

Major Medical Associations’ Policy Positions on Marijuana



Tentative list of medical associations to study:

1. American Medical Association (AMA)
2. American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
3. American College of Physicians (ACP)
4. American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
5. American Psychiatric Association (APA)
6. American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)
7. American Academy of Neurology (AAN)
8. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)
9. American Academy of Pain Medicine (AAPM)
10. American Heart Association (AHA)
11. American Lung Association (ALA)
12. American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
13. American Public Health Association (APHA)
14. American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM)
15. American Psychological Association (APA)
16. American Nurses Association (ANA)
17. National Association for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC)

Association	Recreational Marijuana	Medical Marijuana	Decriminalization / expungement	Policy Statement
American Medical Association	Opposed	Supports more research; should follow FDA approval process; does not specify particular conditions	Supports decriminalization and expungement of minor offenses	HERE
American Academy of Pediatrics	Opposed	Supports use for severe conditions under strict medical supervision; opposes state programs without FDA regulation	Supports decriminalization and expungement, particularly for youth	HERE
American College of Physicians	No Official Stance	Supports medical use under physician supervision; FDA approval	Supports decriminalization	HERE

		process recommended; no specific conditions listed	and expungement of minor offenses	
American Academy of Family Physicians	Opposed	Supports more research; favors FDA approval; no specific conditions listed	Supports decriminalization and treatment instead of incarceration	HERE
American Psychiatric Association	Opposed	Supports more research through FDA process; concerned about mental health risks; no specific conditions listed	Supports decriminalization, particularly for minor offenses	HERE
American Society of Addiction Medicine	Opposed	Supports cautious use with FDA approval; no specific conditions listed	Supports decriminalization and expungement of minor offenses	HERE
American Academy of Neurology	Does not advocate for legalization	Supports reclassification for research purposes; does not advocate for the legalization of marijuana-based products for use in neurologic disorders at this time further research needed for use in neurological disorders; not enough evidence yet	No official stance	HERE
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists	Opposed during pregnancy and lactation due to risks to fetal development	Opposed during pregnancy and lactation; advises against use for medical purposes due to insufficient safety data	No specific stance on decriminalization or expungement	HERE
American Academy of Pain Medicine	Opposed to recreational use	Supports more research; favors FDA approval; no specific conditions listed	Supports decriminalization and treatment instead of incarceration	HERE
American Heart Association	Opposed due to potential cardiovascular risks	Opposed without FDA regulation; concerns about cardiovascular	No specific stance on decriminalization or expungement	HERE

		safety, recommends further research		
American Lung Association	Opposed to smoking marijuana due to lung health risks	Opposed to smoking or inhalation of marijuana for medical use; further research needed on other forms of medical marijuana	No specific stance on decriminalization or expungement	HERE
American Osteopathic Association	Opposed to recreational use by physicians, students, and patients due to health risks	Supports use under strict medical supervision; advocates for further research	No stance	HERE
American Public Health Association	Supports regulation of recreational use under a public health framework, including age restrictions and THC limits	Supports access under strict regulation, recommends state-regulated frameworks ; no specific conditions mentioned, encourages research-based decisions	Strongly supports decriminalization and expungement of cannabis-related offenses	HERE
American Academy of Sleep Medicine	Opposed due to potential effects on sleep and overall health	Opposed to use for treating sleep disorders like OSA (Obstructive Sleep Apnea); further research needed	No specific stance on decriminalization or expungement	HERE
American Psychological Association	Opposed due to concerns about mental health risks (e.g., psychosis, addiction)	Supports more research; must follow FDA approval process; no specific conditions mentioned	Not addressed in the document	HERE
American Nurses Association	No official stance on recreational use	Supports therapeutic use under medical supervision; advocates for more research;	Not addressed in the document	HERE

		reclassification from Schedule I recommended		
National Association for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors	Opposed to recreational use; concerns about addiction risks	Supports further research; should be prescribed under strict medical supervision	Supports decriminalization and believes it would reduce the burden on the criminal justice system	HERE