

VIA Folio Now Supports Private Investing in Cannabis-Related Businesses

McLean, Va., October 27, 2016 – Investors and some cannabis-related businesses can now turn to [VIA Folio](#) for one-stop, capital raising and innovative brokerage solutions.

VIA Folio will initially support two categories of cannabis businesses whose activities are legal under both state and federal law, and consider others as the legislative and regulatory landscape changes:

- Pharmaceutical companies engaged in research under Drug Enforcement Administration waivers.
- Companies that do not “touch the plant” but provide products or services to businesses that do.

“We have been considering supporting cannabis businesses’ capital raising efforts for some time and accelerated that exploration after a number of broker-dealers and others asked about our willingness to support these companies,” said [Blaine McLaughlin](#), VIA Folio chief operating officer. “After carefully considering the legal, public policy and regulatory landscape and VIA Folio’s goal of democratizing private investing, our decision became clear.”

VIA Folio works with companies, investors, advisors, broker-dealers and others to make private investing and capital raising quick and efficient. For example, VIA Folio:

- Helps other broker-dealers and portals accelerate time-to-market and reduce implementation risk. There is no need to spend resources building or improving technology to reach investors. Folio’s full custody and escrow-less cash funding capabilities streamline the entire process.
- Helps small- to medium-sized companies raise capital by providing them with a fully integrated offering process and a simple, online way to engage investors.
- Automates manual activities and leverages Folio’s scalable brokerage platform.
- Makes offerings available to Folio and other brokerage customers, certain RIAs on its advisor platform and other broker-dealers and investment portals.
- Provides online tools for accredited and/or non-accredited investors to easily review and subscribe to private security offerings through a Folio brokerage account.

VIA Folio’s [Cannabis Special Report](#) provides an in-depth look at the firm’s perspective on the cannabis industry. It notes the following:

- For many years, Folio has made it possible to invest in publicly traded cannabis-related companies, including GW Pharmaceuticals, Insys Therapeutics, Cara Therapeutics and Zynerva Pharmaceuticals.
- Business conditions are ripe for expansion, with medicinal use of cannabis now legal in 25 states and the District of Columbia—a combined region comprising half of the U.S. population.
- Folio believes the trend is toward legalization at the state level is gaining increasing acceptance and will continue to build momentum.

Learn more about our innovative online brokerage platform and private investing capabilities by visiting www.viafolio.com.

About VIA Folio®

VIA Folio empowers clients of portals, issuers and intermediaries to invest in alternative assets such as private debt and equity, public offerings, and hedge funds. It does this by supporting the process of offering, subscription, closing, and custody on the Folio Investments, Inc. brokerage platform. Investors and advisors can hold multiple private securities in a single Folio brokerage account, alongside publicly traded securities. This integrated approach facilitates the inclusion of private securities in both taxable and tax-deferred accounts.

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