



Cultivators



Processors



Safety Compliance  
Facilities



Dispensaries

## What is a cultivator?

A cultivator license authorizes its holder to grow medical cannabis (also known as raw plant material) in an enclosed, locked facility and sell medical cannabis to a licensed medical cannabis processor, producer, or dispensary in Kentucky.

### Categories of cultivator licenses and associated financial commitments

Cultivator license category	Allowable sq. ft. of grow area	Nonrefundable application fee	Annual licensing fee	Capital requirements
Tier I	Less than or equal to 2,500 sq. ft.	\$3,000	\$12,000	\$50,000
Tier II	Less than or equal to 10,000 sq. ft.	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$200,000
Tier III	Less than or equal to 25,000 sq. ft.	\$20,000	\$50,000	\$500,000
*Tier IV	Less than or equal to 50,000 sq. ft.	\$30,000	\$100,000	\$1,000,000

*\*Tier IV cultivator licenses will not be available during the initial licensing phase*

### Qualifications for applicants

- ▶ Must conduct a criminal background check on each person seeking to become a principal officer, board member, agent, volunteer, or employee before that person begins work and not employ, accept as a volunteer, or have as a board member, principal officer, or agent any person who was convicted of a disqualifying felony offense or is younger than 21 years of age
- ▶ Cannot hold management roles or financial interests in safety compliance facilities and must test harvest batch samples of raw plant material as required by 915 KAR 1:110
- ▶ Must meet qualifications for licensure, including facility requirements, in the Kentucky Medical Cannabis Program as detailed in 915 KAR 1:010E, 915 KAR 1:020E, and 915 KAR 1:030
- ▶ May only apply for a license in one cannabis business type being offered at that time (e.g., an applicant cannot apply for both a cultivator and a dispensary license)
- ▶ May submit one license application per cultivator license tier so long as each application contains a separate and distinct physical address where the cannabis business proposes to operate

#### Approved activities

- ▶ Acquiring, possessing, planting, cultivating, raising, harvesting, trimming, or storing cannabis seeds, seedlings, plants, or raw plant material in **an enclosed, locked facility** which includes a greenhouse, building, or other indoor area.
- ▶ Delivering, transporting, transferring, supplying, or selling raw plant material or related supplies to other licensed cannabis businesses in this state
- ▶ Selling cannabis seeds or seedlings to other licensed cultivators in Kentucky

#### Prohibited activities

- ▶ Cultivating medical cannabis with THC content over 35%
- ▶ Selling or transferring medical cannabis to any person or entity who does not hold a cannabis business license issued by the cabinet
- ▶ Displaying signage, logos, products, or any other identifying characteristics to alert the public that medical cannabis is being grown at that facility
- ▶ Locating within one thousand (1,000) feet of an existing elementary school, secondary school, or daycare center

### Resources

- ▶ For more information about cannabis businesses, please visit the Kentucky Medical Cannabis Program website at: <https://kymedcan.ky.gov/>.