

When determining if a patient has a diagnosis that qualifies for a medical cannabis certification, a practitioner must adhere to the applicable **Standards of Care** set forth by KBML in **201 KAR 9:067(8)** and by KBN in **201 KAR 20:067(8)**.

 Patient Medical Record	 PDMP Report	 Follow Up Care	 Drug Screen (if applicable)	 Pregnancy (if applicable)
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Approved Activities	Prohibited Activities
▶ Providing written certifications to patients with qualifying medical conditions ▶ Modifying a qualified patient's supply limits and allowable product forms via a new written certification	▶ Providing written certification to yourself or family ▶ Issuing written certifications without proper authorization and registration with the OMC ▶ Issuing written certifications without establishing a bona fide practitioner-patient relationship

Resources

- ▶ Physicians can apply for authorization through the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure at: <https://kbml.ky.gov>
- ▶ APRNs can apply for authorization through the Kentucky Board of Nursing at: <https://kbn.ky.gov>
- ▶ To register for OMC's Practitioner Registry, visit the Office of Medical Cannabis website at: <https://kymedcan.ky.gov/>
- ▶ Prior to registering, be sure you have received your authorization to issue written certifications by your state licensing board