



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4515

Introduced 1/26/2026, by Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

410 ILCS 705/1-10
410 ILCS 705/7-10
410 ILCS 705/7-15
410 ILCS 705/10-15
410 ILCS 705/Art. 25 heading
410 ILCS 705/25-1
410 ILCS 705/25-10
410 ILCS 705/25-15
410 ILCS 705/25-35
410 ILCS 705/50-5
410 ILCS 705/25-45 rep.

Amends the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act. Replaces references to the Community College Cannabis Vocational Pilot Program and the Community College Cannabis Vocational Training Pilot Program with references to the Community College Cannabis Vocational Training Program. Repeals provisions that would automatically repeal the Program on July 1, 2026. Authorizes the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to provide grants from appropriations from the Cannabis Business Development Fund to community colleges licensed under the Community College Vocational Training Program, and requires the Department to adopt rules. Provides that the community colleges that received a license before the effective date of the amendatory Act shall be deemed to be licensed Responsible Vendor Program Training Providers and that such designation may be revoked for cause under rules adopted by the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. Makes conforming changes. Effective immediately.

LRB104 16431 BDA 29822 b

1 AN ACT concerning health.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act is amended
5 by changing the heading of Article 25 and by changing Sections
6 1-10, 7-10, 7-15, 10-15, 25-1, 25-10, 25-15, 25-35, and 50-5
7 as follows:

8 (410 ILCS 705/1-10)

9 Sec. 1-10. Definitions. In this Act:

10 "Adult Use Cultivation Center License" means a license
11 issued by the Department of Agriculture that permits a person
12 to act as a cultivation center under this Act and any
13 administrative rule made in furtherance of this Act.

14 "Adult Use Dispensing Organization License" means a
15 license issued by the Department of Financial and Professional
16 Regulation that permits a person to act as a dispensing
17 organization under this Act and any administrative rule made
18 in furtherance of this Act.

19 "Advertise" means to engage in promotional activities
20 including, but not limited to: newspaper, radio, Internet and
21 electronic media, and television advertising; the distribution
22 of fliers and circulars; billboard advertising; and the
23 display of window and interior signs. "Advertise" does not

1 mean exterior signage displaying only the name of the licensed
2 cannabis business establishment.

3 "Application points" means the number of points a
4 Dispensary Applicant receives on an application for a
5 Conditional Adult Use Dispensing Organization License.

6 "BLS Region" means a region in Illinois used by the United
7 States Bureau of Labor Statistics to gather and categorize
8 certain employment and wage data. The 17 such regions in
9 Illinois are: Bloomington, Cape Girardeau, Carbondale-Marion,
10 Champaign-Urbana, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, Danville,
11 Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, Decatur, Kankakee, Peoria,
12 Rockford, St. Louis, Springfield, Northwest Illinois
13 nonmetropolitan area, West Central Illinois nonmetropolitan
14 area, East Central Illinois nonmetropolitan area, and South
15 Illinois nonmetropolitan area.

16 "By lot" means a randomized method of choosing between 2
17 or more Eligible Tied Applicants or 2 or more Qualifying
18 Applicants.

19 "Cannabis" means marijuana, hashish, and other substances
20 that are identified as including any parts of the plant
21 Cannabis sativa and including derivatives or subspecies, such
22 as indica, of all strains of cannabis, whether growing or not;
23 the seeds thereof, the resin extracted from any part of the
24 plant; and any compound, manufacture, salt, derivative,
25 mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds, or resin,
26 including tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and all other naturally

1 produced cannabinol derivatives, whether produced directly or
2 indirectly by extraction; however, "cannabis" does not include
3 the mature stalks of the plant, fiber produced from the
4 stalks, oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant, any other
5 compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or
6 preparation of the mature stalks (except the resin extracted
7 from it), fiber, oil or cake, or the sterilized seed of the
8 plant that is incapable of germination. "Cannabis" does not
9 include industrial hemp as defined and authorized under the
10 Industrial Hemp Act. "Cannabis" also means cannabis flower,
11 concentrate, and cannabis-infused products.

12 "Cannabis business establishment" means a cultivation
13 center, craft grower, processing organization, infuser
14 organization, dispensing organization, or transporting
15 organization.

16 "Cannabis concentrate" means a product derived from
17 cannabis that is produced by extracting cannabinoids,
18 including tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), from the plant through
19 the use of propylene glycol, glycerin, butter, olive oil, or
20 other typical cooking fats; water, ice, or dry ice; or butane,
21 propane, CO₂, ethanol, or isopropanol and with the intended
22 use of smoking or making a cannabis-infused product. The use
23 of any other solvent is expressly prohibited unless and until
24 it is approved by the Department of Agriculture.

25 "Cannabis container" means a sealed or resealable,
26 traceable, container, or package used for the purpose of

1 containment of cannabis or cannabis-infused product during
2 transportation.

3 "Cannabis flower" means marijuana, hashish, and other
4 substances that are identified as including any parts of the
5 plant Cannabis sativa and including derivatives or subspecies,
6 such as indica, of all strains of cannabis; including raw
7 kief, leaves, and buds, but not resin that has been extracted
8 from any part of such plant; nor any compound, manufacture,
9 salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of such plant, its
10 seeds, or resin.

11 "Cannabis-infused product" means a beverage, food, oil,
12 ointment, tincture, topical formulation, or another product
13 containing cannabis or cannabis concentrate that is not
14 intended to be smoked.

15 "Cannabis paraphernalia" means equipment, products, or
16 materials intended to be used for planting, propagating,
17 cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, producing,
18 processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging,
19 repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, ingesting, or
20 otherwise introducing cannabis into the human body.

21 "Cannabis plant monitoring system" or "plant monitoring
22 system" means a system that includes, but is not limited to,
23 testing and data collection established and maintained by the
24 cultivation center, craft grower, or processing organization
25 and that is available to the Department of Revenue, the
26 Department of Agriculture, the Department of Financial and

1 Professional Regulation, and the Illinois State Police for the
2 purposes of documenting each cannabis plant and monitoring
3 plant development throughout the life cycle of a cannabis
4 plant cultivated for the intended use by a customer from seed
5 planting to final packaging.

