

A Brief Synopsis of Ky's Medical Marijuana Law

Kentucky's medical cannabis program was established under **Senate Bill 47** (2023, effective January 1, 2025, with regulations from the Office of Medical Cannabis under KRS Chapter 218B), and prohibits **home cultivation** and **home extraction** of cannabis.

- **Home Grow/Cultivation:** Explicitly not allowed. The program requires all medical cannabis (raw plant material) to be grown by licensed cultivators in secure, enclosed facilities. Patients (registered qualified patients or designated caregivers) cannot grow plants at home under any circumstances. Attempting home cultivation results in loss of program protections, treating the cannabis as illicit under state law, and potential revocation of the medical cannabis card. Official guidance (e.g., from the Office of Medical Cannabis Law Enforcement Guide) states: "Kentucky law prohibits cannabis grown by an individual" and "Kentucky does not allow 'home grow' under any circumstance."
- **Home Extraction/Processing:** Similarly prohibited for individuals. Extraction or concentrating compounds from cannabis (e.g., making concentrates, oils, edibles, etc.) is restricted to licensed processors or producers operating in regulated facilities with health/safety standards, testing requirements, and oversight (see regulations like 915 KAR 1:040 for processors). Patients may only possess and use products purchased from licensed dispensaries in original containers (when outside the home).
- **There is no provision for at-home processing or extraction of medical cannabis.**
- **Key Restrictions and Context:**
 - All medical cannabis must come from licensed businesses (cultivators → processors/producers → dispensaries).
 - **Smoking raw plant material is prohibited;** approved forms include *vaporization* (for those 21+), *edibles*, *tinctures*, *topicals*, etc., with THC limits (e.g., 35% for raw material, 70% for concentrates).
 - Violations (e.g., home growing or extracting) can lead to criminal penalties under general cannabis laws (KRS Chapter 218A) and program-specific sanctions like card revocation.

As of February 2026, no changes have introduced home grow or extraction allowances (some proposed bills in recent sessions, like HB 401 in 2026, suggested limited home cultivation but do not appear to have passed into law based on current program rules). For the most up-to-date details, check the official **Kentucky Office of Medical Cannabis** site at kymedcan.ky.gov.

What is Allowed Under Kentucky's Medical Cannabis Program

Kentucky's medical cannabis program, governed by **Senate Bill 47** (effective January 1, 2025) and administered by the **Office of Medical Cannabis** (under KRS Chapter 218B), allows qualified patients with a valid medical cannabis card to access and use regulated medical cannabis products. As of February 2026, the program is operational with licensed dispensaries.

Key Allowances for Registered Cardholders

- **Purchase and Possession:** Qualified patients (and designated caregivers) can purchase medical cannabis exclusively from licensed dispensaries in Kentucky. Products must be grown, processed, tested, and sold within the state's regulated system.
- **Allowed Product Forms:**
 - Edibles
 - Oils
 - Tinctures
 - Vapes (vaporization products)
 - Raw plant material (flower/dry herb)
- **Consumption Methods:** Vaporization (for those 21+), ingestion (edibles, oils, tinctures), and topical use are permitted. **Smoking** raw plant material is prohibited; all raw material packaged in Kentucky must be labeled "not intended for consumption by smoking."
- **Age Restrictions:**
 - Patients 21+ can purchase and use all forms, including vapes.
 - Patients under 21 (including minors) cannot purchase or use vaping products.
 - Minors under 18 require a parent/legal guardian as caregiver and can only use with assistance (no independent possession/purchase).
- **Supply Limits** (based on official equivalency):
 - **30-day supply** (at home/residence): Up to 112 grams raw plant material, 28 grams concentrates, or 3,900 mg THC in infused products (e.g., edibles). Topicals/non-consumables do not count toward limits. A practitioner may recommend higher if medically necessary.
 - **10-day supply** (on-person/transport): Up to 37.5 grams raw plant material, 9.5 grams concentrates, or 1,300 mg THC in infused products.
 - Visiting out-of-state patients with valid cards may purchase/possess a 10-day supply.
- **Other Protections:** Cardholders are protected from arrest/prosecution for possession/use within program limits (when compliant). Protections may apply to employment, child custody, organ transplants, etc., in certain cases.

What is Not Allowed

- NO Home cultivation/growing.
- NO Home extraction/processing/concentrating.
- NO Smoking raw flower.
- NO Purchasing from unlicensed sources or out-of-state (except limited pre-2025 executive order allowances, which IS still in effect until all dispensaries are up and running).
- NO Recreational use.

All products must remain in original packaging when transported outside the home, and general rules apply (e.g., *no use while driving, keep away from children, no access by passengers, etc.*).

For the most current details, including dispensary locations, application process, qualifying conditions, and exact regulations, visit the official site: **kymedcan.ky.gov**. The program continues to evolve with dispensaries opening and rules refined.