



## What to Know about Weed in Illinois

Illinois recently legalized the use of recreational cannabis. What is the difference between recreational and medical cannabis, and how will this new law affect you?

### Conversation Questions

1. What are the uses of medical cannabis?
2. How might uses of recreational cannabis be restricted?

### Key Definitions *(from Merriam-Webster Dictionary)*

- *Recreational drug* – a drug used without medical justification for its psychoactive effects, often in the belief that occasional use of a substance is not habit-forming or addictive.
- *Medical cannabis* – available only by prescription and is used to treat a variety of medical conditions such as pain, anxiety, nausea, and glaucoma.

### Read

#### "Adult Use Cannabis Summary" by State of Illinois

<http://bit.ly/2SEQRzK>

Document listing guidelines for recent state of Illinois legislation permitting use and sale of cannabis for medicinal and recreational purposes.

#### "Access to Medical Marijuana Reduces Opioid Prescriptions" by Peter Grinspoon, MD, *Harvard Health Publishing*

<http://bit.ly/36uXj0g>

Summary of how the legalization of recreational cannabis usage affects alternatives like consumption of prescription opioids without a medical professional's consent.

#### "Should I Keep My Med Card in Illinois? Answers to Your Legal Weed Questions" by Mariah Woelfel, *Chicago Public Radio*

<https://n.pr/2u7mxnv>

Learn the differences between using a medical card to obtain cannabis and buying cannabis at a dispensary.





**"Beyond Marijuana Legalization: Ending the War on Drugs and Meeting Social Equity Promises" by Curtis Black, Chicago Reporter**

<http://bit.ly/2SKHKOc>

The new law in Illinois legalizing recreational uses of cannabis also sets aside funding and support for communities of color adversely affected by strict drug laws in the past.

**"The Word 'Marijuana' Versus the Word 'Cannabis'" by Tobias Coughlin-Bogue, *The Stranger***

<http://bit.ly/2Qh4J1C>

How did cannabis come to be known as marijuana? This piece argues that we may want to use the original Latin name of *cannabis*.

***Stoned: A Doctor's Case for Medical Marijuana* by David Casarett**

<https://skokielibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2112467133>

In this book, Dr. David Casarett investigates the many uses of marijuana to treat chronic conditions.

## Listen

**"Episode 9: Legal Weed as Reparations?" from *On Something***

<http://bit.ly/2ttF6l9>

This podcast explores the political, legal, and cultural effects of cannabis legislation. On this episode, Chicago Public Radio reporter Natalie Moore talks about what an equitable weed industry could look like in Illinois.

## Watch

**"Adam Ruins Everything: The Sinister Reason Weed Is Illegal,"**

<https://tinyurl.com/z7xhud2>

This comedic video explores the history of cannabis and its uses in both the United States and other parts of the world.