6 "Cannabis testing facility" means an entity registered by
7 the Department of Agriculture to test cannabis for potency and
8 contaminants.

9 "Clone" means a plant section from a female cannabis plant
10 not yet rootbound, growing in a water solution or other
11 propagation matrix, that is capable of developing into a new
12 plant.

13 "Community College Cannabis Vocational Training ~~Pilot~~
14 Program faculty participant" means a person who is 21 years of
15 age or older, licensed by the Department of Agriculture, and
16 is employed or contracted by an Illinois community college to
17 provide student instruction using cannabis plants at an
18 Illinois Community College.

19 "Community College Cannabis Vocational Training ~~Pilot~~
20 Program faculty participant Agent Identification Card" means a
21 document issued by the Department of Agriculture that
22 identifies a person as a Community College Cannabis Vocational
23 Training ~~Pilot~~ Program faculty participant.

24 "Conditional Adult Use Dispensing Organization License"
25 means a contingent license awarded to applicants for an Adult
26 Use Dispensing Organization License that reserves the right to

1 an Adult Use Dispensing Organization License if the applicant
2 meets certain conditions described in this Act, but does not
3 entitle the recipient to begin purchasing or selling cannabis
4 or cannabis-infused products.

5 "Conditional Adult Use Cultivation Center License" means a
6 license awarded to top-scoring applicants for an Adult Use
7 Cultivation Center License that reserves the right to an Adult
8 Use Cultivation Center License if the applicant meets certain
9 conditions as determined by the Department of Agriculture by
10 rule, but does not entitle the recipient to begin growing,
11 processing, or selling cannabis or cannabis-infused products.

12 "Craft grower" means a facility operated by an
13 organization or business that is licensed by the Department of
14 Agriculture to cultivate, dry, cure, and package cannabis and
15 perform other necessary activities to make cannabis available
16 for sale at a dispensing organization or use at a processing
17 organization. A craft grower may contain up to 5,000 square
18 feet of canopy space on its premises for plants in the
19 flowering state. The Department of Agriculture may authorize
20 an increase or decrease of flowering stage cultivation space
21 in increments of 3,000 square feet by rule based on market
22 need, craft grower capacity, and the licensee's history of
23 compliance or noncompliance, with a maximum space of 14,000
24 square feet for cultivating plants in the flowering stage,
25 which must be cultivated in all stages of growth in an enclosed
26 and secure area. A craft grower may share premises with a

1 processing organization or a dispensing organization, or both,
2 provided each licensee stores currency and cannabis or
3 cannabis-infused products in a separate secured vault to which
4 the other licensee does not have access or all licensees
5 sharing a vault share more than 50% of the same ownership.

6 "Craft grower agent" means a principal officer, board
7 member, employee, or other agent of a craft grower who is 21
8 years of age or older.

9 "Craft Grower Agent Identification Card" means a document
10 issued by the Department of Agriculture that identifies a
11 person as a craft grower agent.

12 "Cultivation center" means a facility operated by an
13 organization or business that is licensed by the Department of
14 Agriculture to cultivate, process, transport (unless otherwise
15 limited by this Act), and perform other necessary activities
16 to provide cannabis and cannabis-infused products to cannabis
17 business establishments.

18 "Cultivation center agent" means a principal officer,
19 board member, employee, or other agent of a cultivation center
20 who is 21 years of age or older.

21 "Cultivation Center Agent Identification Card" means a
22 document issued by the Department of Agriculture that
23 identifies a person as a cultivation center agent.

24 "Currency" means currency and coin of the United States.

25 "Dispensary" means a facility operated by a dispensing
26 organization at which activities licensed by this Act may

1 occur.

2 "Dispensary Applicant" means the Proposed Dispensing
3 Organization Name as stated on an application for a
4 Conditional Adult Use Dispensing Organization License.

5 "Dispensing organization" means a facility operated by an
6 organization or business that is licensed by the Department of
7 Financial and Professional Regulation to acquire cannabis from
8 a cultivation center, craft grower, processing organization,
9 or another dispensary for the purpose of selling or dispensing
10 cannabis, cannabis-infused products, cannabis seeds,
11 paraphernalia, or related supplies under this Act to
12 purchasers or to qualified registered medical cannabis
13 patients and caregivers. As used in this Act, "dispensing
14 organization" includes a registered medical cannabis
15 organization as defined in the Compassionate Use of Medical
16 Cannabis Program Act or its successor Act that has obtained an
17 Early Approval Adult Use Dispensing Organization License.

18 "Dispensing organization agent" means a principal officer,
19 employee, or agent of a dispensing organization who is 21
20 years of age or older.

21 "Dispensing organization agent identification card" means
22 a document issued by the Department of Financial and
23 Professional Regulation that identifies a person as a
24 dispensing organization agent.

25 "Disproportionately Impacted Area" means a census tract or
26 comparable geographic area that satisfies the following

1 criteria as determined by the Department of Commerce and
2 Economic Opportunity, that:

3 (1) meets at least one of the following criteria:

4 (A) the area has a poverty rate of at least 20%
5 according to the latest federal decennial census; or

6 (B) 75% or more of the children in the area
7 participate in the federal free lunch program
8 according to reported statistics from the State Board
9 of Education; or

10 (C) at least 20% of the households in the area
11 receive assistance under the Supplemental Nutrition
12 Assistance Program; or

13 (D) the area has an average unemployment rate, as
14 determined by the Illinois Department of Employment
15 Security, that is more than 120% of the national
16 unemployment average, as determined by the United
17 States Department of Labor, for a period of at least 2
18 consecutive calendar years preceding the date of the
19 application; and

20 (2) has high rates of arrest, conviction, and
21 incarceration related to the sale, possession, use,
22 cultivation, manufacture, or transport of cannabis.

