



LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE CANNABIS REGULATORY COMMISSION

Steven Day, Chairman
Benjamin Benoit, Secretary
Kirsten Wittman, Commissioner
Stephen Howard, Commissioner

LLBO Cultivation Application FAQ

Updated as of February 5, 2026

1. **Q:** When is the application period for cultivation licenses?
 - a. **A:** Applications will be accepted from January 20 – February 20, 2026.
2. **Q:** Will this be the only application period for cultivation licenses?
 - a. **A:** No. Additional applications will be opened in the future for additional licensing.
3. **Q:** Who is eligible for a cultivation license?
 - a. **A:** Only Band Citizens or entities formed under the Band's Business Corporation Code and 100% owned by Band Citizens are eligible for licensure.
4. **Q:** Where can cultivation facilities be located?
 - a. **A:** Cultivation facilities must be located on the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation. Cultivation facilities may not be located in a residential dwelling or within 25 feet of a residential dwelling.
5. **Q:** Is outdoor cultivation permitted?
 - a. **A:** Only indoor cultivation will be licensed at this time. Outdoor cultivation may be permitted in the future.
6. **Q:** Do I need to have a property identified to apply?
 - a. **A:** Yes, applicants need to provide documentation that they control the location, or will control the location, where they intend to operate.
7. **Q:** Can I apply for other license types (manufacturing, transportation, etc.)?
 - a. **A:** No. Only cultivation applications will be accepted during this application window. Additional application periods will be announced later in 2026.
8. **Q:** Where do Band members go to form an entity under the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe's Business Corporation Code?
 - a. **A:** Interested cultivation applicants who wish to form an entity under the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe's Business Corporation Code may go through the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Legal Office, which prepares the Articles of Incorporation or other required organizing documents for Band members and serves as the filing office for entity formation under the Band's Business Corporation Code.



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9. **Q:** Application requirements of a doubled spaced single page per plan / section, greatly reduces the ability of applicants to properly describe and detail required plans. Can I provide more detailed responses that are longer than the stated requirement?
- a. **A:** The narrative requirements, including the one-page, double-spaced limit for each required plan, are intentionally designed to promote consistency, fairness, and comparability across all applications. Applicants are expected to summarize their proposed operations in a manner that demonstrates an understanding of regulatory requirements within the specified format.
- As stated in the application materials, responses exceeding one page per plan will not be considered.
10. **Q:** Once applications are submitted, when will site inspections occur? Will site inspections begin once the application window concludes or immediately following the submission of the application?
- a. **A:** Site inspections will occur as part of the Commission's application review and licensing process. No inspections will occur prior to the end of the application window or the Commission's review of the application materials. Applicants must pass a site inspection before a license will be issued, but build-out is not required to be completed at the time of application submission. Additional information regarding site inspections will be communicated to appropriate parties if and when applicable.
11. **Q:** How long will it take to receive a license once the application window closes?
- a. **A:** The Commission will make its best effort to review applications within 30 business days of the close of the application window. However, the exact timeline from the close of the application window to license issuance will depend on a variety of factors, including the volume of applications received. Updates on the application and licensing process will be communicated as they become available.
12. **Q:** The Commission released Expedited Regulations and announced Proposed Regulations with a comment period concurrently with this application window. What Regulations should applicants reference in their applications?
- a. **A:** The Expedited Regulations are currently in effect and should be the primary legal reference for applicants, along with Cannabis Regulatory Act which was updated in November of 2025. Changes to the Proposed Regulations, which are



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currently identical to the Expedited Regulations, may occur based on feedback from the public comment period.

Applicants should ensure their applications are compliant with the current Expedited Regulations and the Cannabis Regulatory Act. Applicants will not be penalized if changes are later made to the regulations, so long as the plans were compliant at the time of submission.

13. **Q:** Can you please clarify how the application fee should be remitted for the application to be deemed “Complete”?
- a. **A:** The Application Fee of \$1,000 must be remitted prior to the Submission Deadline. The Application Fee is non-refundable.

Payment must be made by check to the Leech Lake Accounting Department.

Pay to the order of: Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

Memo: [Applicant Name] Cultivation Application Fee, Cannabis Regulatory Commission

PLEASE NOTE: the initial Application Form indicated payments should be directed to the Leech Lake Cannabis Regulatory Commission. We are now requesting payments be made to Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. This update is designed to ensure there are no issues with payment processing.

Accounting Department address:

16126 John Moose Drive

Cass Lake, MN 56633

The Accounting Department will provide a time-stamped receipt of payment and will forward the receipt to the Commission for verification of payment.

To be clear: a Complete Application requires the time-stamped receipt to be stamped prior to the Submission Deadline. Applicants should ensure they allow sufficient time for processing by the Accounting Department prior to the deadline; being in line for payment is not sufficient. Payment may be submitted to the Accounting Department prior to submission of the Application itself, if desired.