

RULES AND REGULATIONS

TITLE 58. RECREATION

PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

[58 PA. CODE CHS 437 and 501]

PREAMBLE

The Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (Board), under authority contained in section 1202 of the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act of 2004 (act), has drafted temporary regulations to facilitate the prompt implementation of the act, enacted July 4, 2004 (H.B. 2330) (Act 71). Upon adoption of the regulations by the Board, the Board's temporary regulations will be added to 58 Pa. Code, Recreation, Part VII, Gaming Control Board. By publishing these temporary regulations in draft form, the Board seeks public comment prior to the adoption of the regulations.

Contact Person

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, suggestions or objections to the draft temporary regulations via United States mail to The Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, Office of Communications, P.O. Box 69060, Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060. The public comment period will end on Friday, June 17, 2005.

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SUBPART B. LICENSING

CHAPTER 437. SLOT MACHINE LICENSES

§ 437.1. Definitions.

For purposes of this subpart, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this section.

“Applicant.” A person who applies to the Board to receive a slot machine license as defined in this section.

“Organization.” A legal business entity that shall include any legal business entity, including, but not limited to, affiliates, subsidiaries, intermediaries and holding companies that are under common ownership and control.

“Slot machine license.” For purposes of this chapter, the term shall include a Category 1 slot machine license under section 1302 of the act, a conditional Category 1 slot machine license under section 1314 of the act, a Category 2 slot machine license under section 1304 of the act and a Category 3 slot machine license under section 1305 of the act.

§ 437.2. Initial Slot Machine Application Deadlines.

(a) In order to enable the Board to consider all initial applications for every category of slot machine license together in a comprehensive statewide manner, the

Board shall initiate the formal procedure for the acceptance, consideration and final resolution of all initial applications for slot machine licenses by setting a filing date for filing of all initial Category I, II and III slot machine license applications. The filing date set by the Board shall be the same for all categories of slot machine licenses and shall be published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin at least one month prior to the filing date.

(b) After all initial applications for slot machine licenses have been filed, the Board shall set a second filing date by which all filed applications are to be deemed complete by the Board. Any application that is not deemed complete by the Board by the filing date shall not be considered. The filing date set by the Board shall be the same for all categories of slot machine licenses and shall be published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin at least one month prior to the filing date.

(c) Subparagraphs (a) and (b) shall not apply to conditional slot machine license applications filed pursuant to Section 1315.

§ 437.3. Slot machine license requirements.

(a) The Board shall issue an order establishing a deadline for the filing of all initial Category 1, Category 2 and Category 3 slot machine license applications and a

deadline by which all filed applications shall be deemed complete by the Board. The filing date shall be the same for all categories of slot machine licenses. The filing date shall be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* at least 1 month prior to the filing deadline. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a conditional Category 1 license under section 437.12.

(b) An applicant for or holder of a slot machine license shall have a continuing duty to do the following:

(1) Notify the Board within 30 days of a material change in the information, materials, documents or facts relating to the license application, license, or renewal application.

(2) Provide information required by the Board or the Bureau relating to licensing.

(3) Cooperate with the Board and the Bureau in investigations, hearings, enforcement and disciplinary actions.

(4) Comply with all conditions, restrictions, requirements, orders and determinations made by the Board in accordance with the act.

(c) Failure to provide the information under this section, sections 437.4, 437.5 and 437.6, shall result in an application being deemed incomplete.

(d) A copy of the local impact report required under section 437.4(21) shall be provided to each political subdivision in which the licensed facility will be located at least 7 days prior to the filing of the application for a slot machine license. The applicant shall file a proof of service with the Board.

§ 437.4. Slot machine license application.

In order to be eligible for a slot machine license, an applicant shall submit an application which includes the following:

(1) An original and seven copies of the slot machine license application and Disclosure Information Form.

(2) The name, address, fingerprints, photograph, handwriting exemplar and criminal history background information for the applicant, its key employee qualifiers and key employees and their current or proposed position and responsibilities within the applicant's business structure.