23 "Early Approval Adult Use Cultivation Center License"
24 means a license that permits a medical cannabis cultivation
25 center licensed under the Compassionate Use of Medical
26 Cannabis Program Act as of the effective date of this Act to

1 begin cultivating, infusing, packaging, transporting (unless
2 otherwise provided in this Act), processing, and selling
3 cannabis or cannabis-infused product to cannabis business
4 establishments for resale to purchasers as permitted by this
5 Act as of January 1, 2020.

6 "Early Approval Adult Use Dispensing Organization License"
7 means a license that permits a medical cannabis dispensing
8 organization licensed under the Compassionate Use of Medical
9 Cannabis Program Act as of the effective date of this Act to
10 begin selling cannabis or cannabis-infused product to
11 purchasers as permitted by this Act as of January 1, 2020.

12 "Early Approval Adult Use Dispensing Organization at a
13 secondary site" means a license that permits a medical
14 cannabis dispensing organization licensed under the
15 Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act as of the
16 effective date of this Act to begin selling cannabis or
17 cannabis-infused product to purchasers as permitted by this
18 Act on January 1, 2020 at a different dispensary location from
19 its existing registered medical dispensary location.

20 "Eligible Tied Applicant" means a Tied Applicant that is
21 eligible to participate in the process by which a remaining
22 available license is distributed by lot pursuant to a Tied
23 Applicant Lottery.

24 "Enclosed, locked facility" means a room, greenhouse,
25 building, or other enclosed area equipped with locks or other
26 security devices that permit access only by cannabis business

1 establishment agents working for the licensed cannabis
2 business establishment or acting pursuant to this Act to
3 cultivate, process, store, or distribute cannabis.

4 "Enclosed, locked space" means a closet, room, greenhouse,
5 building, or other enclosed area equipped with locks or other
6 security devices that permit access only by authorized
7 individuals under this Act. "Enclosed, locked space" may
8 include:

9 (1) a space within a residential building that (i) is
10 the primary residence of the individual cultivating 5 or
11 fewer cannabis plants that are more than 5 inches tall and
12 (ii) includes sleeping quarters and indoor plumbing. The
13 space must only be accessible by a key or code that is
14 different from any key or code that can be used to access
15 the residential building from the exterior; or

16 (2) a structure, such as a shed or greenhouse, that
17 lies on the same plot of land as a residential building
18 that (i) includes sleeping quarters and indoor plumbing
19 and (ii) is used as a primary residence by the person
20 cultivating 5 or fewer cannabis plants that are more than
21 5 inches tall, such as a shed or greenhouse. The structure
22 must remain locked when it is unoccupied by people.

23 "Financial institution" has the same meaning as "financial
24 organization" as defined in Section 1501 of the Illinois
25 Income Tax Act, and also includes the holding companies,
26 subsidiaries, and affiliates of such financial organizations.

1 "Flowering stage" means the stage of cultivation where and
2 when a cannabis plant is cultivated to produce plant material
3 for cannabis products. This includes mature plants as follows:

4 (1) if greater than 2 stigmas are visible at each
5 internode of the plant; or

6 (2) if the cannabis plant is in an area that has been
7 intentionally deprived of light for a period of time
8 intended to produce flower buds and induce maturation,
9 from the moment the light deprivation began through the
10 remainder of the marijuana plant growth cycle.

11 "Individual" means a natural person.

12 "Infuser organization" or "infuser" means a facility
13 operated by an organization or business that is licensed by
14 the Department of Agriculture to directly incorporate cannabis
15 or cannabis concentrate into a product formulation to produce
16 a cannabis-infused product.

17 "Kief" means the resinous crystal-like trichomes that are
18 found on cannabis and that are accumulated, resulting in a
19 higher concentration of cannabinoids, untreated by heat or
20 pressure, or extracted using a solvent.

21 "Labor peace agreement" means an agreement between a
22 cannabis business establishment and any labor organization
23 recognized under the National Labor Relations Act, referred to
24 in this Act as a bona fide labor organization, that prohibits
25 labor organizations and members from engaging in picketing,
26 work stoppages, boycotts, and any other economic interference

1 with the cannabis business establishment. This agreement means
2 that the cannabis business establishment has agreed not to
3 disrupt efforts by the bona fide labor organization to
4 communicate with, and attempt to organize and represent, the
5 cannabis business establishment's employees. The agreement
6 shall provide a bona fide labor organization access at
7 reasonable times to areas in which the cannabis business
8 establishment's employees work, for the purpose of meeting
9 with employees to discuss their right to representation,
10 employment rights under State law, and terms and conditions of
11 employment. This type of agreement shall not mandate a
12 particular method of election or certification of the bona
13 fide labor organization.

14 "Limited access area" means a room or other area under the
15 control of a cannabis dispensing organization licensed under
16 this Act and upon the licensed premises where cannabis sales
17 occur with access limited to purchasers, dispensing
18 organization owners and other dispensing organization agents,
19 or service professionals conducting business with the
20 dispensing organization, or, if sales to registered qualifying
21 patients, caregivers, provisional patients, and Opioid
22 Alternative Pilot Program participants licensed pursuant to
23 the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act are also
24 permitted at the dispensary, registered qualifying patients,
25 caregivers, provisional patients, and Opioid Alternative Pilot
26 Program participants.

1 "Member of an impacted family" means an individual who has
2 a parent, legal guardian, child, spouse, or dependent, or was
3 a dependent of an individual who, prior to the effective date
4 of this Act, was arrested for, convicted of, or adjudicated
5 delinquent for any offense that is eligible for expungement
6 under this Act.

7 "Mother plant" means a cannabis plant that is cultivated
8 or maintained for the purpose of generating clones, and that
9 will not be used to produce plant material for sale to an
10 infuser or dispensing organization.

