THE STATE of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1600
Anchorage, AK 99501
Main: 907.269.0350

MEMORANDUM

TO: Marijuana Control Board

DATE: November 5, 2026

FROM: Kristina Serezhenkov, LGS

RE: Marijuana Handler Courses and Course Provider Report

Over ten years ago, on April 27,2016, the board approved the very first marijuana handler courses. Since that date, there have been 39 total course provider submissions. (This is presented in a visual chart at the end of this report.) **As of today, there are 12 active and approved marijuana handler courses with 11 of those listed on the MCB website.** This report presents a 10-year overview of those marijuana handler course submissions, touches on course renewals due now, and identifies a few areas for board consideration on how to improve processes with a view towards the extensive regulatory changes contemplated in the AO-360 project.

This report does not address course content itself but is meant as informational only. Areas highlighted for consideration include; non-renewal or untimely renewal of already approved courses; non-adherence to the course update and notice requirements of 306.701(c) when regulations change; and correcting unusable course completion certificates. Improving processes in these areas support the main goal which is to ensure a course's content is sufficient and accurate.

Staff have called out their own processes and outlined how they are updated and improved within this report. The board is asked to consider taking action as well.

Issue for consideration: Course providers are not submitting their 3-year course reviews (renewals) or are submitting them late.

> *3 AAC 306.701(d) The board will review an approved marijuana handler permit education course at least once **every three years**, and may rescind approval of the course if the board finds that the education course contents are insufficient or inaccurate.*

The majority of course providers do not renew timely (75%), forcing staff to reach out to send reminders, demand action, and track non-responses to inquiries. This is a general pattern that has repeated often over the last 10 years. The board course review process is not burdensome but vital to ensure that the course contents are sufficient and accurate. It should be the applicant's responsibility to submit their courses for review timely and pay the review fee of $500.

The chart below shows all active/approved marijuana handler permit courses and their current status as of November 3, 2026.

Active Marijuana Handler Permit Education Courses and Their Status					
Course #	**Course Name**	**Applicant**	**Active Date**	**MCB Renewal Date**	**Status Current?**
MHCP 002	Alaska Marijuana Handler Certification Course	Alaska Green Resources/ Dollynda Phelps	5/13/2016	2/1/2027	YES, Website link failed and attempts to communicate with provider for resolution unsuccessful- no provider response. This is removed from the MCB website as of summer 2026.
MHCP 003	Alaska Marijuana Handler Online Certification Training	Marijuana Handlers/ George M. Coleman	5/16/2016	2/1/2027	YES
MHCP 008	Marijuana Handler Permit Instruction	Alaska Cannabis Industries/ Ronda Marcy	5/17/2016	2/1/2027	YES
MHCP 009	Handle Alaska	Kimberly Kole	5/13/2016	2/1/2027	YES
MHCP 017	Alaska Marijuana Institute Online Certification Course	Good Enterprises AK/ Mae L. Good	9/7/2016	9/22/2025	**No – OVERDUE** If no renewal is submitted by the deadline for the next meeting, this course will be in front of the board to possibly rescind approval.
MHCP 025	Cannabis Handler	Best Price Alaska Marijuana Handler Training	4/3/2018	1/20/2025	**No – OVERDUE** If no renewal is submitted by the deadline for the next meeting, this course will be in front of the board to possibly rescind approval.
MHCP 028	Alaska Marijuana Handler Certification	Green CulturED	8/15/2018	1/20/2025	**No – OVERDUE** If no renewal is submitted by the deadline for the next meeting, this course will be in front of the board to possibly rescind approval.
MHCP 029	Advanced Learning Management System-Medical Marijuana 411	MM411 Inc.	8/15/2018	6/27/2027	YES
MHCP 032	Alaska Marijuana Handler Permit Training	Rserving/ Hannah Olsen	7/10/2019	2/1/2027	YES
MHCP 033	ACTA Alaska Marijuana Handler Certification Course	American Cannabis Training Association (ACTA)/ Elijah Lee	11/16/2020	11/16/2026	PENDING – timely submitted
MHCP 036	Fast Track Handler Permit Course	Fast-Track Certification Course AK/ Mae L. Good	9/22/2022	9/22/2025	**No – OVERDUE** If no renewal is submitted by the deadline for the next meeting, this course will be in front of the board to possibly rescind approval.
MHCP 038	Cannabis Training University	Alaska Marijuana Handler Certification	6/26/2024	6/26/2027	YES

