

Protocol for Growing Industrial Hemp For Research Purposes Only in Indiana

Indiana has received instructions for obtaining approval from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) of the US Justice Department to order and receive industrial hemp seed for use by researchers at legally qualified institutions of higher learning and state departments of agriculture. Industrial hemp seed is to be utilized in research projects conducted under the authority of the United States Code (USC) as 7 U.S.C. 5940, previously called the Agricultural Act of 2014, Section 7606 (“Legitimacy of Industrial Hemp Research”) as published as P.L. 113-79 (February 7, 2014). This response from DEA establishes a procedure for an institution of higher education or a State department of agriculture to grow or cultivate industrial hemp if it is grown for the purposes of research. The growing or cultivating of industrial hemp is allowed under the laws of the State in which such institution of higher education or State department of agriculture is located and such research occurs.

On March 26, 2014, Governor Pence signed into Indiana law, a statute, IC 15-15-13, that established the “Indiana Industrial Hemp” law, setting up authorities for a licensing and monitoring system for growing industrial hemp for research and/or commercial production. The law, however, places restrictions on the State Seed Commissioner from granting licenses until he has secured all necessary permissions, waivers, or other form of legal status by the US Drug Enforcement Administration or other federal agency concerning industrial hemp. DEA has now granted the State Seed Commissioner an agreed procedure to license only researchers as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 5940.

Below is the suggested protocol by DEA for persons wishing to **do research** under 7 U.S.C. 5940: (This process applies only to Industrial Hemp as defined in IC 15-15-13. No other hemp otherwise defined is licensed in this manner.)

1. A researcher must first obtain and complete an application for an Indiana Industrial Hemp (Research) License that is available from the Office of Indiana State Chemist and Seed Commissioner website at the following link:
http://www.oisc.purdue.edu/seed/industrial_hemp.html
2. The completed form must be submitted to the OISC. The researcher must be evaluated by a national and local background check conducted by the Indiana State Police. A payment of \$_____ (TBD) made to “Office of Indiana State Chemist & Seed Commissioner” must accompany the application to cover the costs of the background check. Additional fees prescribed by law may be assessed by the State Seed Commissioner.
3. After receipt of an approved Indiana license a researcher who is employed by an institution of higher education or State Department of Agriculture to perform research must apply to DEA as a “**Researcher – Schedule 1 Only**” (www.dea diversion.usdoj.gov). Applications are made available to all research faculty from any Indiana institution of higher education, public and/or private. DEA will not approve a *Schedule 1 Only* permit until evidence of a state license is provided with the application.
4. In most cases, DEA will waive federal application fees for research personnel affiliated with State-funded Universities. Each state funded institution of higher learning may also require internal, institution-specific, approval processes. Researchers should check within their institutions for guidance.

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5. The researcher shall complete DEA Form 225 (download pdf application from DEA website above from the link titled: ***“Download DEA Form 225 (PDF)”***)
6. The researcher shall also complete the “Protocol” found in ***21 CFR 1301.18***” under the website link shown in point # 1 above and submit with the completed Form 225.
7. DEA field personnel will conduct on-site inspection of research facilities, secured storage area for hemp seed, and designated research plots.
8. Once a researcher receives an approved DEA permit, it is the responsibility of the researcher to acquire industrial hemp seed from legitimate sources that will be used in research projects.

Questions may be directed to: Mr. Don Robison, Seed Administrator, drobiso@purdue.edu or to Dr. Robert Waltz, State Seed Commissioner, rwaltz@purdue.edu