

**Title 15: Mississippi State Department of Health**

**Part 22: Medical Cannabis Program**

**Subpart 7: Cannabis Transportation Entities**

**Chapter 1 REGULATIONS FOR THE COMMERCIAL TRANSPORTATION OF MEDICAL CANNABIS**

**Subchapter 1 General Provisions**

Rule 7.1.1 Legal Authority: This regulation has been promulgated under the authority of and pursuant to Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.1.2 Definitions: The following terms shall have the meaning hereinafter respectively ascribed to them as they relate to licensed medical cannabis establishments participating in the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Program:

1. **Allowable amount of medical cannabis** – The term “allowable amount of medical cannabis” means an amount not to exceed the maximum amount of Mississippi Medical Cannabis Equivalency Units ("MMCEU").
2. **Cannabis** - The term "cannabis" means all parts of the plant of the genus cannabis, the flower, the seeds thereof, the resin extracted from any part of the plant and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture or preparation of the plant, its seeds or its resin, including whole plant extracts. Such term shall not mean cannabis-derived products approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration under Section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.
3. **Cannabis container** – The term “cannabis container” means an individual locked and secure container that is used to transport cannabis and/or cannabis products from one medical cannabis establishment to another.
4. **Cannabis cultivation facility** – The term “cannabis cultivation facility” means a business entity licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that acquires, grows, cultivates, and harvests medical cannabis in an indoor, enclosed, locked, and secure area.
5. **Cannabis disposal entity** – The term “cannabis disposal entity” means a business licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that is involved in the commercial disposal or destruction of medical

cannabis. These entities may also be known as “waste disposal entities”.

6. **Cannabis processing facility** – The term “cannabis processing facility” means a business entity that is licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that: acquires or intends to acquire cannabis from a cannabis cultivation facility; possesses cannabis with the intent to manufacture a cannabis product; manufactures or intends to manufacture a cannabis product from unprocessed cannabis or a cannabis extract; and sells or intends to sell a cannabis product to a medical cannabis transportation entity, cannabis testing facility or cannabis research facility. These entities may also be known as “processing facilities”, “processors”, or “cannabis processors”.
7. **Cannabis products** – The term “cannabis products” means cannabis flower, concentrated cannabis, cannabis extracts and products that are infused with cannabis or an extract thereof and are intended for use or consumption by humans. The term includes, without limitation, edible cannabis products, beverages, topical products, ointments, oils, tinctures and suppositories that contain tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and/or cannabidiol (CBD) except those products excluded from control under Sections 41-29-113 and 41-29-136 of the MS Code.
8. **Cannabis research facility** – The term “cannabis research facility” or "research facility" means a research facility at any university or college in this state or an independent entity licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health pursuant to this chapter that acquires cannabis from cannabis cultivation facilities and cannabis processing facilities in order to research cannabis, develop best practices for specific medical conditions, develop medicines and provide commercial access for medical use.
9. **Cannabis testing facility** – The term “cannabis testing facility” or "testing facility" means an independent entity licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that analyzes the safety and potency of cannabis.
10. **Department** – The term “Department” means the Mississippi State Department of Health.
11. **Economic interest** – The term “economic interest” means holding an ownership interest as a sole proprietor, partner, member, limited partner, stockholder owning at least 10% of available stock, or as any other type of interest that entitles the individual or entity to regular payments for amounts based on a percentage of revenue derived from the commercial transportation of cannabis or cannabis products by a cannabis transportation entity as defined by the MS Medical Cannabis Act.

12. **Locked storage container** – The term “locked storage container” means a secure storage/packing/loading container that may contain multiple individual cannabis containers for transport. A locked storage container is a fixed part of the vehicles used for transportation and is inaccessible to the driver during transport.
13. **Medical cannabis establishments** – The term “medical cannabis establishments” shall mean a cannabis cultivation facility, cannabis processing facility, cannabis testing facility, cannabis transportation entity, cannabis transportation entity, cannabis disposal entity, cannabis research facility licensed and registered by MS State Department of Health (the Department) or Mississippi Department of Revenue (MDOR). Medical Cannabis Establishments may also be known as licensed entities, licensees, or establishments.
14. **Medical cannabis transportation entity** – The term "Medical cannabis transportation entity" or "cannabis transportation entity" means an entity licensed and registered with the Mississippi Department of Revenue that acquires, possesses, stores, transfers, sells, supplies, or dispenses medical cannabis, equipment used for medical cannabis, or related supplies and educational materials to cardholders. The term “transporter” may also be utilized to describe these entities.
15. **Non-provisional license** – The term “non-provisional license” means a license issued by the Mississippi State Department of Health when there is evidence of compliance with all applicable rules and regulations in this Part and components of the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act.
16. **Provisional license** - The term “provisional license” means a license issued by the Mississippi State Department of Health when a temporary condition of non-compliance with the regulations contained in this Part exists. A provisional license shall be issued only if the Mississippi State Department of Health is satisfied that preparations are being made to qualify for a non-provisional license and that the health and safety of patients and the public will not be endangered. Business activities and operations are limited by this licensure category.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.1.3 Severability. The provisions of this part are severable. If a court of competent jurisdiction declares any section, subsection, paragraph, or provision unconstitutional or invalid, the validity of the remaining provisions shall not be affected.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.1.4 Cannabis transportation entities must comply with any and all motor vehicle laws in the State of Mississippi.

**Subchapter 2 Application for Licensure as a Cannabis Transportation Entity**

Rule 7.2.1 An application and all complete required documentation must be submitted to the Department using its required format and/or system.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.2.2 At a minimum, an application for licensure as a cannabis transportation entity must include the following:

1. The names and other required information for all individuals and legal entities who are applicants.
2. The proposed physical location of the cannabis transportation entity.
3. A map or sketch of the premises proposed for licensure, including the defined boundaries of the premises and a scaled floorplan sketch of all enclosed areas with clear identification of the main entrance, walls, all areas of ingress and egress, and all limited access areas. This map must provide accurate measurements that allow the Department, at a minimum, to determine the precise main entrance location in reference to the rest of the premises;
4. If the application is based on proposed construction not completed at the time of application, the applicant must submit construction plans for the proposed building which will be the basis for the application investigation. These plans must, at a minimum, provide accurate measurements that allow the Department to determine the precise main entrance location in reference to the rest of the building;
5. An operating plan that demonstrates at a minimum how the applicant's proposed premises and business will comply with applicable laws and rules regarding:
  - A. Security;
  - B. Employment practices that include a plan of action to inform, hire, and educate minorities, women, veterans, and persons with disabilities, engage in fair labor practices, and provide employee protections;