11 "Ordinary public view" means within the sight line with
12 normal visual range of a person, unassisted by visual aids,
13 from a public street or sidewalk adjacent to real property, or
14 from within an adjacent property.

15 "Ownership and control" means ownership of at least 51% of
16 the business, including corporate stock if a corporation, and
17 control over the management and day-to-day operations of the
18 business and an interest in the capital, assets, and profits
19 and losses of the business proportionate to percentage of
20 ownership.

21 "Person" means a natural individual, firm, partnership,
22 association, joint stock company, joint venture, public or
23 private corporation, limited liability company, or a receiver,
24 executor, trustee, guardian, or other representative appointed
25 by order of any court.

26 "Possession limit" means the amount of cannabis under

1 Section 10-10 that may be possessed at any one time by a person
2 21 years of age or older or who is a registered qualifying
3 medical cannabis patient or caregiver under the Compassionate
4 Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act.

5 "Principal officer" includes a cannabis business
6 establishment applicant or licensed cannabis business
7 establishment's board member, owner with more than 1% interest
8 of the total cannabis business establishment or more than 5%
9 interest of the total cannabis business establishment of a
10 publicly traded company, president, vice president, secretary,
11 treasurer, partner, officer, member, manager member, or person
12 with a profit sharing, financial interest, or revenue sharing
13 arrangement. The definition includes a person with authority
14 to control the cannabis business establishment, a person who
15 assumes responsibility for the debts of the cannabis business
16 establishment and who is further defined in this Act.

17 "Primary residence" means a dwelling where a person
18 usually stays or stays more often than other locations. It may
19 be determined by, without limitation, presence, tax filings;
20 address on an Illinois driver's license, an Illinois
21 Identification Card, or an Illinois Person with a Disability
22 Identification Card; or voter registration. No person may have
23 more than one primary residence.

24 "Processing organization" or "processor" means a facility
25 operated by an organization or business that is licensed by
26 the Department of Agriculture to either extract constituent

1 chemicals or compounds to produce cannabis concentrate or
2 incorporate cannabis or cannabis concentrate into a product
3 formulation to produce a cannabis product.

4 "Processing organization agent" means a principal officer,
5 board member, employee, or agent of a processing organization.

6 "Processing organization agent identification card" means
7 a document issued by the Department of Agriculture that
8 identifies a person as a processing organization agent.

9 "Purchaser" means a person 21 years of age or older who
10 acquires cannabis for a valuable consideration. "Purchaser"
11 does not include a cardholder under the Compassionate Use of
12 Medical Cannabis Program Act.

13 "Qualifying Applicant" means an applicant that submitted
14 an application pursuant to Section 15-30 that received at
15 least 85% of 250 application points available under Section
16 15-30 as the applicant's final score and meets the definition
17 of "Social Equity Applicant" as set forth under this Section.

18 "Qualifying Social Equity Justice Involved Applicant"
19 means an applicant that submitted an application pursuant to
20 Section 15-30 that received at least 85% of 250 application
21 points available under Section 15-30 as the applicant's final
22 score and meets the criteria of either paragraph (1) or (2) of
23 the definition of "Social Equity Applicant" as set forth under
24 this Section.

25 "Qualified Social Equity Applicant" means a Social Equity
26 Applicant who has been awarded a conditional license under

1 this Act to operate a cannabis business establishment.

2 "Resided" means an individual's primary residence was
3 located within the relevant geographic area as established by
4 2 of the following:

5 (1) a signed lease agreement that includes the
6 applicant's name;

7 (2) a property deed that includes the applicant's
8 name;

9 (3) school records;

10 (4) a voter registration card;

11 (5) an Illinois driver's license, an Illinois
12 Identification Card, or an Illinois Person with a
13 Disability Identification Card;

14 (6) a paycheck stub;

15 (7) a utility bill;

16 (8) tax records; or

17 (9) any other proof of residency or other information
18 necessary to establish residence as provided by rule.

19 "Smoking" means the inhalation of smoke caused by the
20 combustion of cannabis.

21 "Social Equity Applicant" means an applicant that is an
22 Illinois resident that meets one of the following criteria:

23 (1) an applicant with at least 51% ownership and
24 control by one or more individuals who have resided for at
25 least 5 of the preceding 10 years in a Disproportionately
26 Impacted Area;

1 (2) an applicant with at least 51% ownership and
2 control by one or more individuals who:

3 (i) have been arrested for, convicted of, or
4 adjudicated delinquent for any offense that is
5 eligible for expungement under this Act; or

6 (ii) is a member of an impacted family;

7 (3) for applicants with a minimum of 10 full-time
8 employees, an applicant with at least 51% of current
9 employees who:

10 (i) currently reside in a Disproportionately
11 Impacted Area; or

12 (ii) have been arrested for, convicted of, or
13 adjudicated delinquent for any offense that is
14 eligible for expungement under this Act or member of
15 an impacted family.

16 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to preempt or limit
17 the duties of any employer under the Job Opportunities for
18 Qualified Applicants Act. Nothing in this Act shall permit an
19 employer to require an employee to disclose sealed or expunged
20 offenses, unless otherwise required by law.

21 "Tied Applicant" means an application submitted by a
22 Dispensary Applicant pursuant to Section 15-30 that received
23 the same number of application points under Section 15-30 as
24 the Dispensary Applicant's final score as one or more
25 top-scoring applications in the same BLS Region and would have
26 been awarded a license but for the one or more other

1 top-scoring applications that received the same number of
2 application points. Each application for which a Dispensary
3 Applicant was required to pay a required application fee for
4 the application period ending January 2, 2020 shall be
5 considered an application of a separate Tied Applicant.

6 "Tied Applicant Lottery" means the process established
7 under 68 Ill. Adm. Code 1291.50 for awarding Conditional Adult
8 Use Dispensing Organization Licenses pursuant to Sections
9 15-25 and 15-30 among Eligible Tied Applicants.

