

Cannabis Physical Security Matrix

Researchers will need to determine the security level required of their research based on the maximum amount of cannabis in possession at a given time. Researchers are required to work with the Manager, Quality & Research Compliance and Western Special Constable Service to ensure their lab’s physical security meets these requirements.

Specific physical security requirements may be modified if equivalent risk reduction methods are in place that provide for an equivalent level of security. Security measures with an “X” are mandatory for a given security level.

Security Measures	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Comments
	<100 g equivalent dry weight cannabis	100 g – 11 kg equivalent dry weight cannabis	11-600 kg equivalent dry weight cannabis	
	no growth	0-15 m ² growth area	15-200 m ² growth area (micro scale)	
OPERATIONS AREA/ROOM (e.g., lab, greenhouse, growth chamber)				
Room remains locked when not occupied	X	X	X	
Room access is restricted to authorized personnel	X	X	X	Physical key or e-access
Only personnel involved in project permitted unsupervised access to room		X (for growth only)	X	
Room monitored with audible alarm		Recommended	X	
Room intrusion detection remotely monitored		Recommended for growth	X	e.g., by Western Special Constabulary Service
Room visually monitored (i.e., video surveillance)			X	
Intrusion detection system including door sensors		X (recommended for growth)	X	
Intrusion detection system including motion detection			X	

Cannabis to remain under the care and control of personnel involved in the project at all times	X	X	X	Personnel listed on Cannabis Research Permit
Records of access to operations area maintained (e-access preferred)		Recommended	X	Records should include date of access, name of person accessing, and purpose
STORAGE LOCATION				
Lock box, Locked cabinet, refrigerator or freezer	X			
Safe		X	X	If applicable based on materials for storage
Cabinet, refrigerator, freezer or safe secured to the wall or floor or otherwise designed such that it cannot be readily removed from the room		X	X	
Dedicated locked storage room			X	If applicable, based on quantities and materials for storage
Storage room monitored with audible alarm			X	
Storage room intrusion detection remotely monitored			X	e.g., by Western Special Constabulary Service
Storage location visually monitored (i.e., video surveillance)			X	
Intrusion detection system including motion detection			X	
Access to storage location restricted to only those involved in the project	X	X	X	

Access to storage location restricted to PI and designate	X	X	X	
Records of access to storage location maintained	X	X	X	Records should include date of access, name of person accessing and person.

Appendix 1

Equivalent amount (as per Schedule 3 of the Cannabis Act). Recreated from the Cannabis Licensing Application Guide – Research September, 6, 2019

Class of cannabis	Quantity that is equivalent to 1 g of dried cannabis
Dried cannabis	1 g
Fresh cannabis	5 g
Solids containing cannabis	15 g
Non-solids containing cannabis	70 g
Cannabis solid concentrates	0.25 g
Cannabis non-solid concentrates	0.25 g
Cannabis plant seeds	1 seed

Note: Non-dried cannabis in solid and non-solid forms are considered cannabis concentrates when above 3% THC by weight.