- C. Record-keeping systems;
  - D. Hours of operation;
  - E. Preventing diversion of cannabis and/or cannabis products;
  - F. Inventory control and tracking;
  - G. The number and type (make, year, and model) of equipment the transporter will use to transport cannabis and cannabis-infused products
6. If the municipality or county where the proposed cannabis transportation entity will be located has enacted zoning restrictions, a sworn attestation by the applicant certifying that the proposed cannabis transportation entity is in compliance with the restrictions.
  7. If the municipality or county where the proposed cannabis transportation entity will be located requires a local registration, license, or permit, then the applicant must include a copy of such registration, license or permit issued to the applicant with the application submitted to the Department.
  8. The names and other required information for all individuals and legal entities with an economic interest in the proposed cannabis transportation entity.
  9. Fingerprint cards or electronic fingerprints collected by a live scan vendor documentation for applicant's individual owners, individuals/entities with economic interest in order to perform a criminal background check to determine whether a disqualify felony offense is present.
  10. Other information that may be required by the Department.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

**Rule 7.2.3** The Department will review an application to determine if it is complete. An application will not be considered complete if the applicant does not provide all information required by the application form, the full application and license fees have not been paid, or all of the additional information required under these rules is not submitted. If items are missing, the Department will send notification to the applicant that the application has been rejected and provide a description of the needed information. The applicant will need to resubmit an amended application for a license if the application is rejected.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.2.4 Once all required information is received and the fees have been paid, the Department will send notification to the applicant that it has received a completed application. Once the application has been deemed complete, the Department will review the application and issue a determination within thirty (30) days of receiving the completed application. Applications will be processed in the order in which a completed application is filed by the applicant. Review will be initiated based on the order in which a complete application is filed; however, the duration of the review will depend upon the information provided by the applicant.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

### **Subchapter 3 Fees**

Rule 7.3.1 The following nonrefundable fees are required at the time of initial application and renewal:

1. One-time application fee of \$5,000.00; and,
2. Annual license fee of \$7,500.00.

Rule 7.3.2 Fees must be paid in a manner set forth by the Department.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 19*

Rule 7.3.3 The one-time application fee and license fee must be paid in order for the application to be determined complete and move forward in the Department's review.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 19*

Rule 7.3.4 A fee for a status change from provision license to non-provisional license is not required. The application and license fees must be paid as stated in Rules 7.3.1 – 7.3.3.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 19*

### **Subchapter 4 Licensure – Initial and Renewals**

Rule 7.4.1 A license, issued by the Department, shall be obtained for each cannabis transportation entity prior to the commencement of any transportation activities

related to cannabis. Activities include, but are not limited to: acquiring, possessing, storing, or transporting cannabis.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.2 A cannabis transportation entity may not acquire, possess, store, or transport cannabis or cannabis products to any person or entity other than a medical cannabis establishment authorized by this Part.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.3 A medical cannabis establishment, inclusive of a cannabis transportation entity, shall not be within 1,000 feet of the nearest property boundary line of a school, church or child care facility which exists or has acquired necessary real property for the operation of such facility before the date of the medical cannabis establishment application unless the entity has received approval from the school, church or child care facility and received the applicable waiver from their licensing agency, provided that the main point of entry of the cannabis establishment is not located within five hundred (500) feet of the nearest property boundary line of any school, church or child care facility.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 18*

Rule 7.4.4 Licensure of a cannabis transportation entity is required annually.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.5 A license shall be issued for the specific location identified on the application, and is valid only for the owner, premises and name designated on the application and Department issued license and the location for which it is issued.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.6 Provisional Licensure. Within its discretion, the Department of Health may issue a provisional license when a temporary condition of non-compliance with the regulations contained in this Part exists. A provisional license shall be issued only if the Department is satisfied that preparations are being made to qualify for a non-provisional license and that the health and safety of patients and the public will not be endangered.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.7 A provisional license may be issued when the following conditions exist:

1. Prior to the medical cannabis establishment's start date of operations and subsequent to meeting the licensure requirements for the development of all required standard operating procedures. The license issued under this provision shall be valid until the issuance of a non-provisional license, but shall generally not exceed four (4) months following date of issuance whichever may be sooner.
2. When a temporary issue of non-compliance with these regulations exists that does not endanger the health and safety of patients and the public (at the discretion of the Department). The license issued under this provision shall be valid until the issues of non-compliance are remedied and evidence of compliance is submitted to the Department. The license issued under this provision shall be valid until the issuance of a non-provisional license, but shall generally not exceed four (4) months following date of issuance whichever may be sooner.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.8 **Renewal of Licensure.** Non-provisional licenses must be renewed on an annual basis. Non-provisional licenses are valid for one year from the date of issuance. At the time of renewal, the licensee must demonstrate continued compliance with all applicable licensing criteria.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.9 An annual inspection by the Department may be required for renewal of the license.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.10 A license may be suspended, revoked, or shall not be renewed by the Department if:

1. Outstanding fines are owed to the Department;
2. An owner has been convicted of a disqualifying felony;
3. The medical cannabis establishment (medical cannabis establishment) has not engaged in licensed activity at the licensed premises for a period of 1



year or more, unless the medical cannabis establishment submits evidence of reasonable justification, including without limitation death, illness, natural disaster, or other circumstances beyond the medical cannabis establishment's control. This exception is not available to medical cannabis establishments that have not completed construction according to the plans submitted by the establishment during the application process;

4. Renewal will result in any person having a direct or indirect ownership or economic interest of great than 10% in more than 5 cannabis transportation entity licenses.
5. The licensed entity owes delinquent taxes; or
6. The licensed entity no longer meets all eligibility requirements for the issuance of a cannabis transportation entity permit.
7. The licensed entity does not meet regulatory requirements set by the Department.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.11 The Department shall send notification to each licensee of the duty to renew no later than 60 days prior to the expiration date of an active license. Notification will be to the address listed by the licensee on its application or latest renewal, as applicable.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.12 At the time of renewal, the licensee shall ensure that all material changes to the required plans have been communicated in writing to the Department.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.13 The licensee shall submit proof that the licensee is still in compliance with all requisite local permits and licenses.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.14 An applicant may appeal a renewal denial as provided by the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.15 If the license of a medical cannabis establishment expires (by date), isn't renewed, is suspended or revoked, operations of that establishment that are authorized by rules and regulations in this Part and the MS Medical Cannabis Act must cease.