(3) A license application for each key employee qualifier and key employee under chapter 435, including an original and one copy of the Multi-Jurisdictional Personal History Disclosure Form, the Pennsylvania Supplement and a nonrefundable background investigation deposit of \$5,000

pursuant to section 1208(1)(iii) of the act for each key employee qualifier and each key employee. An additional charge may be assessed upon the applicant by the Board based on the actual expenses incurred in order to conduct the background investigation required by the act.

(4) An executed consent form for the Board and the Bureau to conduct background investigations for the applicant and each key employee qualifier and key employee and notarized releases necessary to obtain information from government agencies and other institutions.

(5) A diversity plan as set forth in section 1325(b) of the act and Chapter 481, or an affidavit signed by the applicant's chief executive officer that a diversity plan will be submitted within 30 days of the submission of the application. The plan shall be signed by the chief executive officer of the applicant.

(6) The proposed location of slot machines at the facility.

(7) The number of slot machines requested, consistent with section 1210 and section 1305(c) of the act.

(8) If applicable, copies of all filings required by the Securities and Exchange Commission, including all annual and current reports filed with the

United States Securities and Exchange Commission under section 13 or section 15(d) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C.A. section 78(m) and section 780-6) and all proxy statements issued by the applicant during the two immediately preceding fiscal years.

(9) Executed consent forms to allow inspections, searches and seizures and the examination of accounts and records.

(10) An executed waiver of liability for damages as required under section 421.1(e).

(11) A sworn or affirmed statement by the applicant, its key employee qualifiers and its affiliates, subsidiaries, intermediaries and holding companies confirming that they do not hold a direct or indirect ownership interest in a supplier applicant or licensee and that they do not employ a key employee qualifier or key employee of a supplier applicant or licensee.

(12) A current tax clearance review from the Department.

(13) A current unemployment compensation tax clearance certificate and a workers' compensation tax clearance certificate from the Department of Labor and Industry.

(14) The details of any gaming, slot machine or casino license applied for by, or granted or denied to, the applicant or an affiliate, intermediary, subsidiary or holding company in any other jurisdiction and an executed consent for the Board to acquire copies of applications, licenses and related information from the other jurisdiction.

(15) The details of any existing, unpaid loans from a financial institution or other source, or any loans or financing arrangements to be entered into in connection with the applicant's proposed facility.

(16) Marketing plans and proposals.

(17) The location and description of the facility and a description of the proximity of the facility to its market service area.

(18) Architectural drawings, artist renderings, plans and other depictions of the facility to be licensed.

(19) The square footage of area that will be used for the placement of slot machines and the square footage of the areas that will not be used for the placement of slot machines.

(20) Planned retail and food venues for the facility and the identification of the operators of each venue.

(21) A local impact report, engineering reports, and traffic studies, including details of any adverse impact on transportation, transit access, water and sewer systems or other municipal service or resource. Local impact reports and other studies and reports shall clearly indicate all information in the study or report that the applicant considers confidential.

(22) A description of proposed parking facilities and number of spaces.

(23) Land acquisition costs.

(24) A compulsive or problem gambling plan.

(25) If a temporary facility is to be licensed, a plan for how the licensee will transition to a permanent facility, including a date for the completion of the permanent facility.

(26) A sworn or affirmed statement that the applicant has developed and implemented internal safeguard and policies to prevent a violation of section 1513 of the act.

(27) Except as provided in section 437.12(b)(12), a bond or letter of credit required under section 437.13.

(28) The history and success of the applicant in developing tourism facilities ancillary to gaming development if applicable.

(29) The degree to which the applicant's proposal will likely lead to the creation of quality, living wage jobs and full-time permanent jobs for residents of the Commonwealth and residents of the host political subdivision. The projected number of new jobs to be created if the license is granted, to include the projected number of new employees at the licensed facility.

(30) The record of the applicant and its developer in meeting commitments to local agencies, community-based organizations and employees in other locations.

(31) The degree to which potential adverse effects related to the proposed facility, including costs of meeting the increased demand for public health care, child care, public transportation, affordable housing and social services, will be mitigated.

(32) The record of the applicant and its developer regarding compliance with:

(i) Federal, State and local discrimination, wage and hour, disability and occupational and environmental health and safety laws; and

(ii) State and local labor relations and employment laws.

(33) The applicant's record in dealing with its employees and their representatives at other locations.

(34) Any other information required by the Board.

§ 437.5. Financial fitness requirements.

(a) An applicant for a slot machine license shall prove by clear and convincing evidence that the financial stability and integrity of the applicant and its affiliates, intermediaries, subsidiaries and holding companies in accordance with section 1313 of the act (relating to Slot Machine License Application Financial Fitness Requirements).

(b) The Board shall not approve a slot machine license application unless it has made an affirmative determination that the applicant has established it is likely to maintain a financially successful, viable and efficient business operation and will likely be able to maintain a steady level and growth of revenue to the Commonwealth.

(c) An applicant for a slot machine license shall provide the following to the Board:

(1) An executed authorization for the Board to examine all bank accounts and records as necessary.

(2) The organization, including a chart outlining the organizational structure, and the financial

structure and nature of all businesses owned or operated by the applicant and its affiliates, intermediaries, subsidiaries or holding companies, including the name, employment history and criminal history record of each key employee qualifier and key employee of each business owned or operated by the applicant and its affiliates, intermediaries, subsidiaries or holding companies.

(3) If the applicant is a corporation, the extent to which securities are held by all key employee qualifiers and their remuneration from salary, wages, fees and other sources.

(4) Bank references.

(5) Business income, disbursement schedules, accounting, check records and ledgers for the applicant and key employee qualifiers as applicable.

(6) The applicant's and each key employee qualifier's State and Federal tax returns and other reports filed with government agencies for the past 5 years.

(7) A list and description of all existing and proposed financial backers, as well as adequate information to allow the Board to determine the integrity of the financial backers as provided under section 1313(b) of the act. The Board may waive the requirement that it determine

the integrity of a financial backer for a banking or lending institution or an institutional investors.

(8) Demonstration of adequate financing for the proposed facility and terms of financing including payback period.

(9) Business and economic development plans and timetables.

(10) Projected debt service expenses.

(11) Projected EBITDA and Internal Rate of Return.

(12) Projected annual gross terminal revenue.

(13) Projected operating and capital expenses.

(14) Defined gaming market and projected visitation.

(15) Any additional documentation or information required by the Board.

§ 437.6. Character requirements.

(a) An applicant for a slot machine license shall prove by clear and convincing evidence the good character, honesty and integrity of the applicant and its affiliates, intermediaries, subsidiaries and holding companies in accordance with section 1310 of the act (relating to Slot Machine License Application Character Requirements).

(b) Prior to approval of a slot machine license, the Board shall make a finding relating to the applicant's good character, honesty and integrity.

(c) The applicant shall provide the following to the Board:

(1) Information, documentation and assurances pertaining to family and personal background, habits, character, reputation, business activities, financial affairs and business, professional and personal associates for the ten years immediately preceding the filing date of the application for the applicant, its key employee qualifiers and key employees, to include the information required under section 435.2(b) as well as the following:

(i) Contact information for prior employers.

(ii) Education history.

(iii) Family and marital history, including any current court orders relating to alimony, spousal support or child support.

(iv) Credit history.

(v) History of insurance claims relating to the business activities of the applicant or its affiliate, intermediary, subsidiary or holding company.

(vi) Information relating to any health-related issues involving alcohol or controlled substances.

(vii) A list of at least five references, to include contact information for each.

(2) Notice of any civil judgment obtained against the applicant, and its key employee qualifiers or key employees pertaining to antitrust or security regulation of laws of the Federal government, the Commonwealth or other jurisdiction.

(3) A letter of reference from law enforcement agencies having jurisdiction in the applicant's and key employee qualifier's principal place of residence and place of business indicating that the agency does not have any pertinent information relating to the applicant and its key employee qualifiers. If the law enforcement agency has information pertaining to the applicant or key employee qualifier, the letter shall specify the details of the information. If no letters are received within 30 days of the request, the applicant or key employee qualifier may submit a sworn or affirmed statement that the applicant, or key employee qualifier is a citizen in good standing in his jurisdiction of residence and principal place of business.

(4) If the applicant has held a gaming license in any jurisdiction, a letter of reference from the gaming

or casino enforcement or regulatory agency in the other jurisdiction. The letter shall specify the experiences of the agency with the applicant, the applicant's associates and the applicant's gaming operation. If no letter is received within 30 days of request by the applicant, the applicant may submit a sworn or affirmed statement that the applicant's operation is in good standing with the regulatory agency.

(5) Any additional information required by the Board.

§ 437.7. Procedure.

(a) If the Board determines that the applicant has proven by clear and convincing evidence that it has the financial stability, integrity and responsibility and is of good character, honesty and integrity, it may issue a slot machine license under this chapter.

(b) The Bureau may file an objection with the Board to the issuance of a license under this chapter if the Bureau determines that the applicant, a key employee qualifier, key employee or other employee or associate of the applicant, fails to meet the requirements of this chapter regarding financial fitness and character requirements.

(1) The Board shall review the information contained in the objection by the Bureau and determine if the information warrants the denial of an application, divestiture under section 437.8 or the imposition by the Board of conditions upon a license which establish the applicant's financial fitness and character as required by the Board.

(2) The Board may direct an applicant to disassociate itself with any employee or associate objected to by the Board or the Bureau, order divestiture under section 1312 of the act or to otherwise cure any defect that will enable the applicant to meet the financial fitness or character requirements of the act.

§ 437.8. Divestiture.

(a) If the Board determines that a slot machine license cannot be approved because the applicant, its key employee qualifier or other person who holds a direct or indirect interest in the applicant or in an affiliate, intermediary, subsidiary or holding company of the applicant, does not meet a character or other eligibility criteria required by section 1310 of the act, the Board may grant the person 120 days following the determination to completely divest his interest in the applicant or its affiliate, intermediary, subsidiary or holding company.

(b) The person shall notify the Board of his intention to divest within 30 days of notice from the Board of the opportunity to divest. The Board may extend such time period at its discretion.

(c) Failure to divest within 120 days, or within the time period prescribed by the Board, shall constitute a per se disqualification of the applicant to receive a slot machine license.

(d) Following divestiture, the Board shall reconsider the applicant's suitability for licensure in an expedited procedure.

(e) The terms of divestiture shall be approved by the Board.

(f) The Board shall not approve a divestiture if the compensation received for the divested interest exceeds the value of the interest.

§ 437.9. Category 1 slot machine licenses.

(a) In order to be eligible to receive a Category 1 slot machine license, an applicant must submit the following:

(1) A statement detailing the applicant's regulatory history as a licensed racing entity under the jurisdiction of the State Horse Racing Commission or State Harness Racing Commission, including the applicant's

history of suitability and compliance with the Race Horse Industry Reform Act in the operation of the race track and nonprimary locations and the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering.

(2) A verification from the Horse Racing Commission or the Harness Racing Commission stating that the applicant has satisfied the license eligibility requirements under section 1302 of the act (relating to Category 1 Slot Machine License).

(3) A verification from the Horse Racing Commission or the Harness Racing Commission stating that the applicant has satisfied the live racing requirements under section 1303 of the act.

(4) A detailed plan for the management and use of backside area improvement and maintenance accounts under section 1404 of the act (relating to distribution from licensee's revenue receipts).

(5) A detailed plan for the management of accounts created from funds allocated under section 1406 of the act (relating to distributions from Pennsylvania Race Horse Development Fund).

(b) The Horse Racing Commission or the Harness Racing Commission may submit additional information to the Board if the commission believes it will assist the Board in

making a determination relating to the operational, financial or character fitness of the applicant.

(c) The Board may issue a Category 1 slot machine license if it determines that the applicant has complied with the requirements of this section and has proven by clear and convincing evidence that it has the financial stability and integrity and the good character, honesty, integrity and responsibility to qualify for a slot machine license.

(d) An applicant for a conditional Category 1 license who has paid the fee under section 437.4(3) as part of its conditional license application shall only pay the additional costs of updating background information as required by the Board.

(e) Any and all information deemed necessary by the Board to determine the operational viability, financial fitness or character of the applicant.

§ 437.10. Responsibilities of licensed organizations.