10 "Tincture" means a cannabis-infused solution, typically
11 comprised of alcohol, glycerin, or vegetable oils, derived
12 either directly from the cannabis plant or from a processed
13 cannabis extract. A tincture is not an alcoholic liquor as
14 defined in the Liquor Control Act of 1934. A tincture shall
15 include a calibrated dropper or other similar device capable
16 of accurately measuring servings.

17 "Transporting organization" or "transporter" means an
18 organization or business that is licensed by the Department of
19 Agriculture to transport cannabis or cannabis-infused product
20 on behalf of a cannabis business establishment or a community
21 college licensed under the Community College Cannabis
22 Vocational Training ~~Pilot~~ Program.

23 "Transporting organization agent" means a principal
24 officer, board member, employee, or agent of a transporting
25 organization.

26 "Transporting organization agent identification card"

1 means a document issued by the Department of Agriculture that
2 identifies a person as a transporting organization agent.

3 "Unit of local government" means any county, city,
4 village, or incorporated town.

5 "Vegetative stage" means the stage of cultivation in which
6 a cannabis plant is propagated to produce additional cannabis
7 plants or reach a sufficient size for production. This
8 includes seedlings, clones, mothers, and other immature
9 cannabis plants as follows:

10 (1) if the cannabis plant is in an area that has not
11 been intentionally deprived of light for a period of time
12 intended to produce flower buds and induce maturation, it
13 has no more than 2 stigmas visible at each internode of the
14 cannabis plant; or

15 (2) any cannabis plant that is cultivated solely for
16 the purpose of propagating clones and is never used to
17 produce cannabis.

18 (Source: P.A. 101-27, eff. 6-25-19; 101-593, eff. 12-4-19;
19 102-98, eff. 7-15-21; 102-538, eff. 8-20-21; 102-813, eff.
20 5-13-22.)

21 (410 ILCS 705/7-10)

22 Sec. 7-10. Cannabis Business Development Fund.

23 (a) There is created in the State treasury a special fund,
24 which shall be held separate and apart from all other State
25 moneys, to be known as the Cannabis Business Development Fund.

1 The Cannabis Business Development Fund shall be exclusively
2 used for the following purposes:

3 (1) to provide low-interest rate loans to Qualified
4 Social Equity Applicants to pay for ordinary and necessary
5 expenses to start and operate a cannabis business
6 establishment permitted by this Act;

7 (2) to provide grants to Qualified Social Equity
8 Applicants to pay for ordinary and necessary expenses to
9 start and operate a cannabis business establishment
10 permitted by this Act;

11 (3) to compensate the Department of Commerce and
12 Economic Opportunity for any costs related to the
13 provision of low-interest loans and grants to Qualified
14 Social Equity Applicants and grants to community colleges
15 licensed under the Community College Vocational Training
16 Program in Article 25 of this Act;

17 (4) to pay for outreach that may be provided or
18 targeted to attract and support Social Equity Applicants
19 and Qualified Social Equity Applicants;

20 (5) (blank);

21 (6) to conduct any study or research concerning the
22 participation of minorities, women, veterans, or people
23 with disabilities in the cannabis industry, including,
24 without limitation, barriers to such individuals entering
25 the industry as equity owners of cannabis business
26 establishments;

1 (7) (blank); ~~and~~

2 (8) to assist with job training and technical
3 assistance for residents in Disproportionately Impacted
4 Areas; and -

5 (9) to provide grants to community colleges licensed
6 under the Community College Vocational Training Program in
7 Article 25 of this Act.

8 (b) All moneys collected under Sections 15-15 and 15-20
9 for Early Approval Adult Use Dispensing Organization Licenses
10 issued before January 1, 2021 and remunerations made as a
11 result of transfers of permits awarded to Qualified Social
12 Equity Applicants shall be deposited into the Cannabis
13 Business Development Fund.

14 (c) (Blank).

15 (c-5) In addition to any other transfers that may be
16 provided for by law, on July 1, 2023, or as soon thereafter as
17 practical, the State Comptroller shall direct and the State
18 Treasurer shall transfer the sum of \$40,000,000 from the
19 Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Fund to the Cannabis
20 Business Development Fund.

21 (d) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the
22 Cannabis Business Development Fund is not subject to sweeps,
23 administrative charge-backs, or any other fiscal or budgetary
24 maneuver that would in any way transfer any amounts from the
25 Cannabis Business Development Fund into any other fund of the
26 State.

1 (Source: P.A. 103-8, eff. 6-7-23.)

2 (410 ILCS 705/7-15)

3 Sec. 7-15. Loans and grants to Social Equity Applicants.

4 (a) The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
5 shall establish grant and loan programs, subject to
6 appropriations from the Cannabis Business Development Fund,
7 for the purposes of providing financial assistance, loans,
8 grants, and technical assistance to Social Equity Applicants
9 and grants to community colleges licensed under the Community
10 College Vocational Training Program in Article 25 of this Act.

11 (b) The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
12 has the power to:

13 (1) provide Cannabis Social Equity loans and grants
14 from appropriations from the Cannabis Business Development
15 Fund to assist Qualified Social Equity Applicants in
16 gaining entry to, and successfully operating in, the
17 State's regulated cannabis marketplace;

18 (1-b) provide grants from appropriations from the
19 Cannabis Business Development Fund to community colleges
20 licensed under the Community College Vocational Training
21 Program in Article 25 of this Act to further the purposes
22 of this Act;

23 (2) enter into agreements that set forth terms and
24 conditions of the financial assistance, accept funds or
25 grants, and engage in cooperation with private entities

1 and agencies of State or local government to carry out the
2 purposes of this Section;

3 (3) fix, determine, charge, and collect any premiums,
4 fees, charges, costs and expenses, including application
5 fees, commitment fees, program fees, financing charges, or
6 publication fees in connection with its activities under
7 this Section;

8 (4) coordinate assistance under these loan programs
9 with activities of the Illinois Department of Financial
10 and Professional Regulation, the Illinois Department of
11 Agriculture, and other agencies as needed to maximize the
12 effectiveness and efficiency of this Act;

13 (5) provide staff, administration, and related support
14 required to administer this Section;

15 (6) take whatever actions are necessary or appropriate
16 to protect the State's interest in the event of
17 bankruptcy, default, foreclosure, or noncompliance with
18 the terms and conditions of financial assistance provided
19 under this Section, including the ability to recapture
20 funds if the recipient is found to be noncompliant with
21 the terms and conditions of the financial assistance
22 agreement;

23 (7) establish application, notification, contract, and
24 other forms, procedures, or rules deemed necessary and
25 appropriate; and

26 (8) utilize vendors or contract work to carry out the

1 purposes of this Act.