Staff have taken the following administrative actions related to improving the renewal process:

- To clarify and make apparent renewal timelines, our office added the 3-year-review-due-by date underneath the publicly facing contact information listed on our website for each active, board approved course provider. https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/amco/MarijuanaHandlerPermit

- Upon board approval, our office will include in the board action letter sent to the course provider the due date for the 3-year review, stressing its importance to the provider.

Issue for consideration: Course providers are not updating their courses when regulations change or when the provider has changed the course, and if they do update the course, they are not noticing the changes to the office or board.

Providers are not following the mandate at 3 AAC 306.701(c) which reads that an approved course provider shall 1. update the course with ……*any applicable change to AS 17.38 and 3 AAC 306 not later than 10 days after the effective date of the change* and 2. notify the board of ….*a change to an approved course not later than three days after the change.*

The requirements of 3 AAC 306.701(c) ensure that board approved courses are based on current Alaska law and provide accurate information to students. There have been scores of regulations changes to 3 AAC 306 made effective in the last three years, (and these have been big changes) but I have received only one notice from one course provider in this same time period. Looking to the future, course providers must be prepared for the possible extensive regulation changes contemplated within the AO-360 project.

Staff have taken the following administrative actions related to course change and notice requirements:

- On the publicly facing front web page for MJ handler permits, our office has added language outlining 3 AAC 306.701(c) in the section that lists all board approved courses (end of the web page). It includes a staff contact email for noticing course changes. All change notices from course providers will be documented in their file and presented to the board upon audit or 3-year review.
- Upon board approval, our office will stress in the board action letter sent to the course provider that they must follow the mandates of 3 AAC 306.701(c) and that by not doing so could be cause for an early audit of their course outside of the 3-year review. The letter will also include information on how to sign up for MCB's listserv to receive notices of regulatory projects and changes.
- When noticing regulation changes staff will include course provider contact emails. If a course provider did not sign up for listserv themselves, they will still receive notices related to regulation changes.

Possible board consideration.

- We ask the board to consider adding an attestation to the existing MJ-10 form that requires the applicant to attest they will follow the update and noticing requirements of 3 AAC 306.701(c). A draft of a MJ-10 form with this attestation added is attached to this memo.
- The board could also put on the record (verbally) at the board meeting when the course is considered that the course provider must assure the board they are or will follow the requirements of 306.701(c).
- Consider a regulations project to adjust renewal timelines. If the providers are not timely updating their courses based on effective changes to regulations, then the board could decide the courses should be renewed more often than once every 3 years. A yearly renewal, for example, would ensure that the course material is sufficient, accurate, and up to date. The board could also update the timeline for renewal to a hard-set date for all course providers. This would provide consistency for renewal processes and timelines (a date course providers would not be able to overlook).

Issue for consideration: Course certificates lack essential identifying information.

Staff processing handler permit applications have had difficulties determining the validity of a course completion certificate because some approved course providers do not include basic, essential identifying information on their certificates. This is a drain on staff and confusing for the prospective employees presenting their certificates.

Staff have taken the following administrative steps related to course change and notice requirements:

- We are reviewing all completion certificates on review of new or renewal application and requiring, at a minimum, the following: name of course; name of person who completed course; date of completion; name of marijuana handler course provider; and identifying MCB assigned number (MHCP 0XX). Other courses presenting to the office with incomplete course certificate metrics will be contacted to request a fix. Attached to this report is an example of what a 'before' and 'after' completion certificate looks like.

