

Vaporized Flower Petition

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## WHY VAPORIZED FLOWER?

1. Reduce cost for access for lowans who need it.

2. Medically beneficial.

3. A workable solution.

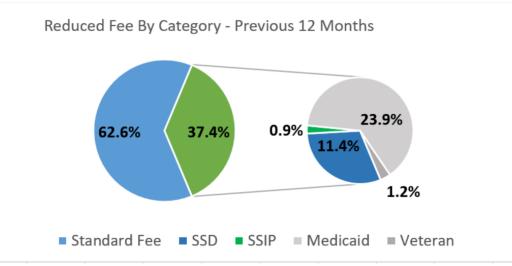
### PRICE REVIEW

State	Package Size	THC Content (%)	THC Content (g)	Cost (MSRP)	Cost per gram THC
South Dakota	3.5 grams raw cannabis	25%	0.875 g	\$60.00	\$68.57
Missouri	3.5 grams raw cannabis	30%	1.05 g	\$45.00	\$42.86
Illinois	3.5 grams raw cannabis	29%	1.015 g	\$60.00	\$59.11
Michigan	3.5 grams raw cannabis	26%	0.91 g	\$25.00	\$27.47
lowa (current cartridge available)	1 gram distillate cartridge	80%	0.8 g	\$80.00	<mark>\$100</mark>
lowa (proposed vaporized flower)	3.5 grams raw cannabis	28%	0.98 g	\$50.00	<mark>\$51.02</mark>

## **COST MATTERS**

Patients in Iowa are eligible for a reduced fee when applying for their medical cannabidiol registration card. If a patient can provide proof of Social Security Disability Benefit (SSD), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or Medicaid, they are eligible for a reduced fee. Figure 8 depicts the percentage of standard (\$100) or reduced (\$25) fee applications, as well as the percentage of each reduced fee type.

#### Figure 7.



More than 5,000 patients of the state's more than 14,000

## **MEDICALY BENEFICIAL**

In addition to the general clinical effectiveness of patient-managed cannabis use as a mid-level analgesic treatment, we found subtleties in the association between cannabis use and symptom relief by types of products and the contents of the cannabis consumed. Among the limited number of product characteristics that are typically made available to consumers, we found that consumption of whole, natural *Cannabis* flower was associated with greater anesthetic potential than were most other types of products. Use of concentrates was also associated with fewer positive and slightly more negative side effect experiences relative to use of flower. This is likely due to the introduction of solvents and other additives, alongside the removal of most terpenoids, terpenes, and flavonoids, as occurs with common methods used to produce high THC concentrates in the U.S. See Li.

### **MEDICALY BENEFICIAL**

Temperature-controlled, electrically-driven vaporizers efficiently decarboxylate inactive acidic cannabinoids and reliably release their corresponding neutral, active cannabinoids. **Thus, they offer a promising application mode for the safe and efficient administration of medicinal cannabis**. *See Lanz*.

### **MEDICALY BENEFICIAL**

In a randomized controlled trial of oromucosal Cannabis based extracts in patients with intractable pain despite optimized opioid treatment, a THC-predominant extract failed to demarcate favorably from placebo, whereas a whole plant extract (nabiximols, vide infra) with both THC and cannabidiol (CBD) proved statistically significantly better than both, the only salient difference being the presence of CBD in the latter. *See Russo.* 

# **A WORKABLE SOLUTION**

- 1. Prohibition on smoking remains. 124E.17 & 154.13
  - A patient choosing to smoke would subject himself / herself to criminal liability.
- 2. Onus remains on patient to prove use & possession is allowed
  - 1. Keep product packaging and dispensary sticker.
  - 2. No different than purchasing any other product today.
- 3. No reported abuse of products, illegal resales, or illegal consumption.
- 4. Dispensaries are required to provide education on many other aspects of the program.
  - Operators expected to do so.
  - Trust in Iowans to continue to follow the rules.

