



## **Industrial Hemp and Intoxicating Hemp Products FAQ for Professional Licensees**

### **What is legal industrial hemp?**

To be legal, an industrial hemp product that is intended for human or animal consumption, must be endorsed by the Division of Agriculture. The Division does not endorse any product that contains delta-9-THC or a non-naturally occurring cannabinoid, including a cannabinoid made from an ingredient extracted from industrial hemp and modified beyond its original form. Legal products may only be offered to consumers by retailers that are registered with the Division to participate in the Alaska industrial hemp program.

Products that are not endorsed by the Division include delta-9 THC, delta-8 THC-O, delta-10 THC-O, delta-6 THC-O, THCA, THCV, THCP, HHC, HHCP, or other synthetic or lab-created cannabinoids derived from hemp. These products may not be used or offered to consumers under the industrial hemp program. Products derived from the seeds of the hemp plant may be offered to consumers without an endorsement. These products contain no cannabinoids like CBD or THC and the seeds themselves do not naturally contain tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the main psychoactive ingredient in cannabis.

### **Why do health care providers and other professional licensees need to know this information?**

Commonly, industrial hemp products like CBD oil are used in professional practices regulated under AS 08, including massage therapy, veterinary medicine, chiropractic, naturopathy, esthetics, human medicine, and nursing. Under 11 AAC 40.900(13), consumption means any method of ingestion of or application to the body. In addition to using these products onsite, they may even currently be sold by licensed professionals. For these transactions to be legal, these products must be endorsed and businesses offering them to consumers must be registered by the Division of Agriculture.

### **What are the risks of not following these laws?**

First, unless these products have been tested and endorsed by the Division of Agriculture, users cannot be certain whether the labeling reflects the actual product inside. Products containing these substances may be labeled using terms like "broad spectrum" or "full spectrum" that do not clearly inform the user or retailer of their contents. Counterfeit, mislabeled, or misleading product information is rampant, and Alaskans have detected intoxicating levels of cannabis in otherwise innocuously labeled products. This poses a significant public health risk to minors, pets, consumers who do not wish to get high, and consumers who do not wish to test positive on drug screens.

Second, using or selling these products illegally poses a significant risk for civil and criminal action, including possible discipline by state licensing boards and boards in other jurisdictions where practitioners may be licensed.

### **Where can I find more information?**

The Division of Agriculture maintains a [web site](#) to share information about Alaska's industrial hemp requirements. The [Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office](#), which partners with the Division of Agriculture in enforcement of industrial hemp laws, is also the regulator of recreational cannabis. Please visit these web sites and carefully follow instructions if you wish to use or sell hemp-derived products in your business.