

## TYPES OF CANNABIS

**Industrial hemp** is a variety of the cannabis plant with very low THC (usually 1% in Malawi). It is cultivated for its fiber, seeds and oil.

Its key uses include:

- \* **Textiles and Fibers**
- \* **Building/ HempCrete**
- \* **Health and Wellness**
  - Culinary Hemp Seed Oil (rich in omega-3 and 6 fatty acids)
  - Protein powder; Shelled seeds; Hemp Tea; Cosmetic Hemp Seed; Hair & Body Oil; CBD Smoking Flower
- \* **Paper Production**
- \* **Biofuels and Bioplastics**
- \* **Animal Bedding and Feed**

**Medicinal cannabis** refers to the use of the cannabis plant or its extracts (especially cannabinoids like **THC** and **CBD**) for therapeutic purposes such as:

- \* **Pain Relief**
- \* **Mental Health**
- \* **Neurological Conditions**
- \* **Gastrointestinal Issues**
- \* **Sleep Disorders**
- \* **Other Conditions**

### NOTE

- \* **Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)** is the psychoactive compound in cannabis responsible for the “HIGH.”
- \* **Cannabidiol (CBD)** is non-psychoactive and is commonly used for medicinal purposes like pain relief, anxiety reduction and inflammation management.

## License Application Procedure

- i) Obtain prescribed forms from CRA, or request through email from [info@cra.mw](mailto:info@cra.mw) ) or download from [www.cra.mw](http://www.cra.mw)
- ii) Make the application for a license or permit to the Director General.
- iii) Submit the completed application form accompanied with a non-refundable processing fees (As provided in the Fees Schedule)

## CONTACTS

### Postal Address:

The Director General  
Cannabis Regulatory Authority  
P.O. Box 30075  
Capital City  
Lilongwe 3  
MALAWI

### Physical Location:

Gemini House, 7th Floor, West Wing,  
City Centre, Lilongwe

### Phone:

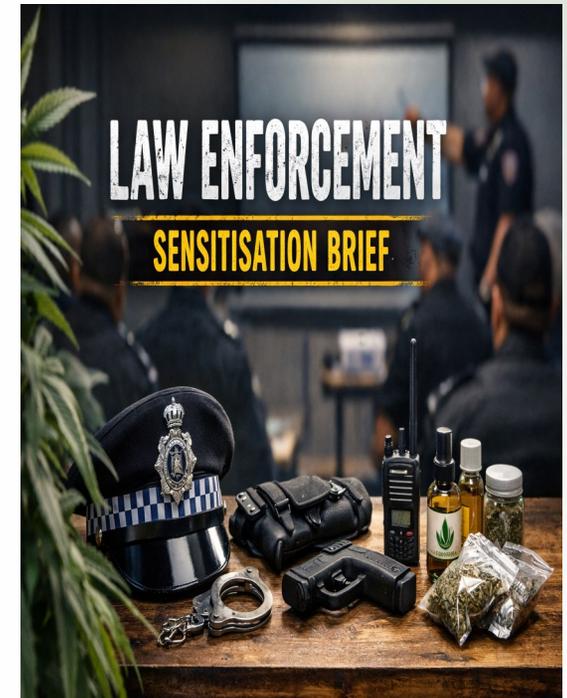
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**Website:** [www.cra.mw](http://www.cra.mw)



CANNABIS REGULATORY  
AUTHORITY (CRA)



*CRA: Promoting Legal Cannabis  
for Sustainable Growth*

## ABOUT CRA

### Our Mandate

Cannabis Regulatory Authority (CRA) is a state corporation established by an Act of Parliament No. 6 of 2020 under the Ministry of Agriculture to regulate and promote the cultivation, production, processing, storage, distribution, and use of cannabis (including *C. sativa*, *C. indica*, and *C. ruderalis*) for medicinal, industrial, and scientific applications.

### Our Role

- i) Issue licences for medicinal cannabis and industrial hemp
- ii) Conduct inspections and compliance monitoring
- iii) Register approved premises and activities
- iv) Coordinate enforcement actions with relevant agencies
- v) Regulate the movement and export of cannabis and cannabis derived products

## LEGAL POSITION IN MALAWI

- \* Medicinal Cannabis – LEGAL (Under Licence)
- \* Industrial Hemp – LEGAL (Under Licence)
- \* Recreational Cannabis – ILLEGAL

Cannabis is only legal when cultivated, processed, transported or exported under a valid licence issued by CRA.

### Types of Licences Issued

- i. Cultivation & Sell (Medicinal cannabis or Industrial hemp)
- ii. Processing
- iii. Storage /Warehousing
- iv. Research and Development
- v. Transportation (with proper documentation)

### Types of Permits Issued

- i. Conduct Medicinal & Clinical Trials
- ii. Conduct Breeding & Agronomy Research
- iii. Conduct Laboratory Tests
- iv. Export semi or fully processed cannabis derived products
- v. Import (seed)
- vi. Administer Cannabis Medicine
- vii. Stock, sell & Distribute cannabis Medicine

## How to Identify a Licensed Operator

- i. A valid CRA licence (with licence number and CRA Common Seal)
- ii. Approved premises registered with CRA
- iii. Transport permits (for movement of cannabis products)
- iv. Export documentation (where applicable)
- v. Security measures as per regulatory standards

Verification is encouraged (Refer back page for contacts)

- Licensed cultivation
- Approved processing facilities
- Documented transport
- Export permit

### Why Coordination is Important

- Protect legitimate investors and licensed operators
- Strengthen enforcement against illegal cannabis activities
- Safeguarding the health and safety of the public and consumers of hemp-derived products
- Ensuring compliance with international standards
- Prevent diversion into the illicit market