

Ohio Nears Adult-Use Cannabis Sales with First Lab Approval

Ohio Advances Toward Adult-Use Cannabis Sales

Ohio is making significant progress toward launching adult-use marijuana sales with recent approvals. The Division of Cannabis Control (DCC) has granted the state's first certificate of operations to a dual-use testing lab and issued additional certifications for hybrid grower and processor licensees. This follows the voter-approved legalization of recreational cannabis last year.

Approved Businesses

As of this week, 12 growers, 12 processors, and one testing lab have received dual-use certification. The DCC prioritized these licenses to ensure a smooth rollout, emphasizing that dispensaries can only sell adult-use products once cultivators, processors, and labs are certified.

Upcoming Steps

Although dispensary approvals are still pending, they could be granted soon. DCC has highlighted that the process for dispensary certifications involves meeting several requirements, including updates to point-of-sale systems and security measures. The exact timeline for dispensary approvals remains unclear, with expectations for operational readiness by September 7.

Regulatory Challenges

Governor Mike DeWine has expressed frustration over delays in regulated product access and urged legislative action to expedite sales. Meanwhile, the DCC has made initial changes to reduce costs for medical marijuana patients and is focusing on implementing adult-use regulations.

Market Outlook

The new regulations and approvals are crucial steps toward establishing Ohio's adult-use cannabis market, with a focus on ensuring a robust supply chain and compliance across all sectors.

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