If a Category 1 license is issued to a legal business entity in an organization, all requirements, duties and obligations imposed by these regulations or the act on a licensed racing entity or a licensed racetrack shall be deemed to be requirements imposed on the organization. In the event that more than one licensed racing entity, on the

effective date of the act, was conducting a racing meet at the same licensed racetrack where an organization has been issued a Category 1 slot machine license, the provisions of Section 1303 of the act (relating to Additional Category 1 slot machine license requirements) shall apply to each licensed racing entity at that licensed racetrack. If a Category 1 license is issued to a legal business entity in an organization, the organization shall be responsible for ensuring that distributions received from the Race Horse Development Fund pursuant to Section 1406 (relating to Distributions from the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development Fund) are properly allocated in accordance with the requirements of Section 1406(a)(1).

§ 437.11. Alternative Category 1 licensing standards.

(a) If an applicant for a Category 1 license, or its affiliate, intermediary, subsidiary or holding company holds a similar license in another jurisdiction in the United States or Canada, the applicant may submit a written request with its application for the Board to adopt an abbreviated licensing process under section 1314(b) of the act to review a Category 1 license application.

(b) The Board may use the abbreviated process if:

(1) The Board determines, after investigation, that the licensing standards in the other jurisdiction in

which the applicant or its affiliate, intermediary, subsidiary or holding company is licensed is similarly comprehensive, thorough and provides safeguards that are equal to or greater than those provided in the act and granting the request would be in the public interest.

(2) A completed application for a Category 1 license has been filed with the Board which includes the name and address of the regulatory agency in the other jurisdiction.

(3) The Board has received a copy of the completed application and all renewal applications filed in the other jurisdiction and all accompanying documents provided by the jurisdiction.

(4) The applicant has provided current, updated information to the Board regarding the license in the jurisdiction relating to its financial viability and suitability and good character.

(5) The applicant has no administrative or enforcement actions pending in any other jurisdiction or the applicant has adequately disclosed and satisfactorily explained the action to the satisfaction of the Board.

(6) There are no pending or ongoing investigations of possible material violations by the applicant in any other jurisdiction or the applicant has

adequately disclosed and satisfactorily explained the investigation to the satisfaction of the Board.

(c) The abbreviated process shall not be construed to waive fees associated with obtaining a Category 1 license.

(d) The Board may determine to use an alternate, abbreviated process requiring only that information determined by the Board to be necessary to consider the issuance of the license, including the financial viability of the applicant.

(e) Following the issuance of a Category 1 license under this section, the Board shall conduct a complete review of all information submitted under sections 437.4, 437.5 and 437.6 and this section. If the Board determines that the applicant does not meet the financial suitability and character requirements of the act, the Board shall revoke the license or suspend or condition the license until the applicant meets all the requirements of the act.

§ 437.12. Conditional Category 1 license.

(a) A person who is eligible for a Category 1 license may apply for a conditional Category 1 license.

(b) An application for a conditional Category 1 license shall include the following information:

(1) A statement detailing the applicant's regulatory history as a licensed racing entity under the

jurisdiction of the State Horse Racing Commission or State Harness Racing Commission, including the applicant's history of suitability and compliance with the Race Horse Industry Reform Act in the operation of the racetrack and any nonprimary locations and the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering.

(2) A verification from the Horse Racing Commission or the Harness Racing Commission stating that the applicant has satisfied the license eligibility requirements under section 1302 of the act (relating to Category 1 Slot Machine License).

(3) A verification from the Horse Racing Commission or the Harness Racing Commission stating that the applicant has satisfied the live racing requirements under section 1303 of the act.

(4) A copy of the applicant's audited financial statements for the last five years.

(5) A chart disclosing the organizational structure of the applicant and identifying the affiliate, intermediary, subsidiary or holding company, if any, that will operate the slot machine facility under a conditional Category 1 license.

(6) A statement identifying and providing the required licensing information under section 435.2 and

435.3 for all key employee qualifiers and key employees who will conduct slot machine operations under the conditional license.

(7) An original and one copy of the Multi-Jurisdictional Disclosure Form for each key employee qualifier and key employee and a consent form from each of these individuals authorizing the Board to conduct a background investigation and a release signed by each key employee qualifier and key employee identified under paragraph (4) of all information required to complete the investigation.

(8) A detailed statement that includes the following:

(i) The location of the proposed slot machine facility.

