Criteria to Qualify Applicants

Initial Qualifier

Applicant is not applying for a cultivation license for a premises that exceeds one acre of total canopy for outdoor cultivation, or 22,000 square feet for mixed-light or indoor cultivation

In addition to the initial qualifier, applicant meets three (3) of the following criteria

Convicted of a nonviolent, cannabisrelated offense An individual from any group with a protected status

Household income is below the California poverty level

A primary resident of Monterey County for at least five years from 1971 – 2016

Retirement, Remediation and Relocation ("RRR")

Permit the transfer of development rights from one area to another which satisfies criteria not met at the original site.

Application/Permit Fee Waivers

Offer waivers for various local permits requirements, including the PLN, CNB, ABL.

Benefits for Qualified Applicants

Revolving Loan Program

Low or no interest loans to establish or expand a commercial cannabis business, which are repayable in the interest of making monies available to future applicants



Monterey County
Growing Equity Together
("GET") Program

Shared Use Facilities

Allow operators to share a licensed premise for certain commercial cannabis activities.

Technical Assistance

Provide technical assistance to support establishing and maintaining a commercial cannabis operation, including licensing and compliance.

Legal Assistance

Legal services to advise equity applicants on expungement, business formation, contracts, commercial leasing, and dispute resolution.