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**JUNE 25-27
DULUTH**

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**DULUTH ENTERTAINMENT
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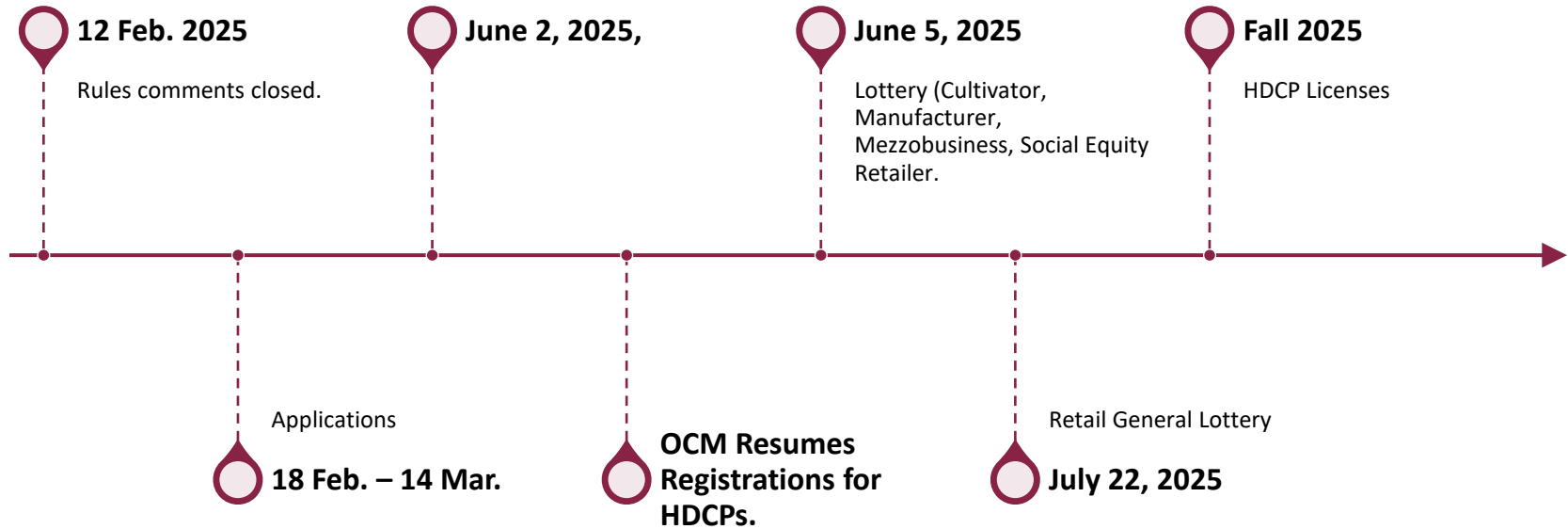
**Are we out of the
weeds yet?**



Agenda

- Timeline
- What cities should have done.
- What does the process look like.
- Legislative Changes 2025

Timeline



From Start to License: Your Path to Cannabis Licensing in Minnesota



Before you begin:

1. Were you verified as a social equity applicant? If so, decide if you will apply for a social equity-classified license.
2. What license type will you apply for? What endorsement(s) will you need to obtain?
3. Talk to your local government about zoning requirements and local retail registration availability (if applicable).

Start here!

Step 1. Complete your application

Create your account in Accela, OCM's business licensing system.

Review the Cannabis Business License Application Review and Qualifications Guidance.

Prepare your required application documents.

Begin your application. Fill in all required information and attach required documentation when prompted.

Pay your application fee.

Step 3. Final submissions, site registration, local government approval

Applicants have 18 months to complete Steps 3-5.

You are now a **preliminarily approved applicant.**

Complete required background check(s) and submit your labor peace agreement* to OCM.

Your application passes! You are now a **qualified applicant.**

Step 2a. Uncapped license approval

OCM reviews your application for minimum qualifications.

OCM sends your application to your local government for zoning compliance approval.**

Submit final application documents to OCM including site information.

Secure your business location. Be sure to communicate with your local government during this process!

Your application is chosen in the lottery! You are now a **qualified applicant.**

Your application passes! You are now entered into a randomized lottery selection.

Step 2b. Capped license approval

Your local government confirms that your business location meets all zoning regulations and other local rules and ordinances.

Step 4. Pre-licensure inspection

Your business undergoes a full pre-licensure inspection by OCM and partner agencies.

You pass the inspection! You are now a **pending licensee.**

Step 5. License issuance

Pay the initial license fee.

OCM issues your cannabis business license.

You are now a **licensee** and may begin operations.**



* Microbusinesses with fewer than 10 employees do not need to provide a labor peace agreement.

** Your application cannot proceed and your business cannot open until your local government certifies that your business meets zoning compliance!

*** For those seeking to conduct retail activities, you must get retail registration from your local government directly (in addition to your license) before beginning cannabis sales.

Learn more about the licensing process at:

mn.gov/ocm/businesses/licensing



What should cities have already done?



Update your zoning ordinance

- Can't prohibit cannabis business.
- Draft based on use, not license type.



License Types

Microbusiness	Mezzobusiness	Cultivator
Manufacturer	Retailer	Wholesaler
Transporter	Testing Facility	Event Organizer
Delivery Service	Low Potency Manufacturer	Low Potency Retailer
	Medical	

Authorized Activities

Cultivation	Production	Retail
On-Site Consumption	Transportation	Testing
Events	Delivery	Wholesale

License Type	Maximum Social Equity Applicants	Maximum for all Applicants	Total
Cultivator	25	25	50
Manufacturer	12	12	24
Retailer	75	75	150
Mezzobusiness	50	50	100
All Other License Types	No Limit	No Limit	No limit

Local Registration

- Required for all cannabis and low-potency hemp edible retailers.
- Can delegate to county.
- Can limit to 1 cannabis retailer for every 12,500 residents.
 - No limit on hemp-edible retailers.
- Change in timeline



Retail Registration Form and Checklist

Local unit of government:

Business name:

Business address:

Minnesota cannabis business license number:

Registration period and fee:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Initial | <input type="radio"/> Renewal |
| <input type="radio"/> Cannabis Microbusiness (up to \$0.00) | <input type="radio"/> Cannabis Microbusiness (up to \$1000.00) |
| <input type="radio"/> Cannabis Mezzobusiness (up to \$500.00) | <input type="radio"/> Cannabis Mezzobusiness (up to \$1000.00) |
| <input type="radio"/> Cannabis Retailer (up to \$500.00) | <input type="radio"/> Cannabis Retailer (up to \$1000.00) |
| <input type="radio"/> Cannabis Retailer: Municipal Cannabis Store** (up to \$500.00) | <input type="radio"/> Cannabis Retailer: Municipal Cannabis Store** (up to \$1,000.00) |
| <input type="radio"/> Medical Cannabis Combination Business* (up to \$500.00) | <input type="radio"/> Medical Cannabis Combination Business* (up to \$1,000.00) |
| <input type="radio"/> Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Retailer* (up to \$125.00) | <input type="radio"/> Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Retailer* (up to \$125.00) |

* These license types have specific statutory requirements regarding local retail registrations [see Minnesota Statutes, section 342.14, subd. 7 and Minnesota Statutes, section 342.22], and are not included in any potential limitation a local unit of government may establish.

Is applicant current on all property tax and assessments at retail location:

☐ Yes ☐ No

Preliminary local ordinance compliance: ☐ Pass ☐ Fail

Notes:

The applicant named above has paid the appropriate fees, is current on all applicable tax obligations, has passed a preliminary compliance review, and is authorized to engage in retail cannabis sales in the jurisdiction named above.

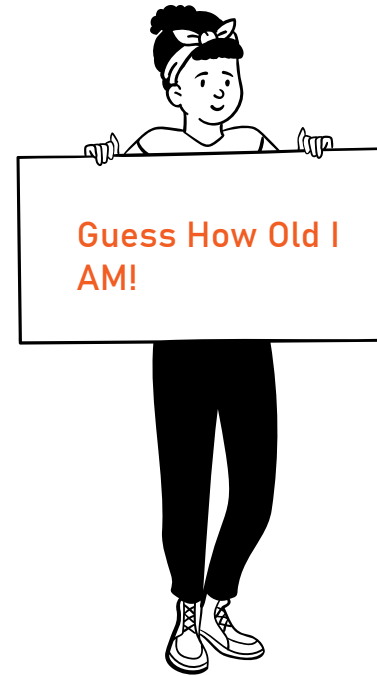
Approved by:

Title:

Date:

Compliance checks

- Must conduct compliance check at least once per calendar year for age verification and local ordinance.
- OCM verifies operational issues.



Let OCM Know Who is Doing What!!

- Government Contact Form:
 - Who is doing registration?
 - Who is certifying zoning?



mi MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF CANNABIS MANAGEMENT

Local Unit of Government Cannabis Licensing Contact and Delegation Form

Directions

Each local unit of government must complete this form as soon as possible or by **January 1, 2025**.

- **Local Unit of Government Information:** This section must be completed by townships, cities, and counties. This section identifies the type of government, and the point of contact specific for cannabis licensing, including zoning compliance. The identified point of contact should reflect the person who will manage the process for requests for zoning compliance certification and manage the Accela account on behalf of the local unit of government. For townships that do not have zoning authority regarding cannabis businesses, the point of contact should reflect the person who can manage communication that may arise directly with OCM on issues on cannabis licensing relevant to their jurisdiction, including compliance and enforcement of businesses, zoning, retail registration, delegated authority, etc.
- **Zoning Authority and Retail Registration Delegation:** This section must be completed by townships, cities, and counties. This section identifies information specific to a local unit of government's zoning authority, any delegation of retail registration authority, and any limitation on retail registrations.

Anytime the information submitted on this form changes, the city/township/county must resubmit an updated form.

For more information, contact: cannabis.info@state.mn.us

Next

Sign up for Accela

Licensing software used to verify zoning.



Local Governments: Registering for Accela for Zoning Compliance Certification

Local governments serve a critical role in the cannabis licensing process, serving as a near-final approval check on cannabis and hemp businesses nearing the awarding of a state license for operations. As part of the application process, applicants are required in state law to obtain a local government's certification of zoning compliance. Once an application has been vetted by OCM, is selected for proceeding in the application process, and secures a site location, OCM will notify local governments of the request for zoning compliance certification. This notification and certification process will occur through the licensing software system, [Accela \(https://aca-prod.accela.com/MDH/Default.aspx\)](https://aca-prod.accela.com/MDH/Default.aspx). This guide is designed to help local units of government register for their own Accela account.

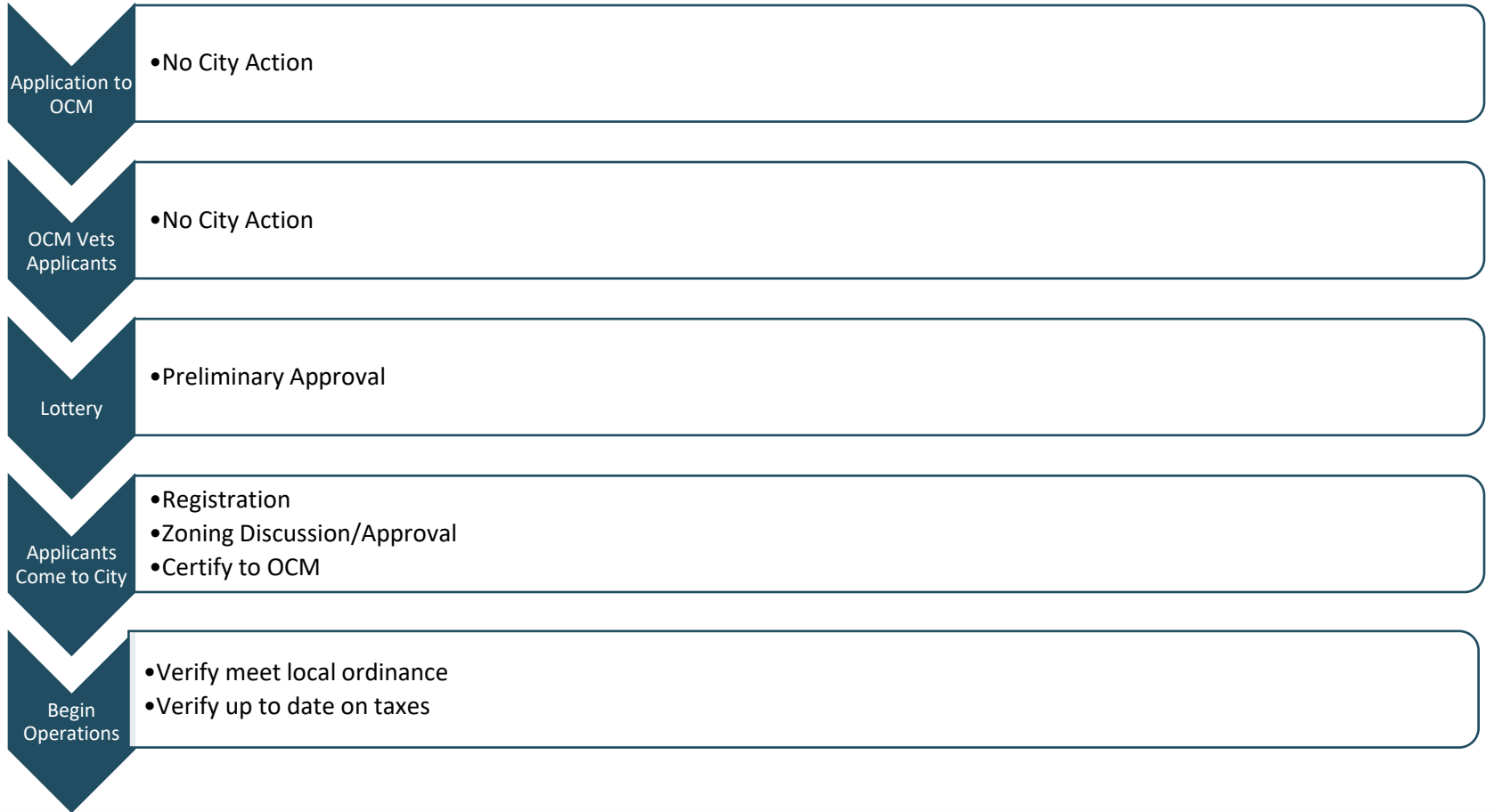
Local units of government will have 30 days to respond to a request for zoning compliance certification per Minnesota Statutes, section 342.13. By registering for an account prior to an entity submitting an application to OCM, those 30 days can be maximized for review of the application materials.

Who Needs to Create an Accela Account

All city and county governments should create an Accela account in preparation of requests for certification of compliance for cannabis businesses. Townships with relevant zoning authority should create an Accela account in preparation of requests for certification of compliance for cannabis businesses. Each unit of local government needs to identify one person to create an account for their locality's jurisdiction – the local Accela account manager. This identified person should match the "Point of Contact" submitted in the "Local Unit of Government Cannabis Licensing Contact and Delegation Form."

Getting Started

Please visit the [Accela Portal \(https://aca-prod.accela.com/MDH/Default.aspx\)](https://aca-prod.accela.com/MDH/Default.aspx) and select "Register for an Account" in the upper right-hand corner of the page.





A Guide for Local Governments

on Adult-Use Cannabis and Lower
Potency Hemp Edible Licenses

Version 3.0 | Updated April 14, 2025

Legislative Changes



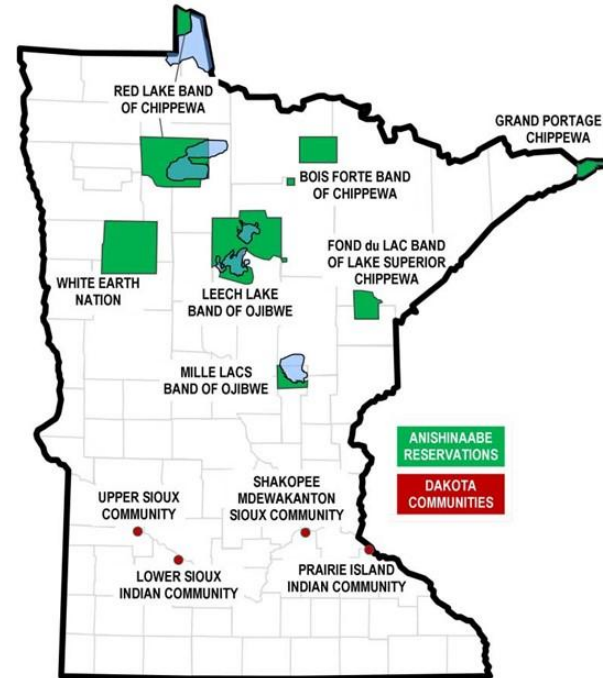
Taxes



- Tax no longer go to local governments.
- Raised to 15%
- Local sales tax still applies.

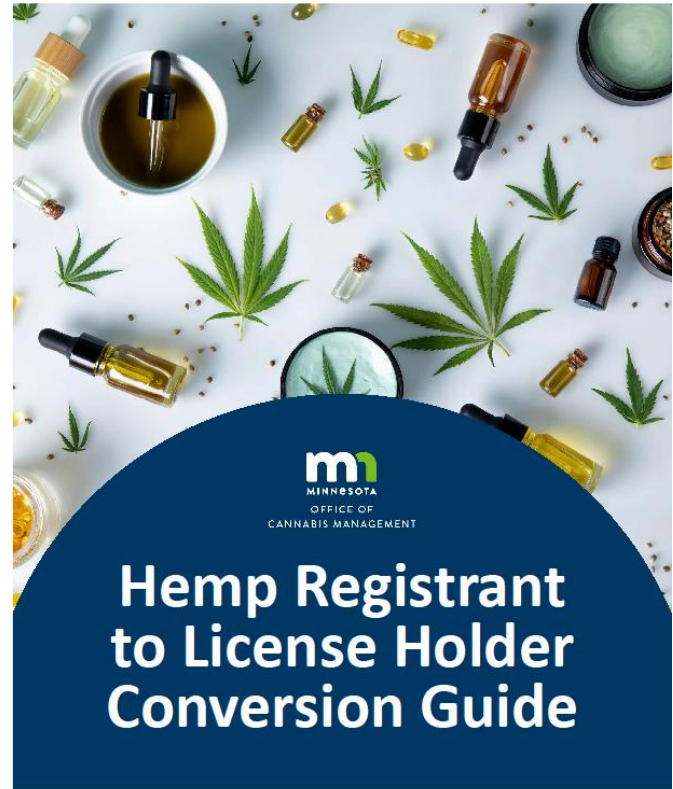
Tribal Compacts

- One signed so far.
- 8 off-reservation retail locations.
- Counts in limits.
- Must follow all non-cannabis specific ordinances.



Local HDCP Licenses

- Likely continue until OCM starts with actual licenses.



Version 1.2 | Updated May 27, 2025

Municipal Cannabis Operations

- Some cities breaking ground.
- Others working with consultants.
- Still no LMCIT coverage.
- LMC not involved in providing resources.
- Can have lower-potency license and municipal license.



Contacts

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