

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
Regulation of
Department of Consumer Protection
concerning
Cannabis Dispensary Technician
Requirements – Policies and Procedures

Section 1. Section 21a-421j-19 is added to the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies as follows:

(NEW) (a) No person shall act as a dispensary technician without being registered as such with the department. The Department shall only issue and renew a dispensary technician registration, upon application, to a person who is at least eighteen years of age, and has either (1) held an active pharmacy technician registration or dispensary technician registration in Connecticut within the five years prior to application and is currently in good standing, or was in good standing at the time his or her registration lapsed, or (2) completes the dispensary technician training program set forth in subsection (b) below.

(b) An individual may apply to the Department for a dispensary technician registration and shall complete a dispensary technician training program within thirty days, which dispensary technician training program shall include:

(1) Twenty hours of on-the-job and other related education, commensurate with the tasks expected to be performed, including but not limited to:

(A) Cannabis fundamentals, including strains, cannabinoids, product types, routes of administration, and recognizing noncompliant cannabis in the marketplace;

(B) Legal limits on the possession, purchase transactions, and use of cannabis;

(C) Confidentiality and operational training on patient information, allotments, and dispensing activities, including the prescription monitoring program and dispensing errors;

(D) All other training requirements applicable to dispensary technicians set forth in sections 21a-421j-1 to 21a-421j-39, inclusive, of these policies and procedures; and

(E) Eight training hours under the direct, in-person supervision of a licensed pharmacist.

(2) One-hour of education regarding professional dispensing conduct;

(3) One-hour of education regarding professional ethics;

- (4) One-hour of education regarding state and federal laws of patient confidentiality; and
- (5) Two-hours of education regarding the developments in medical marijuana use.

(c) The licensed pharmacist that performs the eight-hour, in-person supervision of a dispensary technician shall be responsible for that dispensary technician's training program and maintaining the following documentation thereof:

- (1) The name, signature, and pharmacist credential number of the licensed pharmacist responsible for the dispensary technician's training program;
- (2) The dates of the training and a general description of the topics covered; and
- (3) The name, signature, and dispensary technician credential number of the dispensary technician receiving the training.

(d) Dispensary technicians. Ratio. Supervision and Responsibility.

- (1) The ratio of dispensary technicians to licensed pharmacists on duty at a dispensary facility and a hybrid retailer shall not exceed three dispensary technicians to one licensed pharmacist.
- (2) A licensed pharmacist whose license is under suspension or revocation shall not act as a licensed pharmacist or dispensary technician.
- (3) The licensed pharmacist providing direct supervision of dispensary technicians shall be responsible for such dispensary technicians' actions. The department may take disciplinary action against a licensed pharmacist in connection with any violations relating to the dispensing of cannabis that result from the actions of a dispensary technician, or the use of dispensary technicians in the performance of tasks in a manner not in conformance with chapters 420f and 420h of the general statutes, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, and sections 21a-421j-1 to 21a-421j-39, inclusive of these Policies and Procedures. As used in this subsection, "direct supervision" means a supervising licensed pharmacist who (A) is physically or virtually present in the area or location where the dispensary technician is performing routine cannabis dispensing functions; and (B) conducts in-process and final checks on the dispensary technician's performance.

(e) Dispensary technicians shall not engage in any activity below:

- (1) Consult with a qualifying patient or caregiver regarding cannabis or other drugs, either before or after cannabis has been dispensed, or regarding any medical information contained in a patient medication record;
- (2) Consult with the physician, physician assistant or APRN, or the authorized representative thereof, who certified the qualifying patient, regarding a patient or any medical information pertaining to the patient's cannabis or any other drug the patient may be taking;
- (3) Interpret a qualifying patient's clinical data or provide medical advice;

- (4) Perform any professional consultation with physicians, physician assistants, APRNs, nurses or other health care professionals or their authorized representatives; or
- (5) Determine whether a different brand or formulation of cannabis should be substituted for the cannabis or formulation recommended by the physician, physician assistant, or APRN, or requested by the qualifying patient or caregiver.

(f) Notwithstanding subsection (d) of this section, a dispensary technician may communicate with a physician, physician assistant, or APRN, who certified a qualifying patient, or such physician's, physician assistant's, or APRN's authorized representative, to obtain a clarification on such qualifying patient's written certification or instructions provided the supervising licensed pharmacist is aware that such clarification is being requested.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this regulation is to provide standards for the education, training, credentialing, and conduct of dispensary technicians working within the cannabis industry, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 21a-421a.