



South Dakota Department of Health

Medical Cannabis Update

Legislative Oversight Committee

August 19, 2025

Outline

Program Overview

- Patient and Provider Processes and Data
- Establishment Processes and Data
- Inspections
- Program Software

New Initiatives

- Quality Assurance
- 2025 Rules Package

Look Ahead





What is Public Health?

Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities through promotion of healthy lifestyles, research for disease and injury prevention, and detection and control of infectious diseases.



VISION
Every South Dakotan
Healthy and Strong

MISSION
Working together to
promote, protect, and
improve health

Medical Cannabis Program Mission and Purpose

The **Mission** of the Medical Cannabis Program is to promote public health and safety by upholding the highest standards of regulatory compliance and fostering a transparent and accountable framework for the medical cannabis industry.

The **Purpose** of the Medical Cannabis Program is to provide rigorous oversight, continuous education, and collaboration with stakeholders to support responsible use of medical cannabis and advance the well-being of our communities.



Medical Cannabis Program Responsibilities

- Ensure a safe and effective medical cannabis program
- Regulation of medical cannabis industry: statutes, administrative rules, program policies and procedures
- Register and issue medical cannabis cards to patients and their caregivers

- Certify establishments:
 - Cultivators
 - Manufacturers
 - Dispensaries
 - Testing Facilities (laboratories)
- Inventory tracking statewide for all medical cannabis and cannabis products
- Inspection of establishments
- Investigate complaints