## **Subchapter 5 Transfer of Ownership**

Rule 7.5.1 A licensee may transfer ownership interests, including without limitation partial ownership, only after the application for a transfer of an ownership interest has been approved by the Department.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.5.2 An application for the transfer of ownership interests must:

1. Be completed on forms made available by the Department;
2. Be submitted to the Department; and
3. Be accompanied by all required forms and supplemental information, provided by the person or entity seeking to assume an ownership interest, similar to that required in an application for a cannabis transportation entity license to demonstrate compliance with all applicable requirements for licensure.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.5.3 Fingerprinting and criminal history record checks are required for anyone proposed as an owner, officer, director, board member or anyone with an economic interest.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.5.4 The Department may revoke or suspend a license upon discovery of any effort to transfer an ownership interest in a license without complying with the requirements of this Part.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

## **Subchapter 6 Oversight Requirements**

Rule 7.6.1 The physical location of medical cannabis establishments, all general business (inclusive of employee records) of the establishments, all financial records of the

establishments, and vehicles utilized to transport cannabis and/or cannabis products are subject to reasonable inspection by the Department.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.6.2 Medical cannabis establishments must cooperate with the Department during any inspections, requests to resolve complaints, requests for information/data, etc. in order to verify compliance with the rules and regulations in this Part, the MS Medical Cannabis Act and any subsequent versions of the rules and regulations in this Part and the Act.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.6.3 Medical cannabis establishments must notify the Department (in a format approved by the Department) of their intent to commence operations, along with the date of the commencement.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

## **Subchapter 7 Employees & Employment Records**

Rule 7.7.1 A cannabis transportation entity may not employ anyone who has been convicted of a disqualifying felony offense or is under the age of twenty-one (21). A cannabis transportation entity may not employ any individual who does not have a valid work permit issued by the Department.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.7.2 A cannabis transportation entity must complete a background check on each employee to verify that the employee does not have a disqualifying felony.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.7.3 An individual will not be able to work at a cannabis transportation entity until after he or she receives a work permit and completes eight (8) hours of continuing education relating to medical cannabis. Thereafter, it is the individual's responsibility to annually complete five (5) hours of continuing education relating to medical cannabis to maintain such certification. An individual is required to renew his or her permit every five (5) years.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.7.4 If an individual does not complete the annual continuing education requirements, the Department may revoke the individual's work permit or suspend the work permit until such time as the education requirements are completed.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.7.5 Each cannabis transportation entity is required to create an identification badge for its employees. This badge will be conspicuously worn by employees at all times that they are on the licensed premises or during transport of cannabis and/or cannabis products.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.7.6 All employees of the cannabis transportation entity must be entered into the state's seed to sale system.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.7.7 All employees must possess a valid, unrestricted driver's license issued by the State of Mississippi and a valid work permit issued by the Department. The cannabis transportation entity must also issue each employee an identification badge, with picture. All documents referenced in this Rule must be in the employee's possession when in a vehicle transporting cannabis and/or cannabis products.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.7.8 A cannabis transportation entity must keep an employment record for all employees, including, but not limited to:

1. Full legal name and any nicknames;
2. Detailed job description;
3. Record of all training received or acquired by the employee;
4. Dates of employment;
5. Records of days and hours worked;
6. Records of time off; and,

7. Any disciplinary actions taken.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.7.9 Employment records must be maintained, either electronically or in hard copy, for at least three (3) years after the employee's last date of employment with the cannabis transportation entity.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

## **Subchapter 8 General Recordkeeping Requirements**

Rule 7.8.1 Cannabis transportation entities must participate in and utilize the state's seed to sale system for inventory control and tracking purposes.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.8.2 Cannabis transportation entities are required to maintain the following for a minimum period of five (5) years:

1. All books and records necessary to fully account for each business transaction conducted under its license;
2. A copy of each transportation manifest for each transport of cannabis and/or cannabis products must be maintained;
3. Employment records;
4. Record of all pesticides and chemical applications to the cannabis transportation entity's facility and vehicles used to transport cannabis and/or cannabis products;
5. Records of any theft, loss, or other unaccountability of any cannabis and/or cannabis products.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

## **Subchapter 9 Vehicle Requirements**

Rule 7.9.1 The cannabis transportation entity shall submit to the Department the license plate numbers, proof of insurance, and vehicle identification numbers for each vehicle being used to transport cannabis or cannabis-infused products.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.9.2 Vehicles used to transport cannabis and/or cannabis products must be insured at or above the legal requirements in MS.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.9.3 Vehicles used to transport cannabis and/or cannabis products must be equipped with the following:

1. An alarm system;
2. A global positioning system (GPS) to monitor location, routes, etc. at all times with the ability to grant the Department and/or state and local law enforcement access to the system; and,
3. Locked storage container as defined in Rule 7.1.2.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.9.4 All vehicles used to transport cannabis and/or cannabis products must be staffed with a minimum of two (2) employees when a vehicle contains cannabis and/or cannabis products. At least one (1) employee shall remain with the vehicle any time it contains cannabis and/or cannabis products.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.9.5 All vehicles used for the purpose of transporting cannabis and/or cannabis products shall be maintained in a sanitary condition.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.9.6 A vehicle transporting cannabis and/or cannabis products must not bear any markings to indicate the vehicle contains cannabis or bear the name or logo of the medical cannabis establishment.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

## **Subchapter 10 Operational Requirements**

Rule 7.10.1 A cannabis transportation entity shall be responsible for any and all cannabis and/or cannabis products within its custody, control, or possession.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.10.2 A cannabis transportation entity may transport cannabis and/or cannabis products to medical cannabis establishments during the hours of 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.10.3 Prior to the transport of cannabis and/or cannabis products, the cannabis transportation entity must ensure a trip plan has been created for each transportation event. At a minimum, a trip plan must include the following:

1. Names of employees transporting the cannabis and/or cannabis products;
2. State issued work permits of the employees transporting the cannabis and/or cannabis products;
3. Date and start time of the transport;
4. Physical location of the originating medical cannabis establishment;
5. Physical location of the receiving medical cannabis establishment;
6. A description of the cannabis and cannabis products to be transported to include: quantities by weight or unit of each type of cannabis and/or cannabis products contained in the transport, along with the unique identifying numbers issued by the seed to sale system for each item;
7. Any anticipated stops during the trip, including the locations of the stop and arrival and departure time from the location;
8. The anticipated route of transportation;
9. Any and all instances in which cannabis and/or cannabis products are stored at cannabis transportation entity's facilities; and,
10. Estimated date and time of arrival at the receiving medical cannabis establishment.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.10.4 A copy of the trip plan must be provided to the originating medical cannabis establishment and maintained by the cannabis transportation entity. A copy of the applicable trip plan must be kept in the vehicle during transport.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.10.5 Should a cannabis transportation entity possess cannabis and/or cannabis products outside of the approved transportation hours, the licensee must immediately go to its nearest facility and store the cannabis and/or cannabis products in accordance with rules in this Part.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.10.6 To maintain the independence required, cannabis transportation entities are prohibited from the following activities related to the medical cannabis program:

1. Growing/cultivating cannabis;
2. Manufacturing/processing cannabis and/or cannabis products;
3. Retail sales of cannabis and/or cannabis products;
4. The resale of cannabis and/or cannabis products to other entities and medical cannabis establishments;
5. Transportation, storage, and delivery of cannabis and/or cannabis products to entities who are not licensed by the Department as medical cannabis establishments or the MS Department of Revenue as cannabis dispensaries; and,
6. Provision of cannabis and/or cannabis products directly to qualifying patients and/or caregivers as defined in this Part.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.10.7 A cannabis transportation entity must have inventory tracking processes and procedures in place that include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Prior to the transport of cannabis and/or cannabis products, the originating medical cannabis establishment must provide the transporter with a copy of the inventory/transportation manifest generated from the seed to sale system. At a minimum, the manifest must include the following:



- A. License number of the originating medical cannabis establishment;
- B. Name and contact information of the originating medical cannabis establishment;
- C. License number of the receiving medical cannabis establishment;
- D. Name and contact information of the receiving medical cannabis establishment;
- E. Physical address of the receiving medical cannabis establishment where cannabis and/or cannabis products are being delivered;
- F. Quantities by weight or unit of each type of cannabis and/or cannabis products contained in the transport, along with the unique identifying numbers issued by the seed to sale system for each item;
- G. The date of transport to include the time of departure and approximate arrival time;
- H. Names and work permit numbers issued by the Department of the individuals accompanying the transport;
- I. The make, model, color, and license plate number of the vehicles providing transport of cannabis and/or cannabis products.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.10.8 An inventory/transportation manifest must be included with each transport.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.10.9 An inventory/transportation manifest shall not be altered after departing the originating medical cannabis establishment. Such manifest made be made available to law enforcement, if requested.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.10.10 There must not be any passenger or operator in a vehicle transporting cannabis and/or cannabis products that is not employed by the cannabis transportation entity while cannabis and/or cannabis products are present.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

## **Subchapter 11            Storage Requirements – During and Outside of Transport**

Rule 7.11.1    A transporter shall not transport cannabis and/or cannabis- products unless it is first packed in a cannabis container by the originating medical cannabis establishment.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.11.2    A cannabis container for transport must be:

1.        Sealable and sealed during transport;
2.        Locked during transport;
3.        Clearly labeled as medical cannabis and/or medical cannabis-product;
4.        Maintained in a locked and secure storage compartment that is part of the vehicle or a locked storage container with a separate key or combination lock.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.11.3    A transporter shall not open a cannabis container. Once a cannabis container is packed and sealed for delivery, only the following may open a cannabis container:

1.        The originating medical cannabis establishment;
2.        The medical cannabis establishment intended for delivery;
3.        Local, State, or federal law enforcement;
4.        An employee of the Department or the MS Department of Revenue.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.11.4    Cannabis and/or cannabis-products shall be transported so it is not visible or recognizable from outside the vehicle.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.11.5    If a cannabis transportation entity is required to store cannabis and/or cannabis products, the storage location must, at a minimum, meet the following requirements:

1. Cannabis and/or cannabis products must be stored at location licensed by the Department as part of the cannabis transportation entity's license;
2. Be secure and enclosed with permanent walls;
3. Be locked at all times;
4. Be accessible only to specifically identified employees of the cannabis transportation entity;
5. Have an alarm system that meets the following:
  - A. Upon attempted unauthorized entry, the alarm system shall transmit a signal directly to a central protection company or a law enforcement agency that has a legal authority to respond. A designated employee of the cannabis transportation entity must also be notified.
  - B. Provide continuous, uninterrupted coverage (24 hours/7 days) for all points of ingress and egress to the facility, including without limitation doorways, windows, loading areas;
  - C. Provide continuous, uninterrupted coverage (24 hours/7 days) of any room with an exterior wall, any room containing a safe, and any room used to store cannabis and/or cannabis products;
  - D. Be equipped with failure notification systems to notify the transporter and law enforcement of any failure in the alarm system; and,
  - E. Have the ability to remain operational during a power outage.
6. Have continuous, uninterrupted video surveillance that meets the following:
  - A. Provide continuous, uninterrupted coverage (24 hours/7 days) for all points of ingress and egress to the facility, including without limitation doorways, windows, loading areas, and parking areas;
  - B. Provide continuous, uninterrupted coverage (24 hours/7 days) of any room with an exterior wall, any room containing a safe, and any room used to store cannabis and/or cannabis products;
  - C. Digital archiving capabilities for a minimum of (120) days;
  - D. On-site and off-site monitoring capabilities;



General Penalty if not specifically listed	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$20,000 and one week suspension
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*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

**Title 15: Mississippi State Department of Health**

**Part 22: Medical Cannabis Program**

**Subpart 7: Cannabis Transportation Entities**

**Chapter 1 REGULATIONS FOR THE COMMERCIAL TRANSPORTATION OF MEDICAL CANNABIS**

**Subchapter 1 General Provisions**

Rule 7.1.1 Legal Authority: This regulation has been promulgated under the authority of and pursuant to Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.1.2 Definitions: The following terms shall have the meaning hereinafter respectively ascribed to them as they relate to licensed medical cannabis establishments participating in the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Program:

1. **Allowable amount of medical cannabis** – The term “allowable amount of medical cannabis” means an amount not to exceed the maximum amount of Mississippi Medical Cannabis Equivalency Units (“MMCEU”).
2. **Cannabis** - The term "cannabis" means all parts of the plant of the genus cannabis, the flower, the seeds thereof, the resin extracted from any part of the plant and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture or preparation of the plant, its seeds or its resin, including whole plant extracts. Such term shall not mean cannabis-derived products approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration under Section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.
3. **Cannabis container** – The term “cannabis container” means an individual locked and secure container that is used to transport cannabis and/or

cannabis products from one medical cannabis establishment to another.

