

Community Empowerment: Delaware's Cannabis Social Equity Workshops

Are you interested in learning more about Delaware's social equity program for the recreational marijuana industry? The Office of the Marijuana Commissioner is hosting a series of workshops throughout June to provide valuable information and assistance to potential social equity candidates. These workshops are designed to help participants connect, network, and explore the various opportunities available within the state's emerging recreational marijuana market.

Workshop Details

Schedule and Locations

The workshops will run from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on the following dates and locations:

- **June 5:** Stanton Campus of Delaware Technical Community College in Stanton
- **June 12:** Owens Campus of Delaware Technical Community College in Georgetown
- **June 18:** Wilmington Campus of Delaware Technical Community College in Wilmington
- **June 26:** Dover Public Library in Dover

How to Register

Those interested in attending one of the workshops can register on the Office of the Marijuana Commissioner's website. For those unable to attend in person, the workshops will also be livestreamed on the office's Facebook page, ensuring broader access to this critical information.

Eligibility for a Social Equity License

The social equity program aims to support individuals who have been disproportionately impacted by past marijuana laws. To qualify for a social equity license, an applicant must have 51% ownership and control of the business and meet at least one of the following criteria:

Residency: Have lived for at least 5 of the preceding 15 years in a disproportionately impacted area. The state is developing an interactive map to help applicants determine eligibility based on residency.

Conviction: Was convicted of a marijuana-related offense under Delaware law prior to April 23, 2023, except if the offense involved delivery to a minor or had a "Tier 3 quantity" of marijuana (more than 11 pounds).

Family Impact: Had or has a parent, legal guardian, child, spouse, or dependent who was convicted of a marijuana-related offense under state law.

Social Equity Licenses

The state of Delaware has allocated specific licenses for social equity applicants to promote fairness and inclusion within the industry. The equity carveout includes:

Retail Licenses: 15

Cultivation Licenses: 20

Manufacturing Licenses: 10

Testing Labs: 2

Delaware's Progress in the Recreational Marijuana Industry

Delaware is steadily progressing towards establishing its recreational marijuana program in 2024. As the state works to finalize regulations and open stores, these workshops represent a vital step in ensuring that the benefits of this new industry are accessible to those who have been most affected by previous marijuana laws.

Expanding the Medical Program

In related news, Delaware lawmakers have recently voted to expand access to medical marijuana, a significant step towards broader legalization efforts. This expansion is awaiting the governor's approval and is expected to further integrate and support the medical and recreational marijuana industries in the state.

The Office of the Cannabis Commissioner's workshops are an excellent opportunity for social equity candidates to gain insights, connect with industry professionals, and learn about the various opportunities within Delaware's recreational marijuana market. Whether attending in person or via livestream, participants will have access to essential resources and support to navigate this new and evolving industry.

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