



[Social & Charitable Gambling](#)

NOTICE: *The DIA website is available only for filing an online annual gambling report. If you want to apply for a social or charitable gambling license, you will need to fill out a paper application. Please download the appropriate application located in the drop-down areas below and mail the completed packet including payment to our office.*

You may obtain a paper copy of the annual gambling report by contacting our office either by phone at [515.281.6848](tel:515.281.6848) or by email at scg@dia.iowa.gov. This report is due on Jan. 31 each year and covers the previous calendar year. A notice is mailed in early January each year to all nonprofit organizations that had a license at any point during the reporting period. The notice includes instructions on where and how to complete the annual report.

The Social and Charitable Gambling Unit administers [Iowa Code Chapter 99B](#), which regulates games of skill or chance, raffles, bingo, