

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 13, 2025

CONTACTS:

Vanessa.Cheeks@ocm.ny.gov

TaylorRandi.Lee@ocm.ny.gov



NEW YORK STATE CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD APPROVES 68 NEW LICENSES, MARKS 500TH LEGAL STORE AND \$1.4 BILLION IN REPORTED SALES THIS YEAR

Board Approves 68 New Adult-Use Licenses, Half Awarded to Social and Economic Equity Applicants

OCM Celebrates 500th Legal Store, \$1.4B in Reported Sales, and Expands Education Partnerships Across New York State

ALBANY, N.Y. — [The New York State Cannabis Control Board \(CCB\)](#) held its November meeting to approve new adult-use licenses, share equity updates, and highlight major investments in community health and education. Since the first adult-use retailers opened in 2022, licensed businesses have created thousands of jobs, generated millions in local tax revenue, and provided safer, tested products for consumers statewide. As the market continues to grow, [The New York State Office of Cannabis Management \(OCM\)](#) will focus on strengthening compliance, ensuring geographic balance, and supporting long-term sustainability across all regions.

“Every approval the Board issues is an investment in entrepreneurial opportunity,” said **Felicia A. B. Reid, Acting Executive Director of the Office of Cannabis Management**. “New York’s is showing the cannabis industry nationwide that focused purpose can fuel economic

development, community impact, and innovation—making for a whole that is far bigger than the sum of its parts.

The November CCB meeting emphasized continued momentum toward a safe, equitable, and fully regulated cannabis market that benefits New York communities statewide.

Adult-Use License Approvals

The CCB approved 68 new adult-use licenses, bringing the total number of licenses issued statewide to 1,991. Of this month’s approvals, 63 percent were awarded to Social and Economic Equity (SEE) applicants, reflecting New York’s continued leadership in building a fair, inclusive cannabis market.

The 68 licenses include:

- Adult-Use Cultivator License: 11
- Adult-Use Distributor License: 8
- Adult-Use Microbusiness License: 5
- Adult-Use Processor License: 17
- Adult-Use Retail Dispensary License: 24
- CAURD License: 3

“Each license we approve reflects more than compliance; it reflects confidence in a system designed to promote fairness, safety, and community investment.” said **Jessica García, Chair of the Cannabis Control Board**. “Together, we’re building an industry that uplifts New Yorkers and sets a national standard for equity and integrity.”

Microbusiness Pro Forma Tool

The Office is launching the SEE Microbusiness Pro Forma Tool, a free, interactive financial planning resource created to help microbusiness licensees forecast costs, plan working capital needs, and generate financial projections to support business and investment planning.

Developed by a financial advisory firm, the tool allows users to input key operating assumptions and instantly generate customized financial projections tailored to their operations. It also enables licensees to populate business plans with clear, data-driven financial information suitable for investment proposals or loan applications. To make the resource more accessible, OCM has released free educational tutorial videos and presentation slide decks that guide users through the tool and explain how to interpret the results effectively. To access the tool or learn more, visit <https://cannabis.ny.gov/social-and-economic-equity> or email SEE@ocm.ny.gov.

Community Grants and Reinvestment

This year marks a proud milestone for The OCM— \$5 million in Community Reinvestment Grants awarded to 50 community-based projects across New York State. These investments are more than numbers; they represent progress, partnership, and purpose in action.

Through this program, cannabis tax revenue is being returned to the very communities that were most affected by past enforcement, funding initiatives that expand youth mental-health services, strengthen workforce development programs, and advance housing stability for individuals and families in need. Each award reflects New York’s continued commitment to ensuring that the success of the cannabis industry fuels opportunity, equity, and healing in communities statewide.

Health and Scientific Affairs—Medical Cannabis Symposium

The Office hosted the Cannabis Education Roundtable for School Health Leaders in partnership with the Capital Region Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES). The event brought together representatives from 13 school districts, three state agencies, and 25 total participants to discuss cannabis awareness, youth health, and strategies for effective community education.

Additionally, the OCM co-hosted the 2nd Annual NYS Medical Cannabis Symposium: Cannabinoids in Clinical Practice with Northwell Health, convening 150 clinicians and researchers to explore the evolving role of cannabinoids in patient care. The two-day symposium featured 18 oral presentations, 11 poster presentations, and a certifying practitioner course that trained 221 participants.

“Education is a pillar of public health,” **said Dr. June Chin, Chief Medical Officer of the Office of Cannabis Management.** “By sharing data, clinical experience, and evidence-based guidance, we equip practitioners and policymakers to advance cannabis care responsibly and keep patients safe. We look forward to continuing these partnerships across New York State and laying the groundwork for future medical cannabis events.”

Market and Social Equity Update

New York’s regulated cannabis market continues to mature, surpassing \$1.4 billion in reported sales to date.

“Equity is not a slogan—it’s the structure,” **said L. Simone Washington, Chief Equity Officer of the Office of Cannabis Management.** “Across every region and license type, SEE entrepreneurs are proving that when access meets accountability, New York builds an industry that works for everyone.”

Equity remains the foundation of this growth. As of November, 57 percent of all adult-use licenses statewide have been awarded to SEE businesses, and half of this month’s new approvals went to SEE licensees. SEE representation is strong across every license type:

- 38 percent of cultivators
- 45 percent of processors
- 39 percent of distributors
- 58 percent of microbusinesses
- 85 percent of retail dispensaries

Regional data show particularly high concentrations of SEE businesses in New York City, while the Southern Tier has the lowest share, underscoring the program’s need to focus on closing geographic gaps as the market expands. SEE and CAURD operators continue to demonstrate strong performance, with CAURD licensees leading the state in sales per store and SEE retailers showing consistent month-over-month growth as newer businesses open and stabilize.

To date there are **522 legal dispensaries** open for business across the Empire State.

A full list of New York’s licensed, operational adult-use cannabis retailers is available [here](#).

###

Follow us on social media: @nys_cannabis