

### Common Occupations and Hazards in Cannabis Production and Distribution<sup>i,ii</sup>

<i>Job</i>	<i>Duties</i>	<i>Potential Hazards</i>	<i>Remedy</i>
Cultivator	Planting, transplanting, physically relocating plants, watering, nutrient mixing and feeding, mixing and applying pesticides, cleaning, harvesting plants, drying plants	Accelerated levels of humidity causing mold; sensitizers/allergens CO <sub>2</sub> , CO, pesticides/fungicides; ergonomics, walking/working surfaces; lighting hazards; chemical exposures	Wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) such as powered air purifying equipment; local/general exhaust ventilation to control mold growth; pesticide training; UVA/B/C sensitive eye glasses; sunscreen process; Tyvek suit or smock; gloves, safety boots and hearing protection
Trimmer	Trimming, packaging, shipping, data entry, cleaning	Mold, sensitizers/allergens, CO <sub>2</sub> , CO, pesticides, ergonomics, occupational injuries (cuts), chemical exposures, machinery	Job rotation to mitigate repetitive strain; ergonomic design for task assistance; floor mats; larger harvest rooms; stools; harness for scissor lift;
Extraction Technician	Extracting cannabis concentrates	Machinery, IAQ, allergens, noise, ergonomics, chemical exposures, use of explosive/flammable chemicals such as butane	Ensure extraction is done in a dedicated room that meets fire code regulations with the required suppressions, gas detection and ventilation systems; in addition to adequate training
Edible Producer, Infused Product, Confectioner/Artisan/ Chef	Cooking, baking, packaging, bottling, and labeling cannabis infused products	Occupational injuries (burns), noise, chemicals	
Budtender	Sales representative who sells cannabis and cannabis products to customers	Sensitizers/allergens, ergonomics, workplace violence	Increased security measures including: electronic swipe which can monitor employee location, high grade locks and cameras; on-site security personnel
Laboratory Technician	Operates laboratory equipment to determine cannabinoid and contaminant concentrations	Solvents, ergonomics	
Cultivation Owner/Operator	In addition to running the business, may oversee and be involved in the functions of the grow operation	Sensitizers/allergens, mold, CO <sub>2</sub> , CO, pesticides/fungicides, high pressure machinery, IAQ, noise, chemicals, workplace violence	
Administration	Responsible for day-to-day operations of the business. May include marketing roles, financial roles, HR roles, retail store management	Ergonomics, workplace violence	
Transportation	May transport product or money between growing and retail facilities either by car truck or plane.	Occupational injuries, workplace violence	
Maintenance	Facilities maintenance, equipment maintenance, HVAC	Elevated heights, electrical hazards	

<sup>i</sup>Marijuana Occupational Health and Safety Work Group, "Guide to Worker Safety and Health in the Marijuana Industry," *Colorado: Department of Public Health and Environment*, January, 2017: [https://deohs.washington.edu/sites/default/files/documents/Guide-to-Worker-Safety-and-Health-in-the-Marijuana-Industry\\_FULL-REPORT.pdf](https://deohs.washington.edu/sites/default/files/documents/Guide-to-Worker-Safety-and-Health-in-the-Marijuana-Industry_FULL-REPORT.pdf)

<sup>ii</sup>Amanda Silliker, "Cannabis industry must prioritize OHS as legalization approaches: Trimming marijuana leaves, working around grow lamps and extracting oils take a hit on workers," *Canadian Occupational Safety*, August 15, 2018: <https://www.cos-mag.com/cannabis/37531-cannabis-industry-must-prioritize-ohs-as-legalization-approaches/>