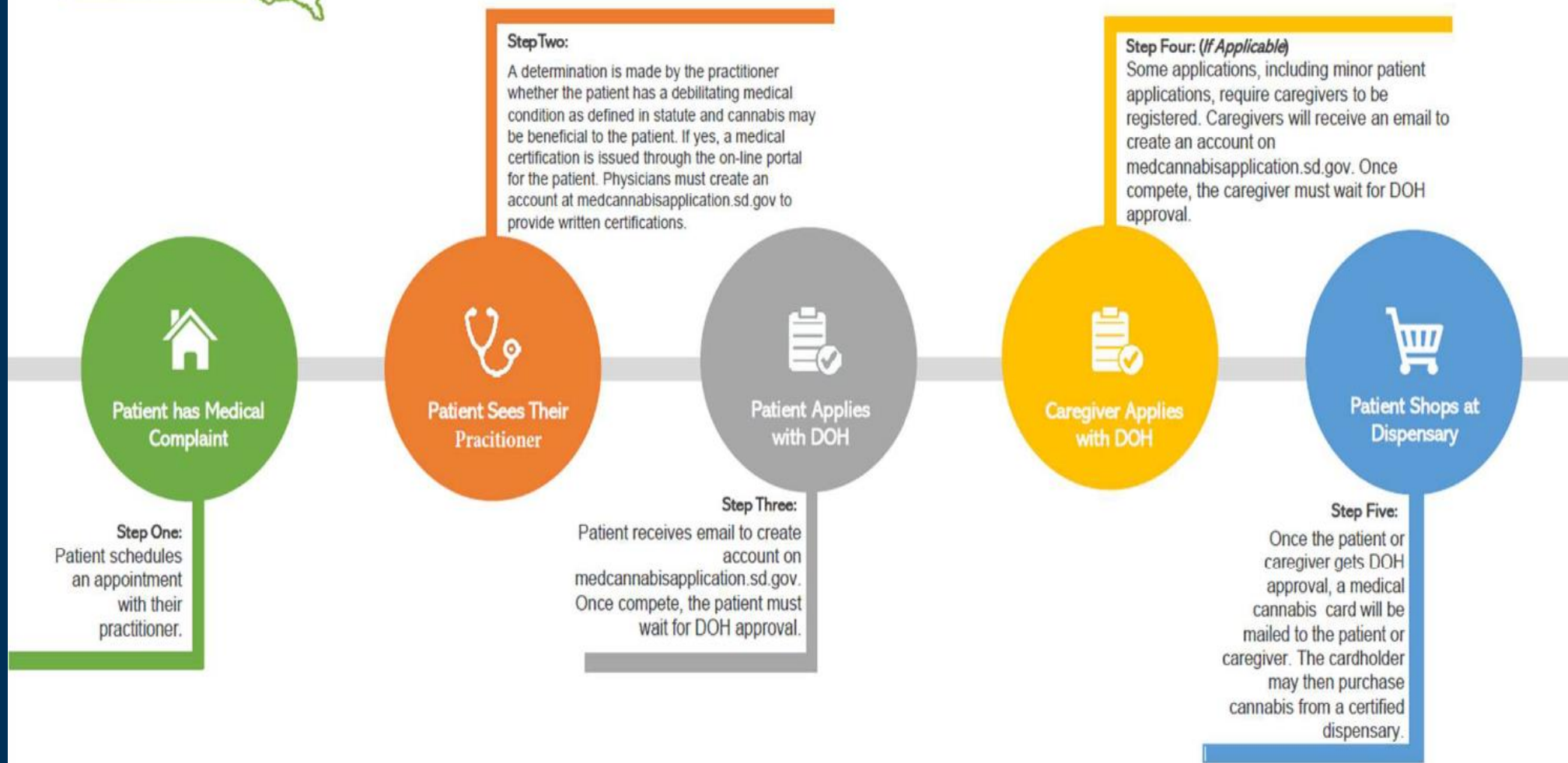
Medical Cannabis Staff

- Program Administrator
- Staff Attorney
- Software Systems Specialist
- Establishment Registration Specialist
- Inspectors
 - Sioux Falls
 - Rapid City
- Inspections Specialist
- Certifications Specialist
- Patient Registration Specialist





Medical Cannabis Patient Process Overview



Please Note: Patients can NOT start the medical cannabis application process until their practitioner creates a certification, which will automatically create a patient account on medcannabisapplication.sd.gov. In South Dakota, dispensaries, not pharmacies, sell cannabis. Medical certification is not a prescription.

Patient Process Requirements

In state patients

- In-person appointment only
 - Bona Fide Practitioner-Patient Relationship
- Designate caregivers
- Home cultivation
 - Patients are allowed up to 2 immature and 2 mature plants
- Low income

Out of state patients

- Must provide to OMC the signed, dated, out of state certification that certifies the patient as having a qualifying disabling condition



Debilitating Medical Conditions SDCL 34-20G-1(8)

A chronic or debilitating disease or medical condition or its treatment that produces one or more of the following:

- Cachexia or wasting syndrome
- Severe, debilitating pain
- Severe nausea, except nausea associated with pregnancy
- Seizures
- Severe and persistent muscle spasms

Other listed conditions:

- Acquired immune deficiency syndrome or positive status for human immunodeficiency virus
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
- Multiple sclerosis
- Cancer or its treatment, if associated with severe or chronic pain, nausea or severe vomiting, or cachexia or severe wasting
- Crohn's disease
- Epilepsy and seizures
- Post-traumatic stress disorder



Patient Cards

South Dakota MEDICAL CANNABIS
REGISTRY ID CARD



CARD NO. **7ZK84RL1G2** ISS **07/19/2022**
DOB **01/01/2018** EXP **07/19/2023**
HARRIS
LES
123 5TH AVE
TUMWATER2, SD 58501

QUALIFIED PATIENT
UNDER 21
HOME CULTIVATION: YES

FOR CARD VERIFICATION:
medcannabisverify.sd.gov/7ZK84RL1G2

medcannabis.sd.gov

South Dakota MEDICAL CANNABIS
REGISTRY ID CARD



PATIENT NO. **SFG7899D99** ISS **10/28/2022**
DOB **10/28/2022** EXP **10/28/2023**
DAVIS
MIA
401 SWALLOW LN
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104

