

REGULATION 3

LICENSING: QUALIFICATIONS

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3.010 Unsuitable locations. The Board may recommend that an application for a state gaming license be denied if the Board deems that the place or location for which the license is sought is unsuitable for the conduct of gaming operations. The Commission may deny an application for a state gaming license if the Commission deems that the place or location for which the license is sought is unsuitable for the conduct of gaming operations.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following places or locations may be deemed unsuitable:

1. Premises located within the immediate vicinity of churches, schools and children's public playgrounds.

(a) As used in this subsection:

(1) "Church" means a building used for religious worship by an entity which is a tax exempt organization pursuant to 26 U.S.C. §501(c)(3).

(2) "Immediate vicinity" means within a 1,500 foot radius.

(3) "Playground" means an outdoor area with equipment provided for children to play maintained or owned by the State or political subdivision thereof or any unit owners' association organized under NRS 116.3101.

(4) "School" means a school operated or approved by the State or a political subdivision thereof. "School" does not include an institution in which the majority of students are age 18 or older.

(b) The Board may recommend and the Commission may determine that premises located in the immediate vicinity of churches, schools, and playgrounds are nevertheless suitable upon a sufficient showing of suitability by the applicant. In making their determinations, the Board and Commission may consider all relevant factors including but not limited to:

(1) Whether the premises have been used previously for licensed gaming;

(2) Whether the premises are located in a commercial area; or

(3) Evidence that the premises have been deemed suitable for gaming by a local governing body.

(c) An applicant shall provide a written statement discussing relevant factors or provide a determination from a local governing body that the location is suitable for gaming. If the Board and Commission do not discuss such statement or determination in considering the application, it shall be presumed that the applicant made a sufficient showing of suitability for the location.

2. Premises located in a place where gaming is contrary to a valid zoning ordinance of any county or city. The Board may recommend and the Commission may determine that premises located where gaming is contrary to a valid zoning ordinance are nevertheless suitable upon a sufficient showing by the applicant that the premises have been used for licensed gaming prior to the effective date of the zoning ordinance and that there is good cause why the use should be allowed to continue.

3. Premises having a substantial minor clientele. The Board may recommend and the Commission may determine that premises having a substantial minor clientele are nevertheless suitable if the applicant

demonstrates that it has taken sufficient precautions to separate areas frequented by minors from the gaming operation.

4. Premises lacking adequate supervision or surveillance.
5. Premises difficult to police.
6. Brothels.
7. Any other premises where the conduct of gaming would be inconsistent with the public policy of the State of Nevada.

(Amended: 10/90; 1/26.)

3.012 Ownership of rights to operate or designate operators of gaming devices. As used in this section, "gaming rights" means the right, created by contract or otherwise, to operate gaming devices or to designate in any manner the operator of gaming devices at an establishment. "Gaming rights holder" means any person holding gaming rights who is not the operator of the primary business and is not otherwise licensed at the establishment or as an operator of a slot machine route.

1. The Commission may require any gaming rights holder to apply for a finding of suitability pursuant to NRS 463.162(5)(a). Without limiting the Board's ability to require a nonrestricted investigation in any case, a nonrestricted investigation shall generally be required of any gaming rights holder who holds gaming rights at three or more establishments at which restricted gaming is conducted.

2. An applicant for a restricted license shall furnish to the Board complete information on any interest held by a gaming rights holder in the gaming establishment, copies of all agreements involving the gaming rights, and such other information as the Board may require.

3. In considering any application by a gaming rights holder, the Commission may apply the following criteria in determining whether approval of the application is in the best interests of the state:

(a) The total number of premises at which the applicant holds gaming rights and the total number of slot machines at such premises;

(b) The circumstances by which the gaming rights were acquired, the circumstances regarding the creation of such rights and the history of any transfer of such rights;

(c) The effect on competition and the ability of persons to obtain a license and conduct gaming on the premises of suitable locations for gaming establishments; and

(d) Such other criteria deemed by the Board and Commission to be relevant, including, but not limited to, any criteria provided in Regulation 3.070.

4. The applicant for a restricted gaming license at an establishment at which gaming rights are held by a gaming rights holder must demonstrate that the gaming devices will be adequately supervised.

5. Each licensee shall notify the Board of any change in the ownership interests of gaming rights at any establishment where the licensee operates gaming devices at least 30 days before the change or, if the licensee is not a party to the transaction, immediately upon acquiring knowledge of the change.

