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Expedited Licensure for Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Holders of Special Immigrant Visas

1 message

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Beginning January 1, 2021, individuals in the following categories who apply for licensure by the Bureau of Cannabis Control may seek an expedited licensure process.

- 1. Refugees pursuant to section 1157 of title 8 of the United States Code;
- 2. Those granted asylum by the Secretary of Homeland Security or the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to section 1158 of title 8 of the United States Code; or,
- 3. Individuals with a special immigrant visa that have been granted a status pursuant to section 1244 of Public Law 110-181, Public Law 109-163, or section 602(b) of title VI of division F of Public Law 111-8.

In order to receive the expedited licensure process, individuals must provide documentation of their refugee, asylee, or special immigrant visa status when submitting their application package. Please note that this does not mean a license must be issued, but simply that the process will be expedited.

[Click here for information and documentation examples.](#)

The Bureau of Cannabis Control is the lead agency in regulating commercial cannabis licenses for medical and adult-use cannabis in California. The Bureau is responsible for licensing retailers, distributors, testing laboratories, microbusinesses, and temporary cannabis events. For more information about our agency, please visit the Bureau's website. To learn more about California's three cannabis licensing authorities and the other state agencies contributing to cannabis regulatory efforts, please visit California's Cannabis Portal.

Those looking to get in touch with the Bureau of Cannabis Control may contact us directly through email at bcc@dca.ca.gov.

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