

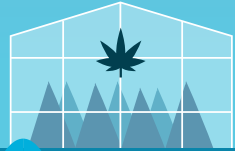
The Future of Cannabis in Alberta

The rules around cannabis in Alberta once it is legal in summer 2018.



LICENSED GROWERS

Strictly regulated by the federal government.



PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT

The Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) directly manages how cannabis gets from the licensed grower to the retailer.



AGLC-OPERATED ONLINE SALES

Age verification occurs at point of sale and at delivery.



WORKPLACE

Alberta is reviewing all existing regulations and programs to ensure rules continue to address impairment at work.



PRIVATE CANNABIS RETAIL STORES

May only sell cannabis and cannabis accessories. Minors are prohibited from entering cannabis stores, even if accompanied by an adult.



ADVERTISING

Product advertising will only be allowed inside cannabis stores.



DRIVING

Police are able to suspend licences and seize vehicles if people drive impaired, including impairment by cannabis.



POSSESSION

Adults can possess up to 30 grams of legal cannabis in public.

PUBLIC CONSUMPTION

Smoking and vaping cannabis are prohibited in areas frequented by kids and other public places where smoking tobacco is prohibited.



HOME

Each household is allowed to grow up to four plants. Landlord and tenant agreements or condo bylaws can be used to set rules for consumption and growing.



OWNERS AND STAFF

Must undergo extensive background checks. Qualified employees must be 18 and undertake training.



Alberta's System for Legalized Cannabis

Once legal, Alberta's system for legalized cannabis will provide adults safe access to legal cannabis while protecting Alberta's youth and public health, promoting safety on roads, in workplaces and in public spaces, and limiting the illegal market.



Highlights of legislation and regulations

- Minimum age for purchase and possession is 18.
- Adults may possess 30 grams at any given time; there will be zero tolerance for youth under the legal age of 18 possessing any cannabis.
- Anyone under 18 caught with five grams or less will face sanctions similar to those for underage possession of alcohol or tobacco. Youth found in possession of over five grams continue to be subject to federal criminal charges.
- Adults may smoke or vape cannabis at home and in some public places, but not in vehicles, any cannabis retail outlets, anywhere smoking or vaping tobacco is already prohibited, or in specific areas frequented by children, including school and hospital properties and within five metres of skate parks, spray parks, and playgrounds.
- Adults can grow cannabis at home; up to four plants per household (not per person) for personal consumption.
- Landlord and tenant agreements or condo bylaws can be used to set rules for consumption and growing.
- Licence suspensions and vehicle seizures that apply to alcohol-impaired driving have been extended to cannabis impairment. There will be zero tolerance for those on graduated licences. Cannabis consumption will not be allowed in vehicles.
- The Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) will provide clear oversight over the distribution of packaged and sealed cannabis products, ensuring only legally produced products come into Alberta. (This is similar to what's in place now for alcohol).
- The AGLC will operate online sales of cannabis products on behalf of government.
- The AGLC will ensure cannabis is distributed to privately owned and operated specialized retailers. Retail locations will be regulated and follow rules set by government, including hours of operation and security requirements.
- Cannabis retailers may be open between 10 a.m. and 2 a.m. and must keep cannabis products in a locked display case accessible only by staff. However, municipalities can further restrict these hours.
- Anyone applying for a licence to open a retail store will have to undergo an extensive mandatory background check.
- Employees must also consent to background checks, be 18 or older and will be required to undergo AGLC SellSafe training.
- Cannabis retail outlets must be 100 meters away from schools and provincial health care facilities. Municipalities will have the discretion to modify or add further buffers from these or other uses.
- Any single sales transaction of cannabis products, in a retail location and online, will be limited to 30 grams.
- Cannabis advertising will be restricted to locations with no minors. The federal government has also proposed strict rules about labeling and packaging. The Alberta government will monitor the specifics of their proposed program and work with them to address any issues or gaps in policies should they arise.

Check with your municipality for more information about cannabis legalization in your community.

For more information about the system for legalized cannabis in Alberta, visit alberta.ca/cannabis.

For more information about retail regulations, or how to apply for a cannabis retail licence, visit aglc.ca/cannabis.