DESIGNATED CAREGIVER
CARD NO: 9MD5B5489N
UNDER 21
HOME CULTIVATION: YES

FOR CARD VERIFICATION:
medcannabisverify.sd.gov/9MD5B5489N

medcannabis.sd.gov

South Dakota MEDICAL CANNABIS
REGISTRY ID CARD



CARD NO. _____ ISS _____
DOB _____ EXP _____

DESIGNATED CAREGIVER
PATIENT ID NO. _____
HOME CULTIVATION
EXT. PLANT COUNT _____
DISPENSARY 1 _____
DISPENSARY 2 _____

FOR CARD VERIFICATION, CONTACT:
medcannabis.sd.gov

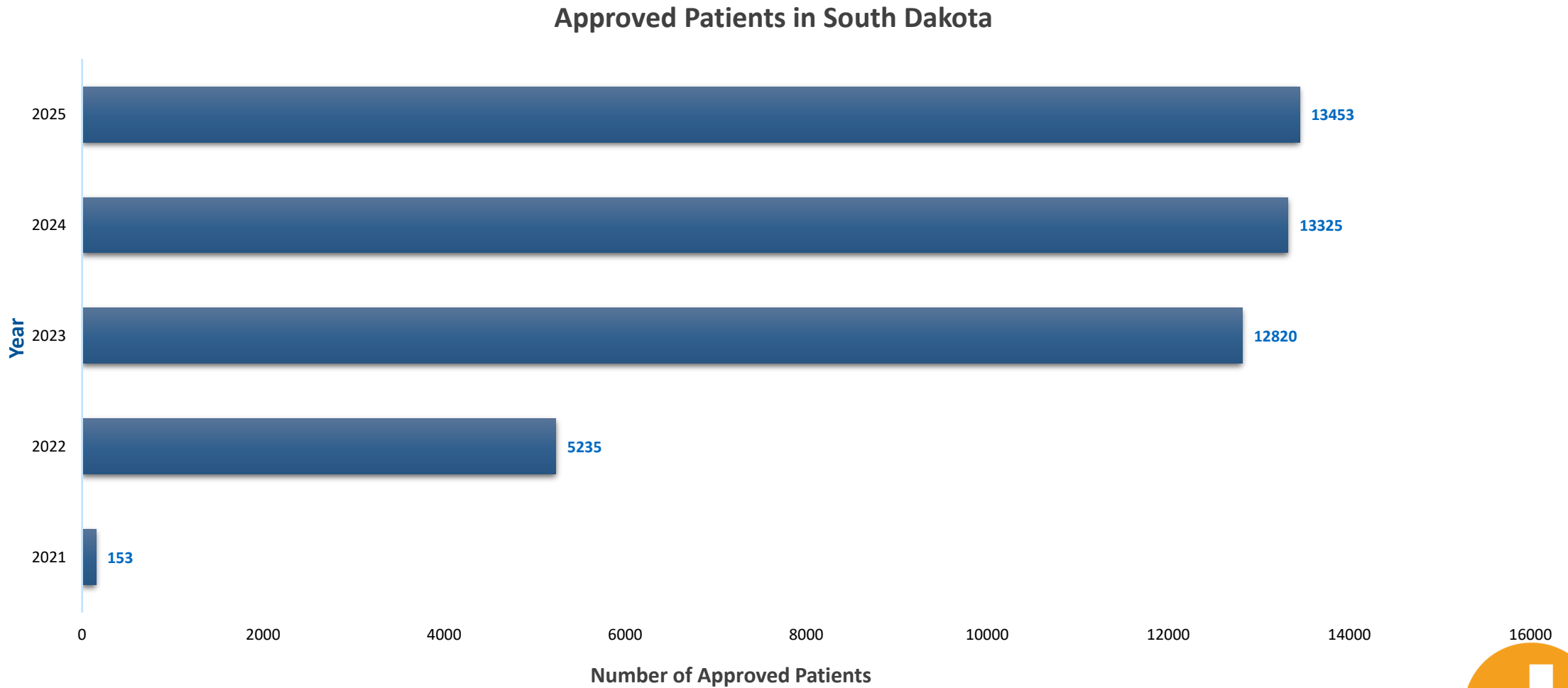


By possessing this card, the patient or caregiver agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of South Dakota Codified Law 34-20G and South Dakota Administrative Rules Article 44:90. Failure to comply may result in this card being revoked.

This card is property of the State of South Dakota and must be surrendered upon request. Lost or stolen cards must be reported to the South Dakota Department of Health within one business day.