(ii) The detailed plans for the slot machine facility to be operated under the conditional license, including architectural and engineering plans.

(iii) The number of machines which the applicant plans to operate.

(iv) A description of how the slot machine operations under the conditional license will enhance the applicant's horse racing operations.

(v) The estimated capital expenditure, including the cost of purchasing slot machines, for the applicant's proposed facility under the conditional license.

(9) A current tax clearance review performed by the Department.

(10) A current unemployment compensation tax clearance certificate and a workers' compensation tax clearance certificate from the Department of Labor and Industry.

(11) Detailed information pertaining to any gaming, slot machine or casino license held or denied in any other jurisdiction and an executed consent form authorizing the Board to obtain documents and information relating to gaming operations in the other jurisdiction.

(12) The application bond or letter of credit required under section 437.13. The Board may waive the requirement if the applicant provides adequate documentation regarding its ability to pay the \$50,000,000 licensing fee upon issuance of a conditional Category 1 license.

(13) A sworn or affirmed statement that the applicant, its key employee qualifiers and key employees

have not been convicted of a felony or a gambling offense in any jurisdiction within the past 15 years.

(c) An application submitted under subsection (a) and all information obtained by the Board or the Bureau relating to the application shall be part of the evidentiary record of the licensing proceeding. All information obtained, including background investigation information and documents and information from other jurisdictions shall be served on the applicant. The Board's decision to issue or deny a conditional Category 1 license shall be based solely on the evidentiary record before the Board.

(d) The Board shall consider and evaluate the applicant's record with the State Horse Racing Commission or the State Harness Racing Commission for operating a racetrack and any nonprimary location and conducting pari-mutuel wagering as a factor in its deliberations relating to the issuance of a conditional license.

(e) In no case shall the Board issue a conditional Category 1 license:

(1) Until ninety days following the Board's initial approval, conditioning or denial of all filed applications for manufacturer and supplier licenses.

(2) Until the applicant's application for a Category 1 license under section 1302 has been filed and deemed complete by the Board.

(3) Until a filing date has been established by the Board for applications for all categories of slot machine licenses under section 437.2.

(f) If the holder of a conditional Category 1 license does not receive Board approval for a Category 1 license within 18 months of the deadline established by the Board for the submission of all completed applications under section 1301 of the act (relating to authorized slot machine licenses), the conditional Category 1 license shall be forfeited and the authorization to place and operate slot machines at the licensed facility shall be revoked.

(g) If a conditional Category 1 license expires without the issuance of a license or if an application for a license is denied, the applicant shall be entitled to a return of 85% of the conditional slot machine license fee submitted with the application.

§ 437.13. Application bond or letter of credit requirement.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in section 437.12 (relating to conditional category license), an application for a slot machine license shall include an original payment bond or an original irrevocable letter of credit

that includes a draw certificate, at the applicant's option, guaranteeing the applicant's payment of the slot machine license fee required by section 1209(c) of the act (relating to slot machine license fee), if the license is issued and approved. The payment bond or irrevocable letter of credit shall be submitted and approved by the Board before the application may be deemed complete. The payment bond or irrevocable letter of credit shall be in the following amounts:

(1) \$50,000,000 for each application for a Category 1 or Category 2 license.

(2) \$5,000,000 for each application for a Category 3 license.

It shall not be necessary for an applicant who has paid the \$50,000,000 slot machine license fee upon the issuance of a conditional Category 1 license under section 437.12 to post an additional payment bond or letter of credit in connection with its application for a Category 1 license if the application involves the same applicant at the same licensed facility.

(b) Unless otherwise required by the Board, a bond or letter of credit provided under this section shall comply with the following:

(1) A bond must be issued by a surety company that is licensed by the Insurance Department of the Commonwealth and guaranteed by a guarantor that is licensed by the Insurance Department of the Commonwealth.

(2) A letter or credit must be issued by a bank, trust company, national banking association or corporation subject to registration with the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 whose unsecured obligations or uncollateralized long term debt obligations have been assigned a rating within the two highest rating categories by Moody's and Standard & Poor's, or upon the discontinuance of Moody's or Standard & Poor's, by another nationally recognized rating service.

(c) An application shall not be deemed complete until the Board investigates and approves the proposed terms of the payment bond or letter of credit and the surety or financial institution that will issue the payment bond or irrevocable letter of credit.

(d) The payment bond or letter of credit provided under this section shall state that it is payable to "The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania" as the obligee for immediate payment of the slot machine license fee if the license has been approved and issued by the Board and the license fee

has not been paid in full within 5 business days following the issuance of the license.

(e) The bond or letter of credit shall state that it shall run continuously and remain in full force and effect throughout the period in which the application is on file with the Board and until the application is denied or all of the following occur:

- (1) The application approved.
- (2) The license is issued.
- (3) The license application fee is paid.

§ 437.14. Slot machine license issuance bond requirement.

(a) A licensed gaming entity shall post an original performance bond in the amount of \$1,000,000 upon the issuance of a slot machine license.

(b) Unless otherwise required by the Board, the bond shall comply with all of the following:

(1) The performance bond must be issued by a surety company licensed by the Insurance Department of the Commonwealth and guaranteed by a guarantor that is licensed by the Insurance Department of the Commonwealth.

(2) A licensing gaming entity shall submit its proposed performance bond to the Board prior to the issuance of a slot machine license. The Board shall investigate and approve the proposed terms of the bond and

the surety that will issue the bond and the guarantor that will guarantee the bond.

(3) The bond shall state that it is payable to "The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania" as the obligee for immediate payment of the licensed gaming entity's financial obligations to the Commonwealth under the act and as security to guarantee that the licensed gaming entity faithfully makes the payments, keeps its books and records, makes reports and conducts its operations in compliance with the act.

(4) The performance bond shall state that it shall run continuously and remain in full force and effect throughout the period of time that the slot machine license is in effect. The surety shall provide the Board no less than 30 days written notice of cancellation of the bond.

(c) The Board may demand that the slot machine licensee post a new bond upon the occurrence of any of the following:

(1) Liability on the existing bond is discharged or reduced by judgment rendered, payment made or similar occurrence.

(2) The Board determines that the surety or guarantor are no longer satisfactory.

(3) The licensed gaming entity requests the right to post a new bond.

(4) The Board receives notice that the bond will be cancelled.

§ 437.15. Political subdivision comment.

(a) Pursuant to section 1506 of the act, a political subdivision in which an applicant for a slot machine license has proposed to locate a licensed facility shall have at least 60 days from the receipt of the local input statement under section 437.4(21) to provide comment on the application and its potential impact on the political subdivision. Information provided in the local impact statement shall be included in the evidentiary record.

(b) The political subdivision may provide a written statement to the Board that it has reviewed the local impact report and waives its right to the comment period.

§ 437.16. Public input.

(a) If the Board determines that there is substantial public interest in a slot machine licensing proceeding, it shall conduct at least one public hearing in the municipality where the proposed facility is located in which slot machines will be placed and operated.

(b) The Board shall develop and publish a protocol establishing the procedure to be used in the conduct of a public hearing under this section.

SUBPART H. COMPULSIVE AND PROBLEM GAMBLING

CHAPTER 501. COMPULSIVE AND PROBLEM GAMBLING REQUIREMENTS

§ 501.1. Definitions.

For purposes of this subpart, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this section.

"Qualified treatment professional." A mental health or behavioral health professional who has produced documentation of the training, experience and competency, including a license or certification in good standing if required by the Commonwealth, necessary to treat compulsive and problem gambling. The term shall include community based organizations such as gamblers anonymous.

§ 501.2. Compulsive and problem gambling plan.

A slot machine licensee must submit a compulsive and problem gambling plan to the Board within 90 days of issuance of a slot machine license. The plan shall meet the minimum standards set forth in this subpart. The maintenance of the plan approved under this subpart shall be a condition of license renewal.

§ 501.3. Criteria for development.

(a) A compulsive and problem gambling plan shall include the following:

(1) The goals of the plan and procedure and timetables to implement the plan.

(2) The identification of the individual who will be responsible for the implementation and maintenance of the plan under this subpart.

(3) Policies and procedures including the following:

(i) The commitment of the licensee to train appropriate employees.

(ii) The duties and responsibilities of the key employees and gaming employees designated to implement or participate in the plan.

