



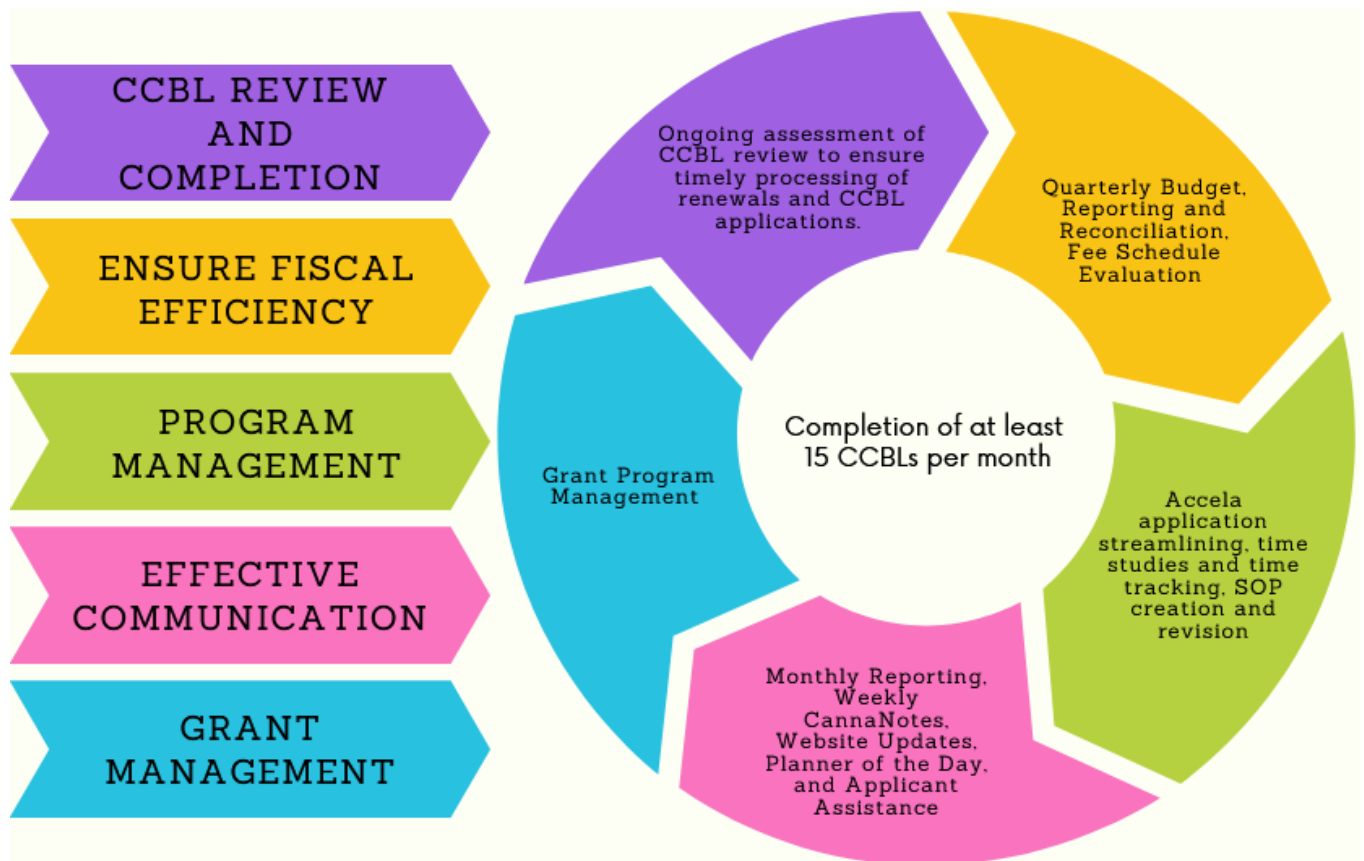
Cannabis Division Deliverables

TO: Mendocino County Community Members
FROM: Cannabis Division
RE: Monthly Activity Report – March 2026

Cannabis Division's Mission Statement

"The Cannabis Division's mission is to issue Cannabis Cultivation Business Licenses ("CCBL") in accordance with regulations as approved by the Board of Supervisors ("BOS") and ensure that all program cultivation sites comply with all applicable environmental, community safety, and regulatory performance standards. The Division shall implement these services fairly and equitably in a timely, professional, and compassionate manner."