6. Except in cases where the gaming rights holder is a publicly traded corporation, each licensee shall notify the Board of any change in the ownership of the gaming rights holder at any establishment where the licensee operates gaming devices at least 30 days before the change or, if the licensee is not a party to the transaction, immediately upon acquiring knowledge of the change. If the gaming rights holder at the establishment where the licensee operates gaming devices is a publicly traded corporation, the licensee shall notify the Board of any change in control of such publicly traded corporation as reported to the Securities and Exchange Commission, immediately upon acquiring such knowledge.

(Adopted: 2/94.)

3.015 Applications for restricted licenses.

1. An application for a restricted license may only be granted if the operation of slot machines is incidental to the primary business conducted at the location and the Board and Commission determine the location is suitable for the conduct of gaming and the applicant meets the requirements of this Section.

2. In recommending and determining whether (i) the applicant's proposed restricted location is suitable for the conduct of gaming and meets the requirements of this Section, and (ii) the operations at the location continue to meet the requirements for a restricted license, the Board and Commission may consider some or all of the following factors:

(a) The amount of floor space used for the slot machines, which space shall include the area occupied by the slot machines, including slot machine seating and circulation, as compared to the floor space used for the primary business;

(b) The amount of investment in the operation of the slot machines as compared to the amount of investment in the primary business;

(c) The amount of time required to manage or operate the slot machines as compared to the amount of time required to manage or operate the primary business;

(d) The revenue generated by the slot machines as compared to the revenue generated by the primary business;

(e) Whether a substantial portion of the financing for the creation of the business has been provided in exchange for the right to operate slot machines on the premises;

(f) Other factors, including but not limited to the establishment's name, the establishment's marketing practices, the public's perception of the business, and the relationship of the slot machines to the primary business; and

(g) What other amenities the applicant offers to its customers.

3. Except as provided by subsection 6, only the establishments listed below are suitable for the conduct of gaming pursuant to a restricted license:

(a) Bar, tavern, saloon or other similar location licensed to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption, other than just beer and wine, by the drink;

(b) Convenience store;

(c) Grocery store;

(d) Drug store; and

(e) Liquor store.

↳ Unless the Commission determines otherwise, there shall be a limit of no more than 7 slot machines operated at a convenience store, and a limit of no more than 4 slot machines operated at a liquor store.

4. If the Commission deems an application for a restricted license to be based on exceptional circumstances, the Commission may waive subsection 3 upon a finding that the waiver is consistent with Regulation 3.010 and the public policy of the State of Nevada.

5. Subsection 3 shall not apply to any type of business approved by the Commission as suitable for the operation of slot machines pursuant to subsection 6.

6. Any person may apply for a preliminary determination that a type of establishment not listed in subsection 3 is suitable for the conduct of gaming by filing an application with the Board together with all applicable fees per Regulation 4.070. The application shall contain (a) a definition of the type of establishment and (b) a demonstration that the operation of slot machines in such a type of establishment is consistent with Regulation 3.010 and the public policy of the State of Nevada. The application shall be considered by the Commission, upon recommendation by the Board. Public comment shall be accepted when the application is heard by the Board and Commission.

7. Slot machines exposed for play in grocery stores and drug stores shall be located within a separate gaming area or alcove having not fewer than 3 sides formed by contiguous walls or partial walls. For the purposes of Regulation 3.015, "partial wall" or "wall" may include, without limitation, 1 or more gaming devices, if the gaming devices are configured together or in conjunction with other structures to create a barrier that is similar to a partial wall or wall.

8. In grocery stores or drug stores, automated teller machines shall not be placed within a designated gaming area or alcove and, at all other restricted locations, automated teller machines shall not be placed adjacent to slot machines.

9. The requirements of this Regulation shall apply to all restricted licensees, except as provided herein:

(a) Subsections 3 and 7 do not apply to an establishment for which a restricted license was granted by the Commission by February 1, 2000, provided that the establishment does not cease gaming operations for a period of more than 12 months or, upon the administrative approval of the Board Chair, for a period of not more than 24 months, and that the nature and quality of the primary business of the establishment has not materially changed.

10. It is an unsuitable method of operation to materially change the nature and quality of the primary business after the Commission has granted a restricted gaming license to conduct gaming at an establishment, without the prior administrative approval of the Board Chair or the Chair's designee. A material change in the nature and quality of the primary business is presumed to occur if:

(a) A zoning change is required, or a new business license, special use permit, or any other license, permit or approval must be obtained from the applicable county, city, or township licensing, zoning or

approval authority, in order to change or operate the primary business in a manner that is different from what was being conducted at the time the gaming license was granted, or

(b) For a 3(a) establishment, subsequent to the date a restricted gaming license was last approved by the Commission for that establishment, to change or alter the amount of square footage available for use by patrons, or the configuration or detail of the bar or restaurant from that which was required to be met by law or regulation in order to obtain a restricted gaming license.

11. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit or otherwise encumber the ability of any restricted gaming licensee to transfer, sell, or convey the business pursuant to the provisions of NRS chapter 463 and Regulation 8.

(Adopted: 10/24/90. Amended: 7/99; 7/05; 11/08; 08/11; 11/13.)

3.020 Ownership of premises where gaming conducted.

1. The Commission or the Board may deem that premises are unsuitable for the conduct of gaming operations by reason of ownership of any interest whatsoever in such premises by a person who is unqualified or disqualified to hold a gaming license, regardless of the qualifications of the person who seeks or holds a license to operate gaming in or upon such premises.

2. In all cases in which the premises wherein or whereon the gaming operation for which a state gaming license is sought are not wholly owned by the applicant, the applicant shall furnish to the Board a statement of the name and address of the owner or owners of such premises, a copy of all agreements whereby the applicant is entitled to possession of the premises, and such other information as the Board may require.

3. In all cases in which the premises are wholly or partly owned by the applicant, the applicant shall furnish to the Board complete information pertaining to the interest held by any person other than the applicant, including interest held under any mortgage, deed of trust, bonds or debentures, pledge of corporate stock, voting trust agreement, or other device whatever, together with such other information as the Board may require.

4. Every licensee shall furnish to the Board complete information pertaining to any change of ownership of the premises or of any change of any interest in the premises wherein or whereon the licensed gaming is operated at least 30 days before the date of such change; or, if the licensee is not a party to the transaction effecting such change of ownership, immediately upon acquiring knowledge of such change of ownership or any contemplated change of ownership.

(Amended: 1/82.)

3.021 [Reserved: 11/82.]

3.030 [Reserved: 11/82.]

3.040 Time requirement. No license will be issued for use in premises under construction until the calendar quarter in which gaming operations in such premises will actually be commenced.

3.050 Financial requirements.

1. No license will be issued for use in any establishment until satisfactory evidence is presented that there is adequate financing available to pay all current obligations and, in addition, to provide adequate working capital to finance opening of the establishment.

2. The Commission or the Chair of the Board may require a licensee to provide security in the form of a reserve for the payment of all amounts held by the licensee on the patrons' behalf, all amounts held by the licensee for the account of the patrons, all amounts owed by a licensee but unpaid to gaming patrons, future wages, salaries or other obligations, either as a condition precedent to issuance or renewal of any license or at any other time the Commission or Chair determines that such requirement would be in the public interest. The security required shall in all respects, other than amount, comply with the requirements and provisions of the reserve made applicable to race books and sports pools by Regulation 22.040.

(Amended: 3/06.)

3.060 Foreign gaming. [Repealed: 2/27/25.]

(Amended: 3/73; 7/77)

3.070 Multiple licensing criteria. In every instance in which a person, entity, or persons involved in an entity, holding a gaming license or holding an approval to operate an inter-casino linked system in the State of Nevada makes application for an additional license, or a system pursuant to Regulation 14.030, the Board and Commission shall consider whether such multiple licensing is in the best interests of the State of Nevada, having due regard for the state's policy concerning gaming. In making this determination, the following are some factors which may be considered:

1. Has there been an adequate period of performance by the applicant upon which the Board and Commission could base a conclusion as to the effectiveness of the existing operations warranting further extension?

2. Does the applicant have sufficient key personnel to operate an additional location or inter-casino linked system so that multiple licensing would not result in dilution of effective managerial capacity and control of existing operations?

3. Has the applicant applied for an existing operation or inter-casino linked system or for a facility which is to be constructed or a new inter-casino linked system which is to be operated?

4. What are the plans of the applicant for the development and expansion of existing operations?

5. What are the plans of the applicant for a continuity of operation in the event of the death or disability of the applicant?

6. Does the applicant have ownership interests of any kind or nature in any of the competitor companies in the gaming industry?

7. What would the result of the multiple licensing be of the percentage of interest of the applicant to similarly situated competitors on a statewide, countywide and geographical location basis in each of the following categories:

(a) Total number of slot machines.

(b) Total number of games.

(c) Total number of tables.

(d) In case of an application for approval of a new inter-casino linked system, the total number of inter-casino linked systems and connected gaming devices or games.

(e) Gross revenue.

(f) Percentage tax.

(g) Casino entertainment tax.

(h) Number of rooms available for the public.

