

# Industrial Hemp FAQs

## 1. Who can grow hemp, where can it be grown and how much can be sown?

To be eligible as a participant in the industrial hemp pilot program, you must be a resident of the State of Tennessee, have a Tennessee business license or be a Tennessee landowner. No one who has been convicted of a felony for controlled substance will be allowed a license. Anyone who has been issued a hemp license can grow on the approved growing areas indicated on their application. Industrial hemp can be grown anywhere, indoor or outdoor. The research pilot program allows for any size growing area, from large acre lots to small garden sizes.

## 2. How do I get an industrial hemp growers and/or processor license?

Applications for processors are accepted any time. We encourage individuals not to get a processor's license until they are ready to begin processing. Applications for an industrial hemp grower license must be submitted during the open application period. The next application period will open in fall of 2018. Your application must be complete, you must submit an aerial photograph of the growing area and payment. License fees for an industrial hemp growers license is \$250 + \$2/acre. An industrial hemp processor license is \$250.

## 3. Where do I find hemp seed or plants and can I grow clones?

It is the responsibility of the grower to source their own plant material. TNHIA is a great resource. Tennessee also has a certified seed breeder. All seed or plant material being brought into the state must have prior approval by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA). Please use our seed and propagule acquisition forms to request approval. These forms are available on this webpage. With your seed or plant acquisition request, you must submit a copy of your industrial hemp growers license, the industrial hemp license for the firm providing the seed and third party test results showing the variety is below the .3%THC threshold. If you want to grow and sell clones, you must provide documentation of permission from the breeder that allows for replication of those genetics. **All seed and clones being brought into the state must be shipped or brought DIRECTLY to the Tennessee Department of agriculture for inventory.**

## 4. What is the inspection process like?

Every crop grown and every variety is inspected and sampled by a TDA plant inspector prior to harvest. The grower should contact TDA 30 days prior to harvest for inspection. The license holder is responsible for paying all fees associated with the inspection and sample. The inspector fee is \$35/hour and each sample is \$175. Invoices are mailed a few weeks after the inspection.

## 5. What can I do with my harvested crop?

Viable industrial hemp must only be transferred to a licensed pilot program participant. Non-viable (not able to develop, grow, or survive) industrial hemp is not regulated by the TDA.