Division Priorities



CCBL Activity

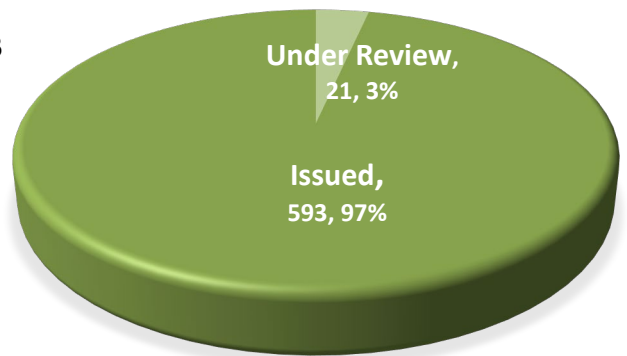
CCBL Data

Total number of initial applications under review: 21
Total number of issued CCBLs: 593

March Breakdown

CCBL Issued: 6
CCBL Renewals Issued: 2
CCBL Withdrawn: 7
CCBL Non-Renewal: 1
CCBL Denied: 2
March Renewals Under Review: 1
Total # of CCBLs Completed in March: 18

CCBL ISSUANCE



Administrative Permit ("AP") March Review

APs Under Review: 7
APs Approved with Conditions: 0

March Site Inspections

of On-site Inspections Completed: 7
of Remote Inspections Completed: 0

Other Review

Total # of modifications processed: 14 Total # of reassignments processed: 3

CCBL Compliance Plans

In accordance with Mendocino County Code ("MCC") section 10A.17, some CCBLs were issued with a signed Compliance Plan ("CP"), which provides a structured pathway to full compliance while allowing a license to remain active. Under a CP, license holders agree to:

- Correct identified violations
- Obtain and finalize all required County permits
- Secure necessary certificates of occupancy
- Comply with all CP-specific conditions

There are currently 277 outstanding Compliance Plans. Several licensees have not completed required actions within the established timelines. Immediate follow-up is necessary to avoid potential application denial, license termination, or loss of local authorization.

If CCBL holders have questions, they can review detailed guidance on Compliance Plans here: [Compliance Plans | Mendocino County, CA](#)

Mendocino County Approximate Square Footage¹

The figures below estimate the total square footage that **could** potentially be cultivated in Mendocino County, **if** all licensees grow the maximum square footage allowed under their issued or pending licenses. Please note that actual cultivation will differ from these estimates due to factors such as site plan limitations, fallowing, and applicants who do not hold a valid DCC license.

Approximate total of issued acreage for cultivation: 142.29

CCBL Subtype	Number Issued	Approx. Sq. Ft.	Approx. Acreage
1	59	295,000	6.77
2	435	4,350,000	99.86
4	67	1,474,000	33.83
C	32	80,000	1.83

Approximate total of under-review acreage for cultivation: 4.77

CCBL Subtype	Number Under Review	Approx. Sq. Ft.	Approx. Acreage
1	1	5,000	0.11
2	20	200,000	4.59
4	0	0	0
C	0	0	0

Local Equity Entrepreneur Program (“LEEP”) Grant

The State’s Cannabis Equity Grants Program for Local Jurisdictions aims to advance economic justice for populations and communities impacted by cannabis prohibition and the War on Drugs (“WoD”) by providing support to local jurisdictions as they promote equity in California and eliminate barriers to entering the newly regulated cannabis industry for equity program applicants and licensees. The County has submitted applications for LEEP funding in the six rounds which have opened so far; five of those applications were funded. With over \$8 million awarded from the State and administered by the Governor’s Office of Business & Economic Development (“GO-Biz”) and \$100,000 in matching grant funds from the BOS, the program offers applicants fee relief applications of cannabis business expenses, direct grants funds for start-up and ongoing expenses, and direct technical assistance based on individual needs and circumstances.

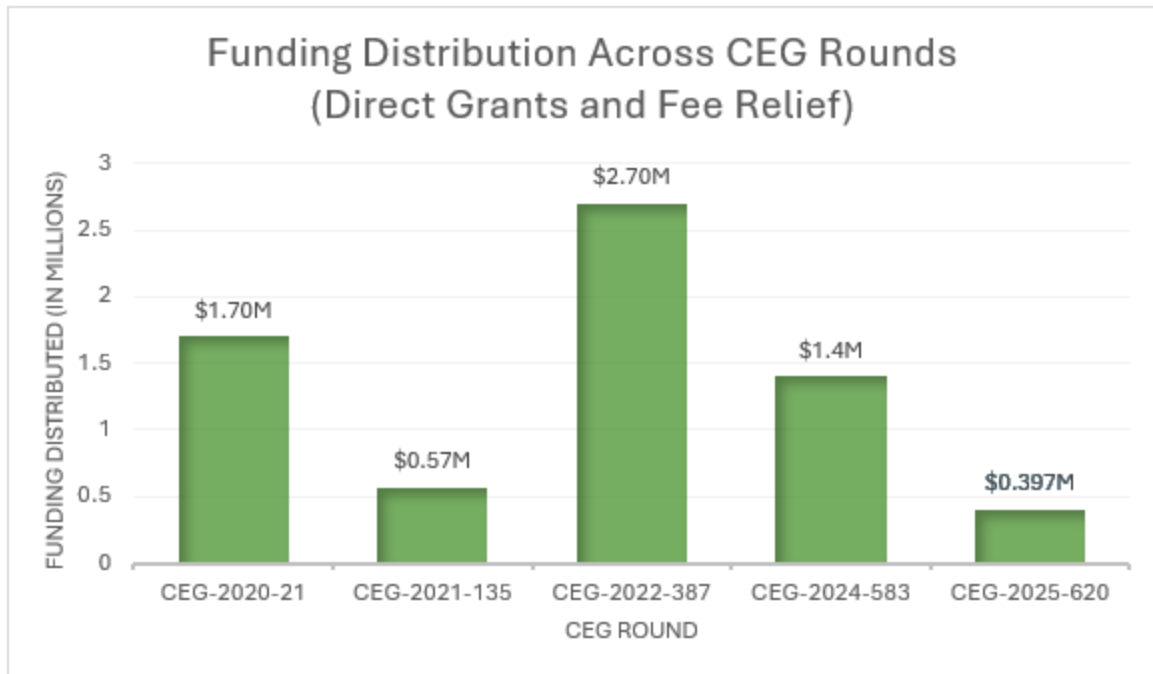
The Division has distributed over \$6.76M in LEEP funding to verified local equity applicants via direct grant and fee relief to date.

