

Industrial Hemp Registration Frequently Asked Questions: REGISTRATION PROCESS

Q: What are the state and local requirements for industrial hemp cultivation?

A: All state requirements for industrial hemp cultivation are outlined in [Division 24 of the California Food and Agricultural Code \(FAC\)](#) and [Title 3, Division 4, Chapter 8 of the California Code of Regulations](#). A copy of the California's industrial hemp law and regulations is available at <https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/plant/industrialhemp/docs/CaliforniaIndustrialHempLawandRegulations.pdf> . In accordance with FAC Division 24, cultivation of industrial hemp in California will require registration with your local county agricultural commissioner.

For information regarding any additional local restrictions that may apply to any proposed activities, please contact the applicable county and/or city officials, including the county agricultural commissioner's office. Contact information for all county agricultural commissioners is available at <https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/exec/county/countymap/> .

Q: How do I register?

A: Registration applications are available on the CDFA's Industrial Hemp Program webpage: <https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/plant/industrialhemp/> (We recommend downloading the application for full functionality). Submit your completed application along with the appropriate registration fee to your local county agricultural commissioner. If you intend to cultivate in multiple counties, you will need to register with each county separately.

Q: Which registration application do I complete?

A: If you plan to cultivate industrial hemp for the purpose of variety development, fill out the [Industrial Hemp Registration Application for Breeders](#). If you plan to cultivate industrial hemp for all other purposes, fill out the [Industrial Hemp Registration Application for Growers](#). If you plan to cultivate industrial hemp as a grower and breeder, you will need to complete both applications.

Q: Would I need to register as an Established Agricultural Research Institution?

A: Established agricultural research institutions (EARI) are exempt from registration until a state regulatory plan has been approved by USDA. At this time, EARIs must comply with FAC 81011, which requires the EARIs to submit GPS coordinates to the county agricultural commissioner prior to planting.

Q: I submitted my application, what's next?

A: Once your application has been reviewed and approved by the county agricultural commissioner, a proof of registration along with a letter documenting your registered key participant(s), cultivation site(s) and approved cultivar(s) will be mailed to you. The proof of registration is valid for one year from the issue date.

Q: When can I begin planting?

A: You can begin cultivating once you obtain your proof of registration and the county agricultural commissioner has approved your key participant(s), cultivation site(s) and cultivar(s) for planting.

Changes to add or remove registered cultivation sites and approved cultivars must be requested by submitting an Industrial Hemp Application to Amend Registered Site/Cultivar/Plan to the county and approved prior to planting.

Q: How do I make a change to my registration?

A: Changes to key participants, business information, primary contact information, cultivation site, approved cultivar(s), and variety development plan(s) must be requested by submitting the Industrial Hemp Application to Amend Contact/Business/Key Participant Information and Industrial Hemp Application to Amend Site/Cultivar/Plan. Registrants are not required to pay additional registration fees for such changes.

Registrations cannot be amended for changes in registrant, county, or changes from grower to breeder and vice versa once a proof of registration has been issued. Registrants must submit a new registration application and fee to make these changes.

For more information on the program, visit [CDFA's Industrial Hemp Program webpage](#). If you have any questions, contact Industrial Hemp Program at (916) 654-0435 or industrialhemp@cdffa.ca.gov.