4. **Cannabis cultivation facility** – The term “cannabis cultivation facility” means a business entity licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that acquires, grows, cultivates, and harvests medical cannabis in an indoor, enclosed, locked, and secure area.
5. **Cannabis disposal entity** – The term “cannabis disposal entity” means a business licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that is involved in the commercial disposal or destruction of medical cannabis. These entities may also be known as “waste disposal entities”.
6. **Cannabis processing facility** – The term “cannabis processing facility” means a business entity that is licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that: acquires or intends to acquire cannabis from a cannabis cultivation facility; possesses cannabis with the intent to manufacture a cannabis product; manufactures or intends to manufacture a cannabis product from unprocessed cannabis or a cannabis extract; and sells or intends to sell a cannabis product to a medical cannabis transportation entity, cannabis testing facility or cannabis research facility. These entities may also be known as “processing facilities”, “processors”, or “cannabis processors”.
7. **Cannabis products** – The term “cannabis products” means cannabis flower, concentrated cannabis, cannabis extracts and products that are infused with cannabis or an extract thereof and are intended for use or consumption by humans. The term includes, without limitation, edible cannabis products, beverages, topical products, ointments, oils, tinctures and suppositories that contain tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and/or cannabidiol (CBD) except those products excluded from control under Sections 41-29-113 and 41-29-136 of the MS Code.
8. **Cannabis research facility** – The term “cannabis research facility” or “research facility” means a research facility at any university or college in this state or an independent entity licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health pursuant to this chapter that acquires cannabis from cannabis cultivation facilities and cannabis processing facilities in order to research cannabis, develop best practices for specific medical conditions, develop medicines and provide commercial access for medical use.
9. **Cannabis testing facility** – The term “cannabis testing facility” or “testing facility” means an independent entity licensed and registered by the Mississippi Department of Health that analyzes the safety and potency of cannabis.
10. **Department** – The term “Department” means the Mississippi State

Department of Health.

11. **Economic interest** – The term “economic interest” means holding an ownership interest as a sole proprietor, partner, member, limited partner, stockholder owning at least 10% of available stock, or as any other type of interest that entitles the individual or entity to regular payments for amounts based on a percentage of revenue derived from the commercial transportation of cannabis or cannabis products by a cannabis transportation entity as defined by the MS Medical Cannabis Act.
12. **Locked storage container** – The term “locked storage container” means a secure storage/packing/loading container that may contain multiple individual cannabis containers for transport. A locked storage container is a fixed part of the vehicles used for transportation and is inaccessible to the driver during transport.
13. **Medical cannabis establishments** – The term “medical cannabis establishments” shall mean a cannabis cultivation facility, cannabis processing facility, cannabis testing facility, cannabis transportation entity, cannabis transportation entity, cannabis disposal entity, cannabis research facility licensed and registered by MS State Department of Health (the Department) or Mississippi Department of Revenue (MDOR). Medical Cannabis Establishments may also be known as licensed entities, licensees, or establishments.
14. **Medical cannabis transportation entity** – The term "Medical cannabis transportation entity" or "cannabis transportation entity" means an entity licensed and registered with the Mississippi Department of Revenue that acquires, possesses, stores, transfers, sells, supplies, or dispenses medical cannabis, equipment used for medical cannabis, or related supplies and educational materials to cardholders. The term “transporter” may also be utilized to describe these entities.
15. **Non-provisional license** – The term “non-provisional license” means a license issued by the Mississippi State Department of Health when there is evidence of compliance with all applicable rules and regulations in this Part and components of the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act.
16. **Provisional license** - The term “provisional license” means a license issued by the Mississippi State Department of Health when a temporary condition of non-compliance with the regulations contained in this Part exists. A provisional license shall be issued only if the Mississippi State Department of Health is satisfied that preparations are being made to qualify for a non-provisional license and that the health and safety of patients and the public will not be endangered. Business activities and operations are limited by this licensure category.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.1.3 Severability. The provisions of this part are severable. If a court of competent jurisdiction declares any section, subsection, paragraph, or provision unconstitutional or invalid, the validity of the remaining provisions shall not be affected.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.1.4 Cannabis transportation entities must comply with any and all motor vehicle laws in the State of Mississippi.

## **Subchapter 2 Application for Licensure as a Cannabis Transportation Entity**

Rule 7.2.1 An application and all complete required documentation must be submitted to the Department using its required format and/or system.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.2.2 At a minimum, an application for licensure as a cannabis transportation entity must include the following:

1. The names and other required information for all individuals and legal entities who are applicants.
2. The proposed physical location of the cannabis transportation entity.
3. A map or sketch of the premises proposed for licensure, including the defined boundaries of the premises and a scaled floorplan sketch of all enclosed areas with clear identification of the main entrance, walls, all areas of ingress and egress, and all limited access areas. This map must provide accurate measurements that allow the Department, at a minimum, to determine the precise main entrance location in reference to the rest of the premises;
4. If the application is based on proposed construction not completed at the time of application, the applicant must submit construction plans for the proposed building which will be the basis for the application investigation. These plans must, at a minimum, provide accurate measurements that allow the Department to determine the precise main entrance location in reference to the rest of the building;



5. An operating plan that demonstrates at a minimum how the applicant's proposed premises and business will comply with applicable laws and rules regarding:
  - A. Security;
  - B. Employment practices that include a plan of action to inform, hire, and educate minorities, women, veterans, and persons with disabilities, engage in fair labor practices, and provide employee protections;
  - C. Record-keeping systems;
  - D. Hours of operation;
  - E. Preventing diversion of cannabis and/or cannabis products;
  - F. Inventory control and tracking;
  - G. The number and type (make, year, and model) of equipment the transporter will use to transport cannabis and cannabis-infused products
6. If the municipality or county where the proposed cannabis transportation entity will be located has enacted zoning restrictions, a sworn attestation by the applicant certifying that the proposed cannabis transportation entity is in compliance with the restrictions.
7. If the municipality or county where the proposed cannabis transportation entity will be located requires a local registration, license, or permit, then the applicant must include a copy of such registration, license or permit issued to the applicant with the application submitted to the Department.
8. The names and other required information for all individuals and legal entities with an economic interest in the proposed cannabis transportation entity.
9. Fingerprint cards or electronic fingerprints collected by a live scan vendor documentation for applicant's individual owners, individuals/entities with economic interest in order to perform a criminal background check to determine whether a disqualify felony offense is present.
10. Other information that may be required by the Department.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.2.3 The Department will review an application to determine if it is complete. An application will not be considered complete if the applicant does not provide all information required by the application form, the full application and license fees have not been paid, or all of the additional information required under these rules is not submitted. If items are missing, the Department will send notification to the applicant that the application has been rejected and provide a description of the needed information. The applicant will need to resubmit an amended application for a license if the application is rejected.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.2.4 Once all required information is received and the fees have been paid, the Department will send notification to the applicant that it has received a completed application. Once the application has been deemed complete, the Department will review the application and issue a determination within thirty (30) days of receiving the completed application. Applications will be processed in the order in which a completed application is filed by the applicant. Review will be initiated based on the order in which a complete application is filed; however, the duration of the review will depend upon the information provided by the applicant.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