(iii) The responsibility of patrons with respect to responsible gambling.

(iv) Procedures to identify patrons and employees with suspected or known compulsive and problem gambling behavior.

(v) Referral of individuals self excluded from gaming activities under section 1516 of the act to qualified treatment professionals, including mental health,

behavioral health and other professions and to community compulsive gambling organizations.

(vi) Referral of suspected or known compulsive and problem gamblers to qualified treatment professionals. The provisions of this subsection shall not create a duty for licensed facilities or its employees to refer compulsive and problem gamblers to qualified treatment professionals.

(4) The provision of printed material to educate patrons about compulsive and problem gamblers and gambling and to inform them about treatment services available to compulsive and problem gamblers and their families. The slot machine licensee shall provide examples of the materials to be used as part of its plan, including signs, brochures and other printed material and a description of how the material will be disseminated.

(5) An employee training program, including training materials to be utilized and a plan for periodic reinforcement training.

(6) A certification of an employee's completion of the training required by the plan in a form approved by the Board.

(7) An estimation of the cost of development, implementation and administration of the plan.

(8) The qualified treatment professional and community organizations to which compulsive and problem gamblers will be referred.

(9) Procedures to prevent underage gambling.

(10) If the plan includes an outreach program, the details of the program.

(11) Other policies and procedures to encourage responsible gambling.

(b) Department of Health. The Board may provide the plan submitted by the slot machine licensee to the Department of Health for evaluation. The Department of Health may provide comments and recommendations to the Board relating to the plan.

§ 501.4. Employee training program.

(a) A plan submitted under this subpart shall include an employee training program, to include instruction in the following:

(1) Characteristics and symptoms of compulsive behavior, including compulsive and problem gambling.

(2) The relationship of compulsive and problem gambling to other addictive behavior.

(3) The social and economic consequences of compulsive and problem gambling, including debt, treatment

costs, suicide, criminal behavior, unemployment and family counseling.

(4) Identification of vulnerable groups, including low-income individuals, the elderly, the unemployed, and individuals who abuse drugs or alcohol.

(5) Intervention techniques to be used when compulsive and problem gambling problem is suspected or identified.

(6) Techniques to be used to discuss compulsive and problem gambling with patrons and to refer and advise patrons regarding community, public and private treatment services.

(b) New employee training shall be conducted by qualified treatment professionals within timetables approved by the Board for the completion of training.

(c) Key employees and gaming employees designated to receive training shall receive the certification form under subsection (a)(6) upon completion of the training.

(d) Key employees and gaming employees who are required to receive training under the plan shall receive periodic reinforcement training, which shall be reported in a manner prescribed by the Board.

(e) A key employee or gaming employee may report suspected or identified compulsive or problem gamblers to a

designated key employee or other supervisory employee. The employee who makes a report under this subsection shall be immune from liability under section 501.7.

(f) The identity of an individual suspected of known compulsive or problem gambling shall be confidential except as provided under this subpart and section 1516(d) of the act.

(g) Slot machine licensees may collaborate with qualified treatment professionals to develop an Internet based employee training program to provide the training and reinforcement training in accordance with this subpart. The use of the Internet based program must be approved by the Board prior to the use of the program to meet the requirements of this subsection.

(h) If the plan submitted under this subpart meets the minimum requirements of this subpart, the Board shall approve the plan. The Board shall approve or disapprove the plan within 90 days of its submission. If the Board disapproves of the plan, the applicant shall have 30 days to make the changes requested by the Board and to resubmit the plan to meet the minimum requirements set forth in this subpart.

§ 501.5. Reports.

A slot machine licensee shall submit an annual summary of its compulsive and problem gambling plan with its application for renewal of the slot machine license.

§ 501.6. Liability.

A licensed gaming entity or an employee thereof shall not be liable for damages in any civil action, which is based on the following:

(1) Failure to include any of the requirements of this section in its compulsive and problem gambling plan under this section.

(2) Compliance or noncompliance with this section or a plan adopted under this section.

(3) An action or failure to take action pursuant to this section or a plan adopted under this section.

(4) Failure to withhold gambling privileges from an individual.

(5) Permitting an individual to gamble.