



Washington Medical Access Fund

❖ About the WMAF

The Washington Cannabusiness Association (WACA) established a new non-profit in January 2018 dedicated to reducing financial barriers to medical cannabis products. The WMAF utilizes federal 501(3)(c) status to fundraise and award financial assistance to registered cannabis patients who have individual economic hardships that make the purchase of their medicine difficult or impossible.

The WMAF allows financial supporters to make tax-deductible donations to the program and is analogous with non-profit community programs in other health care sectors that provide prescription drug price relief. These generous contributions are awarded to qualifying registered cannabis patients so they can access the products prescribed by their medical professional.

❖ Eligibility

General qualifications

- Hold a current Washington state medical marijuana card OR are able to provide valid documentation of a qualifying medical diagnosis (see below) from licensed provider
 - Under the Washington state medical marijuana system these are defined as *“conditions severe enough to significantly interfere with the patient’s activities of daily living and ability to function, which can be objectively assessed and evaluated and limited to the following:*
 - *Cancer, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), multiple sclerosis, epilepsy or other seizure disorder, or spasticity disorders.*
 - *Intractable pain, limited for the purpose of this chapter to mean pain unrelieved by standard medical treatments and medications.*
 - *Glaucoma, either acute or chronic, limited for the purpose of this chapter to mean increased intraocular pressure unrelieved by standard treatments and medications.*
 - *Crohn’s disease with debilitating symptoms unrelieved by standard treatments or medications.*
 - *Hepatitis C with debilitating nausea or intractable pain unrelieved by standard treatments or medications.*
 - *Diseases, including anorexia, which result in nausea, vomiting, wasting, appetite loss, cramping, seizures, muscle spasms, or spasticity, when these symptoms are unrelieved by standard treatments or medications.*

- *Chronic renal failure requiring hemodialysis.*
- *Posttraumatic stress disorder.*
- *Traumatic brain injury.”*

Financial qualifications

- Currently receiving Medicare coverage, OR
- Have a limited income determined using the following considerations:
 - Up to four times the federal poverty level
 - Cost of living (dependent on family size)
 - Cost of medical expenses
- Description of extenuating or temporary financial circumstances that may not be reflected in documentation (subject to internal evaluation and case-by-case determination).

❖ Benefits

The Fund provides financial assistance for the purchase of medical marijuana products from a licensed medical marijuana business. At this time, the fund is dispersing one-time grants of \$100 per qualifying individual. This is subject to change as the program expands.

Checks will be dispersed by mail 2-3 weeks after approval of application is notified.

❖ Application Process

The application process is conducted as follows:

1. Patient fills out and submits application via mail or email including:
 - a. Most recent tax forms OR Medicare coverage documentation
 - b. Copy of medical marijuana identification card OR Medical marijuana authorization form from licensed health care practitioner
2. Verification of documents and assessment of financial situation is conducted internally.
3. Eligible patients are notified of acceptance within two weeks of submission via email.
4. Check arrives by mail within 2-3 weeks of acceptance notification.

❖ Contribution Process for Interested Donors

Individuals or organizations can make tax-deductible donations to the WACA Medical Access Fund through check or our online portal.

Check by Mail

Please make checks payable to the WA Medical Access Fund and mail to:

WA Medical Access Fund
PO Box 9912
Seattle, WA 98109

Your tax return will be mailed back to the return address unless otherwise indicated.

Online Portal

Follow this [link](#) to our secured online donation page. You will be asked to supply your credit card information and a tax return will be automatically generated and sent to your email address.

❖ Questions?

For inquiries or questions, please contact wmaf@wacannabusiness.org or visit our webpage: <https://www.wacannabusiness.org/medical-access-fund-announcement>.