### **Subchapter 3      Fees**

Rule 7.3.1 The following nonrefundable fees are required at the time of initial application and renewal:

1. One-time application fee of \$5,000.00; and,
2. Annual license fee of \$7,500.00.

Rule 7.3.2 Fees must be paid in a manner set forth by the Department.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 19

Rule 7.3.3 The one-time application fee and license fee must be paid in order for the application to be determined complete and move forward in the Department's review.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 19

Rule 7.3.4 A fee for a status change from provision license to non-provisional license is not required. The application and license fees must be paid as stated in Rules 7.3.1 – 7.3.3.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 19*

#### **Subchapter 4 Licensure – Initial and Renewals**

Rule 7.4.1 A license, issued by the Department, shall be obtained for each cannabis transportation entity prior to the commencement of any transportation activities related to cannabis. Activities include, but are not limited to: acquiring, possessing, storing, or transporting cannabis.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.2 A cannabis transportation entity may not acquire, possess, store, or transport cannabis or cannabis products to any person or entity other than a medical cannabis establishment authorized by this Part.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.3 A medical cannabis establishment, inclusive of a cannabis transportation entity, shall not be within 1,000 feet of the nearest property boundary line of a school, church or child care facility which exists or has acquired necessary real property for the operation of such facility before the date of the medical cannabis establishment application unless the entity has received approval from the school, church or child care facility and received the applicable waiver from their licensing agency, provided that the main point of entry of the cannabis establishment is not located within five hundred (500) feet of the nearest property boundary line of any school, church or child care facility.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 18*

Rule 7.4.4 Licensure of a cannabis transportation entity is required annually.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.4.5 A license shall be issued for the specific location identified on the application, and is valid only for the owner, premises and name designated on the application and Department issued license and the location for which it is issued.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.4.6 Provisional Licensure. Within its discretion, the Department of Health may issue a provisional license when a temporary condition of non-compliance with the regulations contained in this Part exists. A provisional license shall be issued only if the Department is satisfied that preparations are being made to qualify for a non-provisional license and that the health and safety of patients and the public will not be endangered.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.4.7 A provisional license may be issued when the following conditions exist:

1. Prior to the medical cannabis establishment's start date of operations and subsequent to meeting the licensure requirements for the development of all required standard operating procedures. The license issued under this provision shall be valid until the issuance of a non-provisional license, but shall generally not exceed four (4) months following date of issuance whichever may be sooner.
2. When a temporary issue of non-compliance with these regulations exists that does not endanger the health and safety of patients and the public (at the discretion of the Department). The license issued under this provision shall be valid until the issues of non-compliance are remedied and evidence of compliance is submitted to the Department. The license issued under this provision shall be valid until the issuance of a non-provisional license, but shall generally not exceed four (4) months following date of issuance whichever may be sooner.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.4.8 Renewal of Licensure. Non-provisional licenses must be renewed on an annual basis. Non-provisional licenses are valid for one year from the date of issuance. At the time of renewal, the licensee must demonstrate continued compliance with all applicable licensing criteria.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.4.9 An annual inspection by the Department may be required for renewal of the license.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.4.10 A license may be suspended, revoked, or shall not be renewed by the Department if:

1. Outstanding fines are owed to the Department;
2. An owner has been convicted of a disqualifying felony;
3. The medical cannabis establishment (medical cannabis establishment) has not engaged in licensed activity at the licensed premises for a period of 1 year or more, unless the medical cannabis establishment submits evidence of reasonable justification, including without limitation death, illness, natural disaster, or other circumstances beyond the medical cannabis establishment's control. This exception is not available to medical cannabis establishments that have not completed construction according to the plans submitted by the establishment during the application process;
4. Renewal will result in any person having a direct or indirect ownership or economic interest of great than 10% in more than 5 cannabis transportation entity licenses.
5. The licensed entity owes delinquent taxes; or
6. The licensed entity no longer meets all eligibility requirements for the issuance of a cannabis transportation entity permit.
7. The licensed entity does not meet regulatory requirements set by the Department.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.4.11 The Department shall send notification to each licensee of the duty to renew no later than 60 days prior to the expiration date of an active license. Notification will be to the address listed by the licensee on its application or latest renewal, as applicable.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.4.12 At the time of renewal, the licensee shall ensure that all material changes to the required plans have been communicated in writing to the Department.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.4.13 The licensee shall submit proof that the licensee is still in compliance with all requisite local permits and licenses.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.4.14 An applicant may appeal a renewal denial as provided by the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.4.15 If the license of a medical cannabis establishment expires (by date), isn't renewed, is suspended or revoked, operations of that establishment that are authorized by rules and regulations in this Part and the MS Medical Cannabis Act must cease.

### **Subchapter 5 Transfer of Ownership**

Rule 7.5.1 A licensee may transfer ownership interests, including without limitation partial ownership, only after the application for a transfer of an ownership interest has been approved by the Department.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.5.2 An application for the transfer of ownership interests must:

1. Be completed on forms made available by the Department;
2. Be submitted to the Department; and
3. Be accompanied by all required forms and supplemental information, provided by the person or entity seeking to assume an ownership interest, similar to that required in an application for a cannabis transportation entity license to demonstrate compliance with all applicable requirements for licensure.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.5.3 Fingerprinting and criminal history record checks are required for anyone proposed as an owner, officer, director, board member or anyone with an economic interest.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.5.4 The Department may revoke or suspend a license upon discovery of any effort to transfer an ownership interest in a license without complying with the requirements of this Part.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

## **Subchapter 6            Oversight Requirements**

Rule 7.6.1 The physical location of medical cannabis establishments, all general business (inclusive of employee records) of the establishments, all financial records of the establishments, and vehicles utilized to transport cannabis and/or cannabis products are subject to reasonable inspection by the Department.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.6.2 Medical cannabis establishments must cooperate with the Department during any inspections, requests to resolve complaints, requests for information/data, etc. in order to verify compliance with the rules and regulations in this Part, the MS Medical Cannabis Act and any subsequent versions of the rules and regulations in this Part and the Act.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.6.3 Medical cannabis establishments must notify the Department (in a format approved by the Department) of their intent to commence operations, along with the date of the commencement.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

