



City of Palm Springs
Department of Special Program Compliance
425 N. Civic Drive
Palm Springs, California 92262
Phone: (760) 322-8382 Email: veronica.goedhart@palmspringsca.gov

Cannabis Social Equity Program Verification

Verification Process

The purpose of this document is to provide information and guidelines and should not be construed as legal advice or as substitute for legal counsel. To qualify as an Equity Applicant for the Cannabis Social Equity Program ("Equity Program"), you must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- You are applying as a person, not a company.
- In the last year, your family income was at or below 80% Riverside County Area Median Income (AMI). Your family income is adjusted based on the size of your family.
- Have a net worth below \$250,000.
- Meet at least **1** of the following **2** criteria:
 - Classification 1. A current or former resident of Riverside County who previously resided or currently resides in a low income household and was either:
 - a) Arrested or convicted for a cannabis related crime in Riverside County between the years 1980 and 2011; or is
 - b) An immediate family member of an individual described in subsection (a) of Classification 1 or Classification 2.
 - Classification 2. A current or former resident of Riverside County who has lived in a low-income household for at least five (5) years, between the years of 1980 and 2011 in the following zip codes: 92262, 92263, 92264.

You must submit all required documents and be verified as an Equity Applicant before applying for a cannabis related business and activities permit to receive Equity Program benefits. All documents submitted to the Department of Special Program Compliance must be typed or handwritten clearly in blue or black ink. All documents must also be correct and complete in all aspects. You may submit all required documents to be verified as Equity Applicant by mail, email, or in-person to:

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Monday through Thursday
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

As an Equity Business, you must still meet the requirements of the Palm Springs Municipal Code 5.55 to apply for a cannabis related and business activities permit. The following two documents must be included with the cannabis related and business activities permit application as an Equity Business and receive Program benefits:

1. Verification letter issued by the Department of Special Program Compliance
2. Verification of Equity Business Ownership Form

Once you submit the documents above with your adult-use cannabis business license application, your Equity Business will be eligible to receive the following Equity Program benefits:

- Access to application assistance workshops
- Fee waivers
- Expedited application review
- Expedited plan check review
- Expedited odor control plan review

PLEASE NOTE: If the Department of Special Program Compliance determines that you did not meet the eligibility criteria for the Equity Program, you will receive a letter from the Department of Special Program Compliance that you do not qualify as an Equity Applicant and are not eligible to receive Equity Program benefits or assistance.

For information or questions on eligibility requirements or how to submit a verification form, please contact the Department of Special Program Compliance at (760) 322-8382 or email us at veronica.goedhart@palmspringsca.gov.

Reminder to All Applicants: Any document or record that is used, retained, or maintained by the City during the course of business is considered public record. Unless a specific exemption from disclosure applies, the City may be required to disclose application information in response to a California Public Records Act request (Government Code Section 6250 et seq.).