2 (c) Loans made under this Section:

3 (1) shall only be made if, in the Department's
4 judgment, the project furthers the goals set forth in this
5 Act; and

6 (2) shall be in such principal amount and form and
7 contain such terms and provisions with respect to
8 security, insurance, reporting, delinquency charges,
9 default remedies, and other matters as the Department
10 shall determine appropriate to protect the public interest
11 and to be consistent with the purposes of this Section.
12 The terms and provisions may be less than required for
13 similar loans not covered by this Section.

14 (d) Grants made under this Section shall be awarded on a
15 competitive and annual basis under the Grant Accountability
16 and Transparency Act. Grants made under this Section shall
17 further and promote the goals of this Act, including, but not
18 limited to, promotion of Social Equity Applicants, job
19 training and workforce development, and technical assistance
20 to Social Equity Applicants.

21 (e) Beginning January 1, 2021 and each year thereafter,
22 the Department shall annually report to the Governor and the
23 General Assembly on the outcomes and effectiveness of this
24 Section that shall include the following:

25 (1) the number of persons, ~~or~~ businesses, or other
26 entities receiving financial assistance under this

1 Section;

2 (2) the amount in financial assistance awarded in the
3 aggregate, in addition to the amount of loans made that
4 are outstanding and the amount of grants awarded;

5 (3) the location of the project engaged in by the
6 person, ~~or~~ business, or entity; and

7 (4) if applicable, the number of new jobs and other
8 forms of economic output created as a result of the
9 financial assistance.

10 (f) The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
11 shall include engagement with individuals with limited English
12 proficiency as part of its outreach provided or targeted to
13 attract and support Social Equity Applicants.

14 (g) The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
15 shall adopt rules implementing the changes made to this
16 Section by this amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly.

17 (Source: P.A. 101-27, eff. 6-25-19; 101-593, eff. 12-4-19.)

18 (410 ILCS 705/10-15)

19 Sec. 10-15. Persons under 21 years of age.

20 (a) Nothing in this Act is intended to permit the transfer
21 of cannabis, with or without remuneration, to a person under
22 21 years of age, or to allow a person under 21 years of age to
23 purchase, possess, use, process, transport, grow, or consume
24 cannabis except where authorized by the Compassionate Use of
25 Medical Cannabis Program Act or by the Community College

1 Cannabis Vocational Training ~~Pilot~~ Program.

2 (b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law
3 authorizing the possession of medical cannabis, nothing in
4 this Act authorizes a person who is under 21 years of age to
5 possess cannabis. A person under 21 years of age with cannabis
6 in his or her possession is guilty of a civil law violation as
7 outlined in paragraph (a) of Section 4 of the Cannabis Control
8 Act.

9 (c) If the person under the age of 21 was in a motor
10 vehicle at the time of the offense, the Secretary of State may
11 suspend or revoke the driving privileges of any person for a
12 violation of this Section under Section 6-206 of the Illinois
13 Vehicle Code and the rules adopted under it.

14 (d) It is unlawful for any parent or guardian to knowingly
15 permit his or her residence, any other private property under
16 his or her control, or any vehicle, conveyance, or watercraft
17 under his or her control to be used by an invitee of the
18 parent's child or the guardian's ward, if the invitee is under
19 the age of 21, in a manner that constitutes a violation of this
20 Section. A parent or guardian is deemed to have knowingly
21 permitted his or her residence, any other private property
22 under his or her control, or any vehicle, conveyance, or
23 watercraft under his or her control to be used in violation of
24 this Section if he or she knowingly authorizes or permits
25 consumption of cannabis by underage invitees. Any person who
26 violates this subsection (d) is guilty of a Class A

1 misdemeanor and the person's sentence shall include, but shall
2 not be limited to, a fine of not less than \$500. If a violation
3 of this subsection (d) directly or indirectly results in great
4 bodily harm or death to any person, the person violating this
5 subsection is guilty of a Class 4 felony. In this subsection
6 (d), where the residence or other property has an owner and a
7 tenant or lessee, the trier of fact may infer that the
8 residence or other property is occupied only by the tenant or
9 lessee.

10 (Source: P.A. 101-27, eff. 6-25-19; 101-593, eff. 12-4-19.)

11 (410 ILCS 705/Art. 25 heading)

12 Article 25.

13 Community College Cannabis Vocational Training ~~Pilot~~ Program

14 (Article scheduled to be repealed on July 1, 2026)

15 (Source: P.A. 101-27, eff. 6-25-19.)

16 (410 ILCS 705/25-1)

17 (Section scheduled to be repealed on July 1, 2026)

18 Sec. 25-1. Definitions. In this Article:

19 "Board" means the Illinois Community College Board.

20 "Career in Cannabis Certificate" or "Certificate" means
21 the certification awarded to a community college student who
22 completes a prescribed course of study in cannabis and
23 cannabis business industry related classes and curriculum at a
24 community college awarded a Community College Cannabis

1 Vocational Training Pilot Program license.

2 "Community college" means a public community college
3 organized under the Public Community College Act.

4 "Department" means the Department of Agriculture.

5 "Licensee" means a community college awarded a Community
6 College Cannabis Vocational Training Pilot Program license
7 under this Article.

