



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Commercial Cannabis Business (CCB) Permit**

#### **Project Ownership & Location Changes**

<http://www.fresno.gov/cannabis>

**December 1, 2021**

**The Fresno Municipal Code (FMC) can be found here:**

[https://library.municode.com/ca/fresno/codes/code of ordinances?nodeId=MUCOCHFRCA](https://library.municode.com/ca/fresno/codes/code%20of%20ordinances?nodeId=MUCOCHFRCA)

#### Changes in Location

A cannabis business may apply for a change in location once they are eligible for a final CCB Permit from the City Manager.

Fresno Municipal Code (FMC) Section 9-3325 allows a cannabis retail business or commercial cannabis business to change locations. The process and fees to relocate a permitted cannabis business shall be the same as the process and fees adopted by the Fresno City Council for new CCB Permit applications. A change in location shall only be considered for cannabis businesses that are eligible for final approval for a CCB Permit from the City Manager. To receive final approval for a final CCB Permit from the City Manager, FMC 9-3317(d) requires that a cannabis business possess all required land use approvals, a City of Fresno Cannabis Business License Tax certificate, and a cannabis license issued by the State Department of Cannabis Control. Once a cannabis business possesses all these required elements, the City Manager may accept applications from the cannabis business to change locations. The new location must comply with the provisions of Article 33, Chapter 9 of the FMC and will be subject to the same process and fees adopted by the Fresno City Council for new CCB Permit applications, including applicable appeal provisions.

#### Changes in Ownership

FMC 9-3325(a)(1) requires that changes in ownership for the replacement of any operator, owner, investor, or manager of a cannabis business will only be considered at the same time as a renewal application and with the filing requirements stated in FMC 9-3322. "Replacement" of an owner means a new individual is being added to the ownership structure either in place of another owner or by means of reducing the equity ownership of other owners. Eliminating an owner from the ownership team of a

cannabis business or cannabis application does not constitute the “replacement” of an owner.

As allowed by the FMC, during the application process, applicants may remove listed owners or alter the equity percentage of owners by notifying the City of Fresno Office of Cannabis Oversight. Applications will be evaluated and scored based on the education and experience of the entire ownership team as presented in the initial application. If a change in ownership changes the application score, or for a social equity application, changes the eligible social equity owner, the City Manager may rescind the preliminary approval previously issued for the application.