

Cannabis Social Equity Policy – FAQ

What is the purpose of this policy?

Massachusetts law requires cities and towns to create policies that support people most harmed by past marijuana laws. Burlington's policy ensures that certified Social Equity applicants have fair opportunities to open and grow cannabis businesses.

Who qualifies as a Social Equity applicant?

You may qualify if you are certified by the Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) as part of the Social Equity Program, or a Certified Economic Empowerment Priority Applicant. These programs are for individuals and communities most affected by marijuana prohibition, arrests, or incarceration and are approved by the state.

What is the “1:1 Local Approval Process”?

For every general applicant approved, Burlington will also approve at least one Social Equity applicant. This process continues until 50% of cannabis businesses in Burlington are Social Equity businesses, as allowed by state regulations.

How is Burlington supporting Social Equity applicants?

- Promoting opportunities through the Town website, social media, and the Economic Development Office;
- Providing help via a dedicated municipal contact; and
- Keeping a clear, updated webpage with resources in one place.

Who is the dedicated municipal contact in Burlington?

The Economic Development Office Director, Melisa Tintocalis

Office: 781-505-1186

Email: ed@burlington.org