## **Subchapter 7            Employees & Employment Records**

Rule 7.7.1 A cannabis transportation entity may not employ anyone who has been convicted of a disqualifying felony offense or is under the age of twenty-one (21). A cannabis transportation entity may not employ any individual who does not have a valid work permit issued by the Department.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.7.2 A cannabis transportation entity must complete a background check on each employee to verify that the employee does not have a disqualifying felony.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.7.3 An individual will not be able to work at a cannabis transportation entity until after he or she receives a work permit and completes eight (8) hours of continuing education relating to medical cannabis. Thereafter, it is the individual's responsibility to annually complete five (5) hours of continuing education relating to medical cannabis to maintain such certification. An individual is required to renew his or her permit every five (5) years.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.7.4 If an individual does not complete the annual continuing education requirements, the Department may revoke the individual's work permit or suspend the work permit until such time as the education requirements are completed.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.7.5 Each cannabis transportation entity is required to create an identification badge for its employees. This badge will be conspicuously worn by employees at all times that they are on the licensed premises or during transport of cannabis and/or cannabis products.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.7.6 All employees of the cannabis transportation entity must be entered into the state's seed to sale system.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.7.7 All employees must possess a valid, unrestricted driver's license issued by the State of Mississippi and a valid work permit issued by the Department. The cannabis transportation entity must also issue each employee an identification badge, with picture. All documents referenced in this Rule must be in the employee's possession when in a vehicle transporting cannabis and/or cannabis products.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.7.8 A cannabis transportation entity must keep an employment record for all employees, including, but not limited to:



1. Full legal name and any nicknames;
2. Detailed job description;
3. Record of all training received or acquired by the employee;
4. Dates of employment;
5. Records of days and hours worked;
6. Records of time off; and,
7. Any disciplinary actions taken.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.7.9 Employment records must be maintained, either electronically or in hard copy, for at least three (3) years after the employee's last date of employment with the cannabis transportation entity.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

## **Subchapter 8 General Recordkeeping Requirements**

Rule 7.8.1 Cannabis transportation entities must participate in and utilize the state's seed to sale system for inventory control and tracking purposes.

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*

Rule 7.8.2 Cannabis transportation entities are required to maintain the following for a minimum period of five (5) years:

1. All books and records necessary to fully account for each business transaction conducted under its license;
2. A copy of each transportation manifest for each transport of cannabis and/or cannabis products must be maintained;
3. Employment records;
4. Record of all pesticides and chemical applications to the cannabis transportation entity's facility and vehicles used to transport cannabis and/or cannabis products;

5. Records of any theft, loss, or other unaccountability of any cannabis and/or cannabis products.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

## **Subchapter 9                    Vehicle Requirements**

Rule 7.9.1        The cannabis transportation entity shall submit to the Department the license plate numbers, proof of insurance, and vehicle identification numbers for each vehicle being used to transport cannabis or cannabis-infused products.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.9.2        Vehicles used to transport cannabis and/or cannabis products must be insured at or above the legal requirements in MS.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.9.3        Vehicles used to transport cannabis and/or cannabis products must be equipped with the following:

1. An alarm system;
2. A global positioning system (GPS) to monitor location, routes, etc. at all times with the ability to grant the Department and/or state and local law enforcement access to the system; and,
3. Locked storage container as defined in Rule 7.1.2.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.9.4        All vehicles used to transport cannabis and/or cannabis products must be staffed with a minimum of two (2) employees when a vehicle contains cannabis and/or cannabis products. At least one (1) employee shall remain with the vehicle any time it contains cannabis and/or cannabis products.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.9.5 All vehicles used for the purpose of transporting cannabis and/or cannabis products shall be maintained in a sanitary condition.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.9.6 A vehicle transporting cannabis and/or cannabis products must not bear any markings to indicate the vehicle contains cannabis or bear the name or logo of the medical cannabis establishment.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

### **Subchapter 10 Operational Requirements**

Rule 7.10.1 A cannabis transportation entity shall be responsible for any and all cannabis and/or cannabis products within its custody, control, or possession.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.10.2 A cannabis transportation entity may transport cannabis and/or cannabis products to medical cannabis establishments during the hours of 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.10.3 Prior to the transport of cannabis and/or cannabis products, the cannabis transportation entity must ensure a trip plan has been created for each transportation event. At a minimum, a trip plan must include the following:

1. Names of employees transporting the cannabis and/or cannabis products;
2. State issued work permits of the employees transporting the cannabis and/or cannabis products;
3. Date and start time of the transport;
4. Physical location of the originating medical cannabis establishment;
5. Physical location of the receiving medical cannabis establishment;
6. A description of the cannabis and cannabis products to be transported to include: quantities by weight or unit of each type of cannabis and/or cannabis products contained in the transport, along with the unique identifying numbers issued by the seed to sale system for each item;

7. Any anticipated stops during the trip, including the locations of the stop and arrival and departure time from the location;
8. The anticipated route of transportation;
9. Any and all instances in which cannabis and/or cannabis products are stored at cannabis transportation entity's facilities; and,
10. Estimated date and time of arrival at the receiving medical cannabis establishment.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.10.4 A copy of the trip plan must be provided to the originating medical cannabis establishment and maintained by the cannabis transportation entity. A copy of the applicable trip plan must be kept in the vehicle during transport.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.10.5 Should a cannabis transportation entity possess cannabis and/or cannabis products outside of the approved transportation hours, the licensee must immediately go to its nearest facility and store the cannabis and/or cannabis products in accordance with rules in this Part.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.10.6 To maintain the independence required, cannabis transportation entities are prohibited from the following activities related to the medical cannabis program:

1. Growing/cultivating cannabis;
2. Manufacturing/processing cannabis and/or cannabis products;
3. Retail sales of cannabis and/or cannabis products;
4. The resale of cannabis and/or cannabis products to other entities and medical cannabis establishments;
5. Transportation, storage, and delivery of cannabis and/or cannabis products to entities who are not licensed by the Department as medical cannabis establishments or the MS Department of Revenue as cannabis dispensaries; and,
6. Provision of cannabis and/or cannabis products directly to qualifying patients and/or caregivers as defined in this Part.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.10.7 A cannabis transportation entity must have inventory tracking processes and procedures in place that include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Prior to the transport of cannabis and/or cannabis products, the originating medical cannabis establishment must provide the transporter with a copy of the inventory/transportation manifest generated from the seed to sale system. At a minimum, the manifest must include the following:
  - A. License number of the originating medical cannabis establishment;
  - B. Name and contact information of the originating medical cannabis establishment;
  - C. License number of the receiving medical cannabis establishment;
  - D. Name and contact information of the receiving medical cannabis establishment;
  - E. Physical address of the receiving medical cannabis establishment where cannabis and/or cannabis products are being delivered;
  - F. Quantities by weight or unit of each type of cannabis and/or cannabis products contained in the transport, along with the unique identifying numbers issued by the seed to sale system for each item;
  - G. The date of transport to include the time of departure and approximate arrival time;
  - H. Names and work permit numbers issued by the Department of the individuals accompanying the transport;
  - I. The make, model, color, and license plate number of the vehicles providing transport of cannabis and/or cannabis products.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.10.8 An inventory/transportation manifest must be included with each transport.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.10.9 An inventory/transportation manifest shall not be altered after departing the originating medical cannabis establishment. Such manifest made be made available to law enforcement, if requested.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.10.10 There must not be any passenger or operator in a vehicle transporting cannabis and/or cannabis products that is not employed by the cannabis transportation entity while cannabis and/or cannabis products are present.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

### **Subchapter 11 Storage Requirements – During and Outside of Transport**

Rule 7.11.1 A transporter shall not transport cannabis and/or cannabis- products unless it is first packed in a cannabis container by the originating medical cannabis establishment.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.11.2 A cannabis container for transport must be:

1. Sealable and sealed during transport;
2. Locked during transport;
3. Clearly labeled as medical cannabis and/or medical cannabis-product;
4. Maintained in a locked and secure storage compartment that is part of the vehicle or a locked storage container with a separate key or combination lock.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.11.3 A transporter shall not open a cannabis container. Once a cannabis container is packed and sealed for delivery, only the following may open a cannabis container:

1. The originating medical cannabis establishment;
2. The medical cannabis establishment intended for delivery;
3. Local, State, or federal law enforcement;
4. An employee of the Department or the MS Department of Revenue.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.11.4 Cannabis and/or cannabis-products shall be transported so it is not visible or recognizable from outside the vehicle.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

Rule 7.11.5 If a cannabis transportation entity is required to store cannabis and/or cannabis products, the storage location must, at a minimum, meet the following requirements:

1. Cannabis and/or cannabis products must be stored at location licensed by the Department as part of the cannabis transportation entity's license;
2. Be secure and enclosed with permanent walls;
3. Be locked at all times;
4. Be accessible only to specifically identified employees of the cannabis transportation entity;
5. Have an alarm system that meets the following:
  - A. Upon attempted unauthorized entry, the alarm system shall transmit a signal directly to a central protection company or a law enforcement agency that has a legal authority to respond. A designated employee of the cannabis transportation entity must also be notified.
  - B. Provide continuous, uninterrupted coverage (24 hours/7 days) for all points of ingress and egress to the facility, including without limitation doorways, windows, loading areas;
  - C. Provide continuous, uninterrupted coverage (24 hours/7 days) of any room with an exterior wall, any room containing a safe, and any room used to store cannabis and/or cannabis products;
  - D. Be equipped with failure notification systems to notify the transporter and law enforcement of any failure in the alarm system; and,
  - E. Have the ability to remain operational during a power outage.

6. Have continuous, uninterrupted video surveillance that meets the following:
  - A. Provide continuous, uninterrupted coverage (24 hours/7 days) for all points of ingress and egress to the facility, including without limitation doorways, windows, loading areas, and parking areas;
  - B. Provide continuous, uninterrupted coverage (24 hours/7 days) of any room with an exterior wall, any room containing a safe, and any room used to store cannabis and/or cannabis products;
  - C. Digital archiving capabilities for a minimum of (120) days;
  - D. On-site and off-site monitoring capabilities;
  - E. Have the date and time embedded on all surveillance recordings without significantly obscuring the picture; and,
  - F. Use cameras that are capable of recording in both high and low lighting conditions.

Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21

**Subchapter 12 Schedule of Disciplinary Actions**

Rule 7.12.1 In addition to any applicable criminal actions, the following schedule shall be used when administratively disciplining medical cannabis establishments for violating statutory and/or regulatory requirements. The Department reserves the right to increase penalties based on aggravating circumstances.

<b><u>Violation</u></b>	<b><u>First Offense</u></b>	<b><u>Second Offense</u></b>	<b><u>Third Offense</u></b>
<u>Failure of an employee to possess an active work permit</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$20,000 and one week suspension</u>
<u>Employment of someone under the age of 21</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$20,000 and one week suspension</u>
<u>Failure to assist Department during recall of product</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$10,000 and one week suspension</u>	<u>\$20,000 and two week suspension</u>
<u>Failure to comply with security requirements</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$10,000 and one week suspension</u>	<u>\$20,000 and two week suspension</u>
<u>On-site use of cannabis or alcohol by employees</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$10,000 and one week suspension</u>	<u>\$20,000 and two week suspension</u>
<u>Failure to sufficiently maintain records</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$10,000 and one week suspension</u>	<u>\$20,000 and two week suspension</u>
<u>Unlawful acquisition, transfer, purchase or sale of cannabis</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$20,000 and two week suspension</u>	<u>Revocation</u>



<u>and/or cannabis product unless otherwise listed</u>			
<u>Negligent failure to accurately track inventory</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$10,000 and one week suspension</u>	<u>\$20,000 and two month suspension</u>
<u>Willful failure to accurately track inventory</u>	<u>\$10,000 and one week suspension</u>	<u>\$20,000 and two week suspension</u>	<u>Revocation</u>
<u>Falsification of records</u>	<u>\$10,000 and one week suspension</u>	<u>\$20,000 and two week suspension</u>	<u>Revocation</u>
<u>Refusal to permit access by Department staff as required by law</u>	<u>Two week Suspension</u>	<u>Revocation</u>	
<u>Threat against law enforcement and/or Department staff</u>	<u>Two week Suspension</u>	<u>Revocation</u>	
<u>Transportation activities during a license suspension period</u>	<u>Revocation</u>		
<u>General Penalty if not specifically listed</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$20,000 and one week suspension</u>

*Source: Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, S.B. 2095, Mississippi Legislature Regular Session 2022, Section 4 (1) (3) and Section 21*