(i) Number of employees hired.

(j) Total payroll.

8. Would acquisition pose problems or create a monopoly?

9. Would acquisition pose problems in any of the following categories:

(a) Becoming so large as to become its own supplier of goods and services required by the licensee in all of its operations.

(b) Establishing employment practices inimical to the welfare of the gaming industry.

(c) Establishment of control in method of play or percentage realized from play that would be inimical to the welfare of the gaming industry.

(d) Without cause, the establishment of a seasonal operation or reduced number of shifts per day, inimical to the economy of the area.

10. Interlocking corporate directorships within licensed or unlicensed operations which might contribute to any of the foregoing factors.

11. Any other index or criteria deemed by the Board and Commission to be relevant to the effect of multiple licensing upon the public health, safety, morals, good order and general welfare of the public of the State of Nevada.

(Adopted: 11/68. Amended: 11/82; 5/00; 4/22.)

3.080 Unsuitable affiliates. The Commission may deny, revoke, suspend, limit, condition, or restrict any registration or finding of suitability or application therefor upon the same grounds as it may take such action with respect to licenses, licensees and licensing; without exclusion of any other grounds. The Commission may take such action on the grounds that the registrant or person found suitable is associated with, or controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with, an unsuitable person.

(Adopted: 9/73.)

3.090 Standards for Commission action.

1. No license, registration, finding of suitability, or approval shall be granted unless and until the applicant has satisfied the Commission that the applicant:

- (a) Is a person of good character, honesty, and integrity;
- (b) Is a person whose background, reputation and associations will not result in adverse publicity for the State of Nevada and its gaming industry; and
- (c) Has adequate business competence and experience for the role or position for which application is made.

2. No license, registration, finding of suitability, or approval shall be granted unless and until the applicant has satisfied the Commission that the proposed funding of the entire operation shall be (a) adequate for the nature of the proposed operation, and (b) from a suitable source. The suitability of the source of funds shall be determined by the standards enumerated in paragraph 1(a), (b) and (c) above.

(Adopted 10/75.)

3.093 Licensing of a natural person under the age of twenty-one. The Board and Commission will not ordinarily grant a state gaming license or finding of suitability to an individual under twenty-one years of age. This policy would not affect the licensing or finding of suitability of a trust where the settlor or beneficiary is under the age of twenty-one years.

(Adopted. 11/82.)

3.095 Property report. [Repealed: 7/92.]

3.100 Employee report. [Repealed: 9/23.]

(Adopted: 7/76. Amended: 11/82; 9/91; 11/98; 5/00; 3/06; 11/10; 12/11; 11/13; 11/15; 10/19.)

3.110 Key employee.

1. Any executive, employee, or agent of a gaming licensee having the power to exercise a significant influence over decisions concerning any part of the operation of a gaming licensee is a key employee.

2. Whenever it is the judgment of at least 3 members of the Commission that the public interest and the policies set forth in Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 463, the Nevada Gaming Control Act, will be served by requiring any key employee to be licensed, the Commission shall serve notice of such determination upon the licensee. The Commission shall not be restricted by the title of the job performed but shall consider the functions and responsibilities of the person involved in making its decision as to key employee status. Grounds for requiring licensing of a key employee which are deemed to serve the public interest and the policies of the Nevada Gaming Control Act include but are not limited to the following:

(a) The key employee is new to the industry, to the particular gaming establishment, the position, or the level of influence or responsibility which the key employee has and the Board or Commission has little or outdated information concerning the key employee's character, background, reputation, or associations, or

(b) Information has been received by the Board or Commission which, if true, would constitute grounds for a finding of unsuitability to be associated with a gaming enterprise.

3. The licensee shall, within 30 days following receipt of the notice of the Commission's determination, present the application for licensing of the key employee to the Board or provide documentary evidence that such key employee is no longer employed by the licensee. Failure of the licensee to respond as required by this section shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action.

4. Any individual whose application for licensing as a key employee as required pursuant to this regulation may request the Commission in writing to review its determination of that individual's status within the gaming organization any time within 10 days following the filing of a completed application as required by this regulation. In the event the Commission determines that the applicant is not a key employee or that the public interest and policies of the Nevada Gaming Control Act do not require the licensing of the key employee at this time, then the key employee applicant shall be allowed to withdraw his or her application and he or she may continue in his or her employment. In no event shall the request of the key employee applicant for review stay the obligation of the licensee to present the key employee's application within the 30-day period herein proscribed.

(Adopted: 7/76. Amended: 5/77; 9/23.)

End – Regulation 3