Other issues:

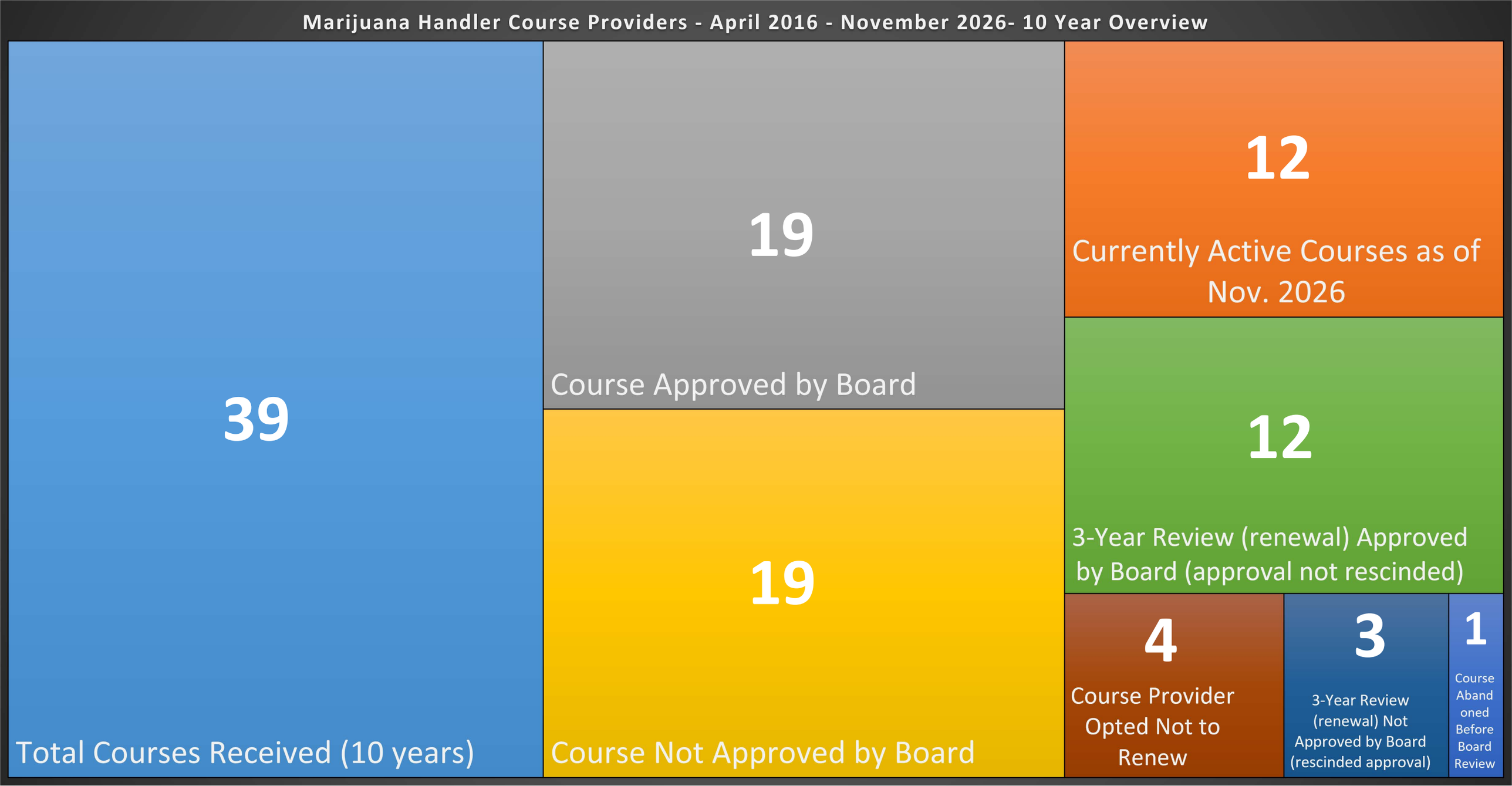
Notice of ownership change.

A few course providers have reached out to our office to tell us that the approved course is under new ownership. What, if any, action might be needed upon such notice?

Frequency of audits (outside of the 3-year review)

The board has raised many concerns about the content of existing approved courses. An audit may be a useful tool to ensure course quality. We may audit a course outside of the 3-year review. An audit could be possibly done once a year or triggered by staff or board concerns. If no issues are found, the audit would go into the file, and the board would see it upon the 3-year review. If issues are found, corrective action would be requested and there would be potential to put the audit findings in front of the board for consideration. Although, changes to regulations to require a yearly renewal may also solve this problem.

