

ASCEND MASS, LLC
MRN282837

BACKGROUND & APPLICATION OF INTENT REVIEW

1. Name and address of the proposed Marijuana Establishment:

Ascend Mass LLC
1089 Washington Street, Newton, MA 02465

2. Type of license sought (if cultivation, its tier level and outside/inside operation) and information regarding the application submission:

Retail

The application was reopened one (1) time for additional information.

3. The applicant is a licensee or applicant for other Marijuana Establishment and/or Medical Marijuana Treatment Center license(s):

Type	Status	Location
Retail	Provisional License	Boston
MTC	Application Submitted	Not disclosed
MTC	Application Submitted	Not disclosed
MTC	Application Submitted	Not disclosed

Additionally, individuals and entities associated with this application are also associated with other adult-use licenses/applications under MassGrow, LLC and Southcoast Apothecary, LLC.

4. List of all required individuals and their business roles in the Marijuana Establishment:

Individual	Role
Andrea Cabral	Executive/Officer
Francis Perullo	Executive/Officer
Jason Stirling	Executive/Officer
Steven Rohlfig	Executive/Officer



Emily Paxhia	Manager
Scott Swid	Manager
Christopher Leavy	Manager

5. List of all required entities and their roles in the Marijuana Establishment:

Entity	Role
Ascend Mass Inc.	Parent Company
Ascend Wellness Holdings, LLC	Capital Contributor

6. Applicant's priority status:

General Applicant

7. The applicant and municipality executed a Host Community Agreement on July 8, 2019.
8. The applicant conducted a community outreach meeting on July 18, 2019 and provided documentation demonstrating compliance with Commission regulations.
9. The Commission received a municipal response from the municipality on March 20, 2020 stating the applicant was in compliance with all local ordinances or bylaws.
10. The applicant proposed the following goals for its Positive Impact Plan:

#	Goal
1	Recruit six (6) ex-offenders from the Suffolk County, House of Corrections for its hiring initiatives.
2	Establish an independent charitable foundation in partnership with Ascend Wellness Holdings Inc.
3	Contribute .5 % of its net revenue to WeGrow foundation.

SUITABILITY REVIEW

11. There were disclosures of any past civil or criminal actions, occupational license issues, or marijuana-related business interests in other jurisdictions. None of the disclosures raised suitability issues.
12. There were no concerns arising from background checks on the individuals or entities associated with the application.

MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS REVIEW

13. The applicant states that it can be operational within seven (7) months of receiving its provisional license(s).



14. The applicant’s proposed hours of operation are the following:

Monday – Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

15. The applicant submitted all applicable and required summaries of plans, policies, and procedures for the operation of the proposed establishment. The summaries were determined to be substantially compliant with the Commission’s regulations.

16. The applicant proposed the following goals for its Diversity Plan:

#	Goal
1	Recruit 45% of minorities, women, veterans, people with disabilities, and people who identify as LGBTQ+ for its hiring initiatives.
2	Utilize 40% of suppliers who are committed to diversity and inclusion.

17. Summary of cultivation plan (if applicable):

Not applicable

18. Summary of products to be produced and/or sold (if applicable):

Not applicable

19. Plan for obtaining marijuana or marijuana products (if applicable):

Ascend Mass, LLC plans to obtain marijuana or marijuana products from its affiliated marijuana cultivator establishment. If the need arises, Ascend Mass, LLC will obtain marijuana or marijuana products by contracting with other licensed establishments.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend provisional licensure with the following conditions:

1. Final license is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations;
2. Final license is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with applicable state laws and local codes, ordinances, and bylaws;
3. The applicant shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff; and
4. Provisional licensure is subject to the payment of the appropriate license fee.

The applicant has demonstrated compliance with the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth and suitability for licensure. Therefore, the applicant is recommended for provisional licensure.

