

11.19.21 CCB Meeting Recommendations

Discussion of 7 V.S.A. 903

November 19, 2021

Discussion of 7 V.S.A. 903

The Board shall issue licenses pursuant to this chapter as determined according to a system of priorities adopted by rule by the Board. The system of priorities shall require consideration of criteria, including:

- (1) whether the applicants have an existing medical cannabis dispensary license in good standing;
- (2) whether the applicants would foster social justice and equity in the cannabis industry by being a minority or women-owned business;
- (3) whether the applicants propose specific plans to recruit, hire, and implement a development ladder for minorities, women, or individuals who have historically been disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition;
- (4) whether applicants propose specific plans to pay employees a living wage and offer benefits;
- (5) whether the project incorporates principles of environmental resiliency or sustainability, including energy efficiency; and
- (6) the geographic distribution of cannabis establishments based on population and market needs.

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Whether the applicants propose specific plans to recruit, hire, and implement a development ladder for minorities, women, or individuals who have historically been disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition

- Inclusive hiring and contracting plans
- Livable wage; paid leave
- Incubator or accelerator programs that seek to provide assistance to SE / DEI businesses, including but not limited to:
 - Grants / Access to capital
 - Cultivation, manufacturing, or retail space
 - Management training or other forms of industry-specific technical training
 - Mentorship from experts
 - Community re-investment; contribution to Community Development Fund
- Certify as a B Corp

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Whether the project incorporates principles of environmental resiliency or sustainability, including energy efficiency

- Organic / regenerative agricultural practices beyond minimum requirements
- Exceed minimum efficiency and waste standards
- Sourcing energy from renewables
- Recyclable / compostable / reusable materials
- Contribute to anti-pollution efforts; carbon off-sets