



Guidance for Identifying Economically Disadvantaged Areas

The following guidance is provided to assist applicants seeking to be licensed as a medical cannabis grower or processor under the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 10.62.

Economically Disadvantaged Areas

You can use this guidance to determine whether an address is within an “economically disadvantaged area” as defined by the Commission. An economically disadvantaged area (EDA) means “a geographic area, identified by the Commission, which meets three or more of the following criteria:

- (a) A median income that is 80 percent or less of the average median household income in the State;
- (b) An unemployment rate that is at least 150 percent of the unemployment rate in the State;
- (c) A health uninsured rate that is at least 150 percent of the health uninsured rate in the State;
- (d) A food stamp or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Plan (SNAP) rate that is at least 150 percent of the food stamp or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Rate in the State; and
- (e) A poverty rate that is at least 150 percent of the poverty rate in the State.” COMAR 10.62.01.01(B)(13).

The Commission evaluated each socioeconomic metric using the American Community Survey (ACS), which is an ongoing, nationwide survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. ACS data is available in annual, 3-year, and 5-year periods. The Commission utilized the 2012-2016 5-year ACS data to determine the geographic areas that qualify as an EDA.

Analyzing the 2012-2016 ACS socioeconomic data, the Commission identified sixty-one (61) zip code tabulation areas (ZCTAs) that qualify as EDAs. The ZCTA is a generalized areal representation of the United States Postal Service (U.S.P.S.) ZIP Code service areas developed by the U.S. Census Bureau. **In most instances the ZCTA code is the same as the U.S.P.S. ZIP Code for an area; however, a ZCTA code may be different from a U.S.P.S. Zip Code. An applicant should confirm their ZCTA(s) using the instructions included on Page 2 of this guidance.**

Please see the U.S. Census Bureau website at: <https://www.census.gov/geo/reference/zctas.html> for additional information).

A map of the qualifying ZCTAs may be viewed [here](#). The following sixty-one (61) ZCTAs were identified by the Commission as EDAs:

Economically Disadvantaged Areas (Zip Code Tabulation Area)								
20626	20903	21206	21224	21531	21613	21659	21824	21864
20684	21040	21213	21225	21538	21626	21660	21835	21866
20710	21052	21215	21229	21539	21628	21672	21850	21871
20737	21130	21216	21239	21540	21632	21740	21851	21872
20743	21201	21217	21502	21542	21639	21767	21853	21875
20745	21202	21218	21523	21555	21643	21814	21856	
20784	21205	21223	21524	21557	21649	21817	21862	

To determine whether an address is in one of the 61 ZCTAs designated as economically disadvantaged areas:

1. Go to the United States Census Bureau’s [Fact Finder webpage](https://bit.ly/2JCmR0B) - <https://bit.ly/2JCmR0B>.
2. Enter the street address (including city and state) and click “Go”:

Select Geographies

List Name Address Map

Enter a street address, city and state, or a street address and ZIP code. Click 'Go'.

Note: address search will use the latest available address data beginning with 2017 and working backwards, based on the contents of Your Selections.

street address city state zip

849 International Drive Linthicum Maryland GO

- these are added to 'Your Selections'
- the Search Results are updated

2 Next, select **Geographies** (states, counties, cities, towns, etc.)

- these are added to 'Your Selections'
- the Search Results are updated

3 Select one or more Search Results and click View

3. Note the ZCTA associated with the address listed on the resulting table in the 20th row of the left column:

Select Geographies

List Name Address Map

Enter a street address, city and state, or a street address and ZIP code. Click 'Go'. ?

Note: address search will use the latest available address data beginning with 2017 and working backwards, based on the contents of Y

street address city state zip

849 International Drive Linthicum Maryland GO

Geographies containing 849 International Dr, LINTHICUM, MD, 21090:
Select geographies to add to Your Selections

Geography Results:

Geography Name	Geography Type	Geography Code	About
South Region	Region	020	i
South Atlantic Division	Division	030	i
Maryland	State	040	i
Anne Arundel County, Maryland	County	050	i
District 1, Anne Arundel County, Maryland	County Subdivision	060	i
Block 1021, Block Group 1, Census Tract 7512, Anne Arundel County, Maryland	Block	100	i
Census Tract 7512, Anne Arundel County, Maryland	Census Tract	140	i
Block Group 1, Census Tract 7512, Anne Arundel County, Maryland	Block Group within Census Tract	150	i
Linthicum CDP, Maryland	Place within State	160	i
Baltimore-Columbia-Towson, MD Metro Area	Metro/Micro Statistical Area	310	i
Washington-Baltimore-Arlington, DC-MD-VA-WV-PA CSA	CSA	330	i
Washington--Baltimore, DC--MD--VA--WV CMSA	MSA/CMSA	380	i
Baltimore, MD PMSA; Washington--Baltimore, DC--MD--VA--WV CMSA	PMSA within CMSA	385	i
Baltimore, MD Urbanized Area (2010)	Urban Area	400	i
Congressional District 2 (115th Congress), Maryland	Congressional District	500	i
State Senate District 32 (2016), Maryland	State Legislative District (Upper)	610	i
State Legislative District 32 (2016), Maryland	State Legislative District (Lower)	620	i
Anne Arundel Precinct 01-011, Anne Arundel County, Maryland	Voting District/Remainder	700	i
Anne Arundel County (Northwest)--Severn, Odenton, Crofton, Maryland City & Fort Meade PUMA; Maryland	Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA)	795	i
ZCTA5 21090	5-Digit ZCTA	860	i
ZIP 21090 (Linthicum Heights, MD)	5-Digit ZIP Code	861	i
Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Maryland	School District (Unified)/Remainder	970	i
Linthicum CDP, Maryland	Economic Place	E60	i

4. See if the ZCTA is on the published list:

Economically Disadvantaged Areas (Zip Code)								
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20784	21205	21223	21524	21557	21649	21817	21862	

Questions? If you have additional questions, please contact the Commission at applications.mmcc@maryland.gov.