Attachments:
Chart 10 Year Overview of Marijuana Courses
Copy of Drafted MJ-10 Form with new attestation
Example of Course Completion Certificate that lacks identifying information
Example of Course Completion Certificate that includes identifying information


Marijuana Handler Course Providers - April 2016 - November 2026- 10 Year Overview
39
Total Courses Received (10 years)
19
Course Approved by Board
19
Course Not Approved by Board
12
Currently Active Courses as of Nov. 2026
12
3-Year Review (renewal) Approved by Board (approval not rescinded)
4
Course Provider Opted Not to Renew
3
3-Year Review (renewal) Not Approved by Board (rescinded approval)
1
Course Abandoned Before Board Review

Draft of form contains attestation to adhere to the requirements of 3 AAC 306.701(c).

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https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/amco
Phone: 907.269.0350

Alaska Marijuana Control Board

Form MJ-10: Education Course Provider Application

This marijuana handler permit education course provider application is required for all persons and entities seeking to have a marijuana handler permit education course approved or re-approved (every three years) by the Marijuana Control Board. Applicants should review **3 AAC 306.700 and 3 AAC 306.701.**

The course curriculum must cover at least the following topics:

- AS 17.38, and 3 AAC 306
- The effects of consumption of marijuana and marijuana products
- How to identify a person impaired by consumption of marijuana
- How to determine valid identification
- How to intervene to prevent unlawful marijuana consumption
- The penalty for an unlawful act by a licensee, an employee, or an agent of a marijuana establishment
- A written test, demonstrating that each student has learned the information correctly

This form must be submitted to AMCO's Anchorage office, along with copies of the course curriculum, before any marijuana handler education course provider application will be considered by the board.

Applicant Information

Enter information for the business seeking to be an approved marijuana hander permit education course.

Applicant:					
Course Name:					
Mailing Address:					
City:		**State:**		**ZIP:**	
Email Address:		**Phone:**			

Check one: ☐ **Initial course application, $500 fee** ☐ **Three-year course review, $500 fee**

Do you intend to provide this course in-person in a classroom-type setting, or online? Check all that apply.

Online ☐ In-Person ☐

You must be able to certify the statements below. Read the following and then sign your initials in the box to the right: Initials

I certify that I will comply with the requirements of 3 AAC 306.701(c) and will update the course with any applicable change to AS 17.38 and 3 AAC 306 not later than 10 days after the effective date of the change and that I will notify the board of a change to an approved course not later than three days after it has been changed. ☐

I hereby certify that I am the person herein named and subscribing to this application and that I have read the complete application, and I know the full content thereof. I declare that all of the information contained herein, and evidence or other documents submitted are true and correct. I understand that any falsification or misrepresentation of any item or response in this application, or any attachment, or documents to support this application, is sufficient grounds for denying or revoking a license/permit. I further understand that it is a Class A misdemeanor under Alaska Statute 11.56.210 to falsify an application and commit the crime of unsworn falsification. ☐

_____ _____

Printed Name of Applicant Signature of Applicant

Example of completion certifiate that lacks identifying information.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

THIS AWARD CERTIFIES THAT

AMCO Kristina Serezhenkov actatester2027

HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED

Alaska Marijuana Handler's Permit (2026)

-	100%	6ae388ccf45699803b0e77f0	29 Oct 2026
COURSE CREDITS	SCORE	CERTIFICATE ID	DATE

Validate your certificate by visiting this link: https://mycourse.app/gYfqsxD4JHv8EGplo

Example of completion certificate that includes essential identifying information.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

THIS AWARD CERTIFIES THAT

AMCO Kristina Serezhenkov actatester2027

HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED

Alaska Marijuana Handler Permit Education Course

and passed the final written examination

Issued by: American Cannabis Training Association (ACTA)
MCB-Approved Course ID: MHCP 033

100%	6ae388ccf45699803b0e77f0	29 Oct 2026
SCORE	**CERTIFICATE NO.**	**DATE OF COMPLETION**

Validate your certificate by visiting this link: https://mycourse.app/gYfqsxD4JHv8EGplo