

CANNABIS SPECIAL NOTICE

New Seizure Authority for Misuse of the Universal Symbol for Cannabis and Cannabis Products Beginning January 1, 2024

The California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) may inspect any business that sells or stores items, or objects of any kind, bearing the universal cannabis symbol. The universal cannabis symbol alerts people that a product contains cannabis and must be on the primary panel of all cannabis goods sold in California. Misuse of the universal cannabis symbol on any item or object is a violation of the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA).¹ Additionally, cannabis and cannabis products cannot be sold or stored at the same location where cigarettes and tobacco products are sold or stored.



CDTFA conducts routine inspections to ensure businesses are complying with California's laws governing the sales of items such as cannabis, cannabis products, cigarettes, and tobacco products. We also verify that all appropriate excise taxes are documented and paid. These inspections protect consumers by ensuring only legal and regulated products are sold in this state.

What's new starting January 1, 2024

- We may inspect any business selling or storing items of any kind bearing the universal cannabis symbol.
- We will consider any item or product incorrectly bearing the universal cannabis symbol as contraband, and it will be seized.
- Each individual package, label, advertisement, or other document or object misusing the universal cannabis symbol is a separate violation of MAUCRSA.
- You must maintain records to establish the use or possession of items bearing the universal cannabis symbol in connection with a licensed commercial cannabis activity.
- You must make records available to us upon request.

For more information

Please visit our inspections page at www.cdtfa.ca.gov/legal/cannabis-inspections.htm for information about the cannabis inspections program and our *Tax Guide for Cannabis Businesses* at www.cdtfa.ca.gov/industry/cannabis.htm for more information about the cannabis excise program.

You may also visit our website at www.cdtfa.ca.gov/ or call our Customer Service Center at 1-800-400-7115 (CRS:711), then select the option for *Special Taxes and Fees*. Customer service representatives are available Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Pacific time), except state holidays.

¹ Assembly Bill 1126 (Stats. 2023, ch. 563)