### **OTHER PROGRAMS**

- Ohio: Allows vaporized flower.
- West Virginia: Allows vaporized flower.
- Pennsylvania: Allows vaporized flower.
- Utah: Allows vaporizable flower

- Mississippi: Allows smokeable flower and vaporized flower.
- North Dakota: Allows smokeable flower and vaped flower.
- South Dakota: Allows smokeable flower and vaped flower.
- Oklahoma: Allows smokeable flower and vaped flower.
- Minnesota: Allows smokeable flower and vaporized flower.
- Arkansas: Allows smokeable flower and vaporized flower.
- Louisiana: Allows smokeable flower and vaporized flower.
- Florida: Allows smokeable flower and vaporized flower.
- Delaware: Allows smokeable flower and vaporized flower.
- New Hampshire: Allows smokeable flower and vaporized flower.
- Hawaii: Allows smokeable flower and vaporized flower.

### Iowa: Allows neither smokeable nor vaporized flower.

### **OTHER PROGRAMS**



### True North Dispensary

Iowans, the link below will lead you through the steps to obtain a medical marijuana card in the state of Iowa! From there, you can apply for your card in the state of South Dakota. Details to follow!

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The state of Iowa should expand its Medical Cannabis program or it will continue to lose money and people to other states. The same products in Illinois, Minnesota, Colorado, and Missouri are twice, sometimes triple the cost at any of Iowa's five dispensaries. By expanding the program with more products and allowing more dispensary locations, it would lower the costs for Iowa's 10,000+ Medical Cannabis patients.

-- Current cardholder, age 35-44

Times are financially difficult for many lowans, especially for those of us that are chronically ill and use THC products for medicinal purposes. We cannot afford prices at the shops in Iowa. Many have to resort to buying products from other states that are recreational legal, or, buy on the "street" as prices are half the cost, if not more, equating to risk of jail or physical harm from sketchy characters.

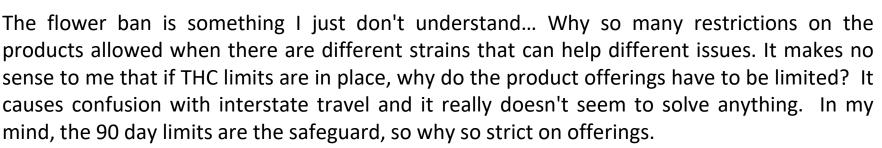
-- Current cardholder, age 45-54

Make this affordable for people who actually benefit from this. It's great to have it regulated and tested and legal. But it's impossible to be able to afford what is needed for actual medicine.

-- Current cardholder, age 21-34

I can't afford to travel almost 2 hours one way to a dispensary and then spend double what it costs in other states that are closer. Until access improves, I don't see the benefit of renewing my card when it expires. Very unfortunate for iowa patients who will become criminals to get affordable care.

-- Current cardholder, age 35-44



-- Current cardholder, age 35-44

I think most of us live on disability and it is hard to afford what we need. I wish it was as cheap as my prescription pain meds.

-- Current cardholder, age 45-54

The product's are very expensive Isn't realistic for someone who is living on a fixed income -- Current cardholder aged 55-6

Cannabis flower is my preferred form of consumption. The tinctures, and capsules are not very effective for my, as my body has trouble digesting them. The cannabis concentrate is much too strong for me as well, and cannabis flower would be a perfect fit for myself, and many other people. It would also keep tax money within the state, as it's very easy for folks to go to neighboring, legal states, and risk jail time for their medication.

-- Current cardholder, age 21-34

Cost for everything is very important I am on disability do not get much money for it. Need the product for pain. Should be higher content to help manage it and lower cost it's for medical reasons people use this should be lower cost a higher content.

-- Current cardholder, age 55-64

I do NOT and cannot take narcotics and rely on cannabis for relief of many different kinds of pain from the many different kinds of chronic illnesses i now have. I also suffer from ptsd and anxiety that can be crippling at times. Flower and Vapes seem to be what works best for me and my doctors agree I need a high the level. I live an hour away from the nearest dispensary.

The dispensary is extremely expensive and since i struggle to afford my card in the first place, and medical insurance doesn't help with this medication, it seems i am forced to be a criminal. I have never been arrested in my life and am not comfortable living this way, and it certainly does NOT help my anxiety, but when your medicine is generally ten bucks a gram on the street for flower and thirty for a one gram cartridge and a half gram cartridge is seventy dollars at the dispensary, it seems i have no choice.

-- Past cardholder, age 45-54