8 "Program" means the Community College Cannabis Vocational
9 Training Pilot Program.

10 "Program license" means a Community College Cannabis
11 Vocational Training Pilot Program license issued to a
12 community college under this Article.

13 (Source: P.A. 101-27, eff. 6-25-19; 101-593, eff. 12-4-19.)

14 (410 ILCS 705/25-10)

15 (Section scheduled to be repealed on July 1, 2026)

16 Sec. 25-10. Issuance of Community College Cannabis
17 Vocational Training Pilot Program licenses.

18 (a) The Department shall issue rules regulating the
19 selection criteria for applicants by January 1, 2020. The
20 Department shall make the application for a Program license
21 available no later than February 1, 2020, and shall require
22 that applicants submit the completed application no later than
23 July 1, 2020. If the Department issues fewer than 8 Program
24 licenses by September 1, 2020, the Department may accept
25 applications at a future date as prescribed by rule.

1 (b) The Department shall by rule develop a system to score
2 Program licenses to administratively rank applications based
3 on the clarity, organization, and quality of the applicant's
4 responses to required information. Applicants shall be awarded
5 points that are based on or that meet the following
6 categories:

7 (1) Geographic diversity of the applicants;

8 (2) Experience and credentials of the applicant's
9 faculty;

10 (3) At least 5 Program license awardees must have a
11 student population that is more than 50% low-income in
12 each of the past 4 years;

13 (4) Security plan, including a requirement that all
14 cannabis plants be in an enclosed, locked facility;

15 (5) Curriculum plan, including processing and testing
16 curriculum for the Career in Cannabis Certificate;

17 (6) Career advising and placement plan for
18 participating students; and

19 (7) Any other criteria the Department may set by rule.

20 (c) The community colleges that received a license under
21 this Article before the effective date of this amendatory Act
22 of the 104th General Assembly shall be deemed to be licensed
23 Responsible Vendor Program Training Providers under Section
24 15-40 of this Act and rules adopted under this Act. That
25 designation may be revoked for cause under rules adopted by
26 the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

1 (Source: P.A. 101-27, eff. 6-25-19; 101-593, eff. 12-4-19.)

2 (410 ILCS 705/25-15)

3 (Section scheduled to be repealed on July 1, 2026)

4 Sec. 25-15. Community College Cannabis Vocational Training
5 ~~Pilot~~ Program requirements and prohibitions.

6 (a) Licensees shall not have more than 50 flowering
7 cannabis plants at any one time.

8 (b) The agent-in-charge shall keep a vault log of the
9 licensee's enclosed, locked facility or facilities, including
10 but not limited to, the person entering the site location, the
11 time of entrance, the time of exit, and any other information
12 the Department may set by rule.

13 (c) Cannabis shall not be removed from the licensee's
14 facility, except for the limited purpose of shipping a sample
15 to a laboratory registered under this Act.

16 (d) The licensee shall limit keys, access cards, or an
17 access code to the licensee's enclosed, locked facility, or
18 facilities, to cannabis curriculum faculty and college
19 security personnel with a bona fide need to access the
20 facility for emergency purposes.

21 (e) A transporting organization may transport cannabis
22 produced pursuant to this Article to a laboratory registered
23 under this Act. All other cannabis produced by the licensee
24 that was not shipped to a registered laboratory shall be
25 destroyed within 5 weeks of being harvested.

1 (f) Licensees shall subscribe to the Department of
2 Agriculture's cannabis plant monitoring system.

3 (g) Licensees shall maintain a weekly inventory system.

4 (h) No student participating in the cannabis curriculum
5 necessary to obtain a Certificate may be in the licensee's
6 facility unless a faculty agent-in-charge is also physically
7 present in the facility.

8 (i) Licensees shall conduct post-certificate follow up
9 surveys and record participating students' job placements
10 within the cannabis business industry within a year of the
11 student's completion.

12 (j) The Illinois Community College Board shall report
13 annually to the Department on the race, ethnicity, and gender
14 of all students participating in the cannabis curriculum
15 necessary to obtain a Certificate, and of those students who
16 obtain a Certificate.

17 (Source: P.A. 101-27, eff. 6-25-19.)

18 (410 ILCS 705/25-35)

19 (Section scheduled to be repealed on July 1, 2026)

20 Sec. 25-35. Community College Cannabis Vocational Training
21 ~~Pilot~~ Program faculty participant agent identification card.

22 (a) The Department shall:

23 (1) establish by rule the information required in an
24 initial application or renewal application for an agent
25 identification card submitted under this Article and the

1 nonrefundable fee to accompany the initial application or
2 renewal application;

3 (2) verify the information contained in an initial
4 application or renewal application for an agent
5 identification card submitted under this Article, and
6 approve or deny an application within 30 days of receiving
7 a completed initial application or renewal application and
8 all supporting documentation required by rule;

9 (3) issue an agent identification card to a qualifying
10 agent within 15 business days of approving the initial
11 application or renewal application;

12 (4) enter the license number of the community college
13 where the agent works; and

14 (5) allow for an electronic initial application and
15 renewal application process, and provide a confirmation by
16 electronic or other methods that an application has been
17 submitted. Each Department may by rule require prospective
18 agents to file their applications by electronic means and
19 to provide notices to the agents by electronic means.

20 (b) An agent must keep his or her identification card
21 visible at all times when in the enclosed, locked facility, or
22 facilities for which he or she is an agent.

23 (c) The agent identification cards shall contain the
24 following:

25 (1) the name of the cardholder;

26 (2) the date of issuance and expiration date of the

1 identification card;

2 (3) a random 10-digit alphanumeric identification
3 number containing at least 4 numbers and at least 4
4 letters that is unique to the holder;

5 (4) a photograph of the cardholder; and

6 (5) the legal name of the community college employing
7 the agent.

8 (d) An agent identification card shall be immediately
9 returned to the community college of the agent upon
10 termination of his or her employment.

