# Victoria’s Medicinal Cannabis Industry

## 2014

* The Victorian Government asked the Victorian Law Reform Commission to report on options for changes to the law to allow people to be treated with medicinal cannabis in exceptional circumstances.
* Victoria is committed to the development of medicinal cannabis industry from emerging status to that of an established industry that is ready to supply both a domestic and international market.

## 2015

* The Victorian Law Reform Commission’s Report on Medicinal Cannabis was tabled in Parliament. It addresses key issues including cultivation, manufacturing and supply of high quality medicinal cannabis products in Victoria, appropriate clinical oversight and the need for ongoing research and clinical trials.

## 2016

* The *Access to Medicinal Cannabis Act 2016* passed, creating a framework to enable access to medicinal cannabis to defined groups of patients.
* The Victorian Government received the first authorisation in Australia from the Office of Drug Control to cultivate medicinal cannabis.
* The Commonwealth amended to the *Narcotic Drugs Act 1967* to regulate the cultivation, production and manufacture of cannabis for medical and scientific use as required under the *Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs 1961*.
* Imported medicinal cannabis legally available.

## 2017

* The first cannabis research licence under the *Narcotic Drugs Act 1967* was granted by the Office of Drug Control to a Victorian based company.
* The Commonwealth permitted bulk imports of medicinal cannabis products.
* The first commercial permit to cultivate medicinal cannabis awarded to a Victorian commercial entity.
* Medicinal cannabis plants cultivated by the Victorian Government transferred to Victorian commercial entity.

## 2018

* Victoria’s medicinal cannabis Industry Development Plan released.
* The export of medicinal cannabis products legalised through the *Commonwealth Narcotic Drugs Amendment (Cannabis) Regulations 2018.*
* Further public announcements by commercial entities to invest and build cultivation and manufacturing facilities, Asia-Pacific headquarters, and research and development centres in Victoria.

## 2019

* Medicinal Cannabis in Victoria website launched to provide information to industry, doctors and patients.
* Further announcements by commercial entities to invest in cultivation, manufacturing and R&D in Victoria.

## 2020

* The *Access to Medicinal Cannabis Act 2016* repealed, reduced red tape for Victorian industry.
* Medicinal cannabis manufactured in Victoria made available to Australian patients.
* First export of locally cultivated products by a commercial entity.
* Further export contracts announced by commercial entities.
* The Commonwealth down-scheduled CBD products to allow supply over-the-counter.

## Benefits of the medicinal cannabis industry

* High quality and globally harmonised regulatory system
* Broad Network of Clinical Trial Partners
* Growth in key intellectual property
* Victoria’s high-quality infrastructure
* Australia’s reputation for high-quality pharmaceuticals (GMP certified)
* Melbourne’s life science cluster
* Victoria’s agriculture R&D expertise

## Victoria’s strengths

* Victoria as a hub for medicinal cannabis
* Cost effective, fast clinical trial system
* Growth in export opportunities
* Increase in international investment
* Improved treatments and access for Australian patients
* Access to R&D Tax Incentives
* High-value job creation in industry and R&D
* Contribution to GSP

For further information visit [agriculture.vic.gov.au/medicinalcannabis](https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/crops-and-horticulture/cannabis-in-victoria/medicinal-cannabis?utm_source=agriculture-vic-gov-au&utm_medium=vanity-url-301ssredirect&utm_content=medicinalcannabis&utm_campaign=agriculture)

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