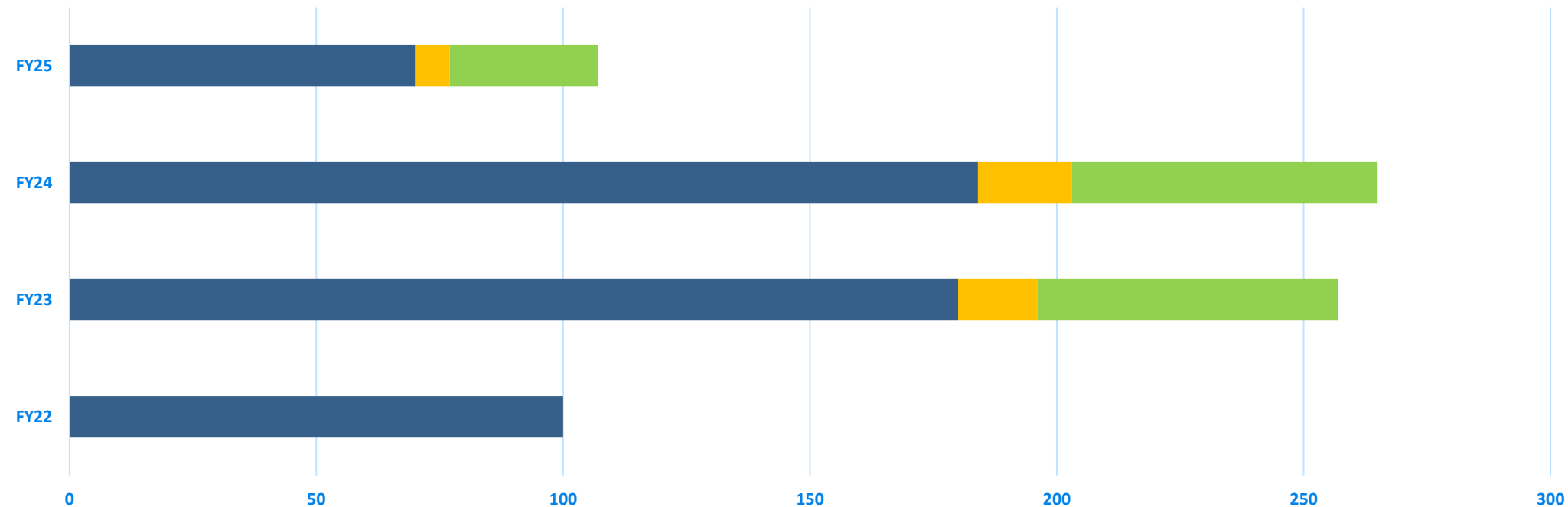


Approved Patients



Practitioners

Total Approved Practitioners



	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Physician	100	180	184	70
Physician's Assistant	0	16	19	7
Nurse Practitioner	0	61	62	30

Physician Physician's Assistant Nurse Practitioner



Patients by Condition

Patient Percentages by Debilitating Condition

1	Severe, debilitating pain	70.74%
2	Post-traumatic stress disorder	12.87%
3	Severe and persistent muscle spasms	4.53%
4	Severe nausea, except nausea associated with pregnancy	4.08%
5	Cancer or its treatment, if associated with severe or chronic pain, nausea or severe vomiting, or cachexia or severe wasting	3.50%
6	Seizures	1.14%
7	Multiple sclerosis	1.01%
8	Epilepsy and seizures	0.77%
9	Crohn's disease	0.65%
10	Cachexia or wasting syndrome	0.51%
11	Acquired immune deficiency syndrome or positive status for human immunodeficiency virus	0.19%
12	Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis	0.03%

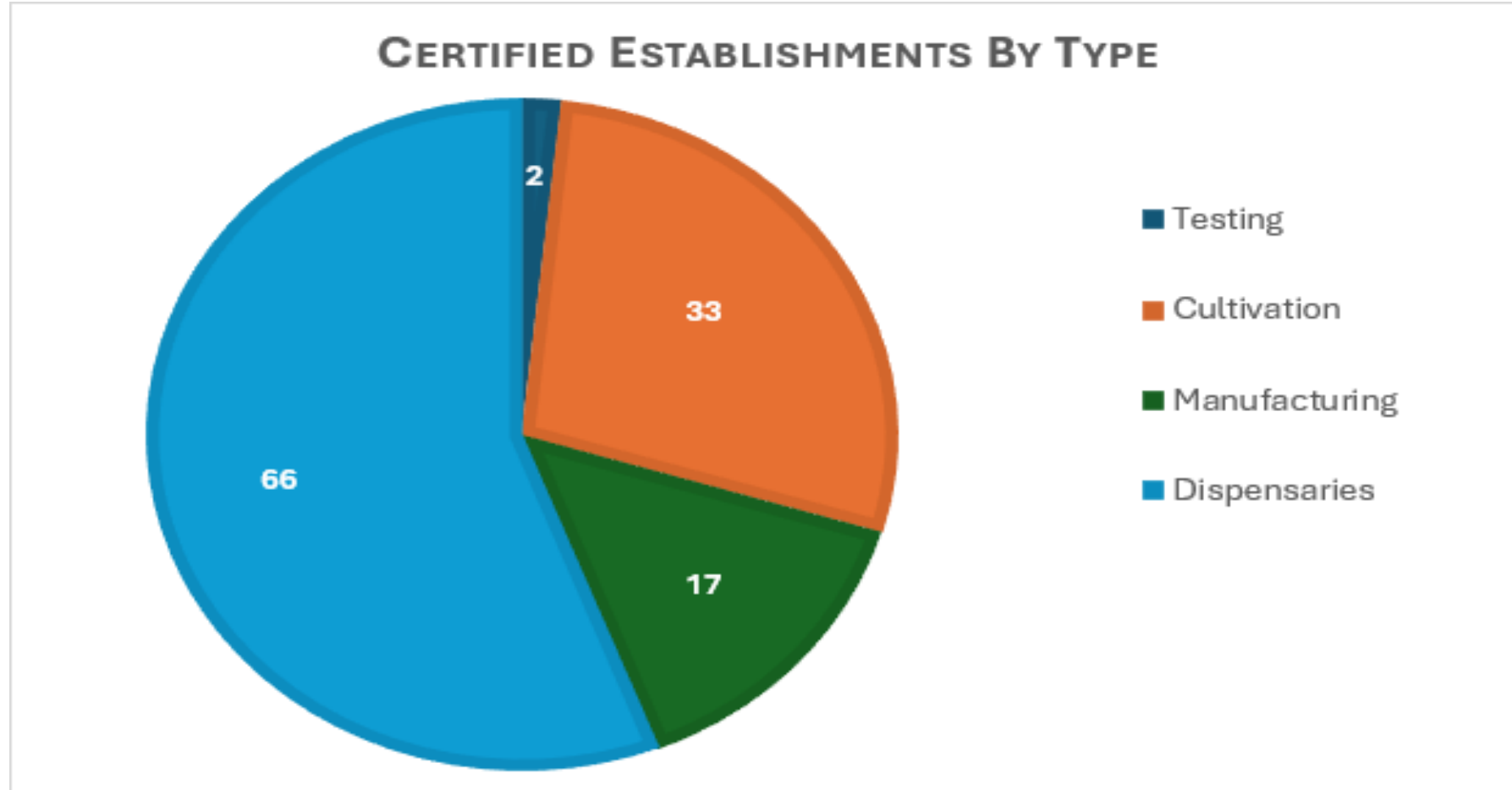


Establishment Licensing Overview

- Program staff review initial and annual renewal applications for certification as medical cannabis establishments
- Included in this process is a review of operating procedures, site plans, security plans, equipment certification, local city/county certification, inventory tracking procedures
- A checklist is available on medcannabis.sd.gov to assist establishments with the renewal process.



2025 Establishment Count



Inspections

- Annual inspections of establishments
- Site Visits – complaint inspection, camera footage or Corrective action plan (CAP) follow up
- Beginning August 2025, medical cannabis inspectors are completing trainings with the Council on Licensure Enforcement and Regulation



Most Frequent Rule Violations Cited During Inspections in 2025

Training – Inventory Tracking System	44:90:04:16
Security Cameras – Placement, Recording, and Storage	44:90:04:07-44:90:04:09
Record Keeping-Inventory Tracking	44:90:11:01
Record Keeping- Record Retention	44:90:11:02, 44:90:11:03
Facility- Scales	44:90:04:25
SOPs- Waste Management	44:90:03:05(9)
Operating Procedures/Management Plan	44:90:03:05



Software Systems

Establishment Platform – Accela

- Initial applications and renewals

Cardholder Portal – CloudPWR

- Providers certify patients
- Patients create applications

Seed to Sale Inventory – Metrc



Quality Assurance

- Monthly randomized checks of patient cards
- Death record verification
- Collaborating with professional licensing boards to develop a process for notification of suspension or revocation of licenses
- Inspection report review
- Corrective action plan (CAP) review and response
- Developed a cross-check process for the final review of applications, ensuring that it is conducted by a someone other than the initial reviewer.



2025 Rules Updates

July 15, 2025: Rule changes proposed by OMC approved by the Interim Rules Review Committee

Rule changes went into effect August 4, 2025

Implementation of fines

- Extensive research to develop categories and tiers
- Tiered approach
- Established internal protocol
 - Complaint forms

Improved corrective action plan policy

- Cover letter outlining expectations
- Approval, partial approval, denial letters sent
- All correspondence tracked with follow up provided



Looking Ahead

- Extending Software Contracts
- Software RFPs
- Future Rules Packages
- Quality Assurance
- Improved Policies and Procedures





SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

[DOH.SD.GOV](https://doh.sd.gov)