11 (e) Any agent identification card lost shall be reported
12 to the Illinois State Police and the Department of Agriculture
13 immediately upon discovery of the loss.

14 (f) An agent applicant may begin employment at a Community
15 College Cannabis Vocational Training ~~Pilot~~ Program while the
16 agent applicant's identification card application is pending.
17 Upon approval, the Department shall issue the agent's
18 identification card to the agent. If denied, the Community
19 College Cannabis Vocational Training ~~Pilot~~ Program and the
20 agent applicant shall be notified and the agent applicant must
21 cease all activity at the Community College Cannabis
22 Vocational Training ~~Pilot~~ Program immediately.

23 (Source: P.A. 101-27, eff. 6-25-19; 102-98, eff. 7-15-21;
24 102-538, eff. 8-20-21; 102-813, eff. 5-13-22.)

25 (410 ILCS 705/50-5)

1 Sec. 50-5. Laboratory testing.

2 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
3 following acts, when performed by a cannabis testing facility
4 with a current, valid registration, or a person 21 years of age
5 or older who is acting in his or her capacity as an owner,
6 employee, or agent of a cannabis testing facility, are not
7 unlawful and shall not be an offense under Illinois law or be a
8 basis for seizure or forfeiture of assets under Illinois law:

9 (1) possessing, repackaging, transporting, storing, or
10 displaying cannabis or cannabis-infused products;

11 (2) receiving or transporting cannabis or
12 cannabis-infused products from a cannabis business
13 establishment, a community college licensed under the
14 Community College Cannabis Vocational Training ~~Pilot~~
15 Program, or a person 21 years of age or older; and

16 (3) returning or transporting cannabis or
17 cannabis-infused products to a cannabis business
18 establishment, a community college licensed under the
19 Community College Cannabis Vocational Training ~~Pilot~~
20 Program, or a person 21 years of age or older.

21 (b)(1) No laboratory shall handle, test, or analyze
22 cannabis unless approved by the Department of Agriculture in
23 accordance with this Section.

24 (2) No laboratory shall be approved to handle, test, or
25 analyze cannabis unless the laboratory:

26 (A) is accredited by a private laboratory accrediting

1 organization;

2 (B) is independent from all other persons involved in
3 the cannabis industry in Illinois and no person with a
4 direct or indirect interest in the laboratory has a direct
5 or indirect financial, management, or other interest in an
6 Illinois cultivation center, craft grower, dispensary,
7 infuser, transporter, certifying physician, or any other
8 entity in the State that may benefit from the production,
9 manufacture, dispensing, sale, purchase, or use of
10 cannabis; and

11 (C) has employed at least one person to oversee and be
12 responsible for the laboratory testing who has earned,
13 from a college or university accredited by a national or
14 regional certifying authority, at least:

15 (i) a master's level degree in chemical or
16 biological sciences and a minimum of 2 years'
17 post-degree laboratory experience; or

18 (ii) a bachelor's degree in chemical or biological
19 sciences and a minimum of 4 years' post-degree
20 laboratory experience.

21 (3) Each independent testing laboratory that claims to be
22 accredited must provide the Department of Agriculture with a
23 copy of the most recent annual inspection report granting
24 accreditation and every annual report thereafter.

25 (c) Immediately before manufacturing or natural processing
26 of any cannabis or cannabis-infused product or packaging

1 cannabis for sale to a dispensary, each batch shall be made
2 available by the cultivation center, craft grower, or infuser
3 for an employee of an approved laboratory to select a random
4 sample, which shall be tested by the approved laboratory for:

5 (1) microbiological contaminants;

6 (2) mycotoxins;

7 (3) pesticide active ingredients;

8 (4) residual solvent; and

9 (5) an active ingredient analysis.

10 (d) The Department of Agriculture may select a random
11 sample that shall, for the purposes of conducting an active
12 ingredient analysis, be tested by the Department of
13 Agriculture for verification of label information.

14 (e) A laboratory shall immediately return or dispose of
15 any cannabis upon the completion of any testing, use, or
16 research. If cannabis is disposed of, it shall be done in
17 compliance with Department of Agriculture rule.

18 (f) If a sample of cannabis does not pass the
19 microbiological, mycotoxin, pesticide chemical residue, or
20 solvent residue test, based on the standards established by
21 the Department of Agriculture, the following shall apply:

22 (1) If the sample failed the pesticide chemical
23 residue test, the entire batch from which the sample was
24 taken shall, if applicable, be recalled as provided by
25 rule.

26 (2) If the sample failed any other test, the batch may

1 be used to make a CO₂-based or solvent based extract. After
2 processing, the CO₂-based or solvent based extract must
3 still pass all required tests.

4 (g) The Department of Agriculture shall establish
5 standards for microbial, mycotoxin, pesticide residue, solvent
6 residue, or other standards for the presence of possible
7 contaminants, in addition to labeling requirements for
8 contents and potency.

9 (h) The laboratory shall file with the Department of
10 Agriculture an electronic copy of each laboratory test result
11 for any batch that does not pass the microbiological,
12 mycotoxin, or pesticide chemical residue test, at the same
13 time that it transmits those results to the cultivation
14 center. In addition, the laboratory shall maintain the
15 laboratory test results for at least 5 years and make them
16 available at the Department of Agriculture's request.

17 (i) A cultivation center, craft grower, and infuser shall
18 provide to a dispensing organization the laboratory test
19 results for each batch of cannabis product purchased by the
20 dispensing organization, if sampled. Each dispensing
21 organization must have those laboratory results available upon
22 request to purchasers.

23 (j) The Department of Agriculture may adopt rules related
24 to testing in furtherance of this Act.

25 (Source: P.A. 101-27, eff. 6-25-19; 101-593, eff. 12-4-19.)

1 (410 ILCS 705/25-45 rep.)

2 Section 10. The Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act is amended
3 by repealing Section 25-45.

4 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
5 becoming law.