¹ "Type 1" (5,000) square feet of total plant canopy - for medium outdoor, indoor, or mixed light cultivation

"Type 2" (10,000) square feet of total plant canopy - for large outdoor, indoor, or mixed light cultivation

"Type 4" (22,000) square feet of total plant canopy for the cultivation of cannabis nursery stock and/or seed production

"Type C" (2,500) square feet of total canopy - for small outdoor, indoor, or mixed light cultivation



LEEP Funding (CEG-2025-620) Round 6

On January 23, 2025, the Division received the award notification for the 2024–25 Grant Solicitation (CEG-2025-620, Round 6). The Division was awarded a Type 2: Assistance for Cannabis Equity Program Applicants and Licensees grant (“Type 2”) in the amount of \$612,689.88. This grant term ends on October 31, 2026.

CEG-2025-620 Round 6 Direct Grants and Fee Relief

As of February 2026, all Round 6 direct grant agreements have been fully executed.

An additional \$92,237.88 has been allocated to support fee relief for equity-verified applicants and licensees. The Division plans to open a fee-relief application window from Friday, May 15, 2026, through Saturday, May 16, 2026. Because available funds are limited and last year’s allocation for the same fee-relief amount was fully claimed within just two hours, we strongly encourage applicants to submit their applications as early as possible once the window opens. Interested applicants may visit our website LEEP Fee Relief FAQ found [here](#) and are also encouraged to subscribe and monitor CannaNotes for additional information.

LEEP Funding (CEG-2026-688) Round 7

On January 14, 2026, the Division received the award notification for the 2025–26 Grant Solicitation (CEG-2026-688, Round 7). The Division was awarded a Type 2: Assistance for Cannabis Equity Program Applicants and Licensees grant (“Type 2”) in the amount of \$750,000.00. This grant term ends on October 31, 2027.

The Division will continue to keep the community informed via CannaNote and will reach out directly to potential awardees individually, and no action is required from equity applicants at this time.

FREE Direct Technical Assistance

Since July 2024, Canna Business Services (“CBS”) has been providing [FREE Direct Technical Assistance](#) to verified LEEP applicants in Mendocino County. To date, CBS has hosted several webinars covering a range of topics, including weekly Q&A sessions, an overview of the Annual License process, METRC training, and a CEQA overview. In addition to webinars, CBS offers one-on-one support for equity applicants seeking guidance.

Recorded Direct Technical Assistance materials are available on CBS’s Vimeo platform and can be accessed here: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/11251714>

CBS would like to provide equity licensees and applicants with the most valuable and relevant content to support their journey in the cannabis industry. To better understand the needs and preferences, please share your ideas and feedback [here](#).

Equity applicants interested in FREE Direct Technical Assistance or with specific questions are encouraged to contact CBS directly at: mendocino@cannabusinessservices.com.

Local Jurisdiction Assistance Grant Program (“LJAGP”)

In January 2022, Mendocino County was awarded \$17.5 million in one-time grant funds from DCC for the LJAGP to transition provisional licenses to annual licenses. This funding allowed for many programmatic improvements including the launch of Accela licensing, Planet Labs, and DocuSign. Furthermore, this grant program guided the distribution of \$4.9 million in direct grants to qualified operators in the unincorporated areas of Mendocino County. The grant agreement between the County and the DCC ended on June 30, 2025.

The Cannabis Division received notice in February that the DCC had completed its review of Mendocino County’s LJAGP documentation and determined that \$2,447,061.84 was required to be remitted to the State by March 21, 2026. This amount included unspent funds and ineligible expenditures identified during the audit. The check was remitted by the deadline, and the grant is now closed.

CannaNotes

For additional and up-to-date information regarding the Cannabis Division Activities please sign up for “CannaNotes” through the county’s eNotification system at the following link or by scanning the QR code below:

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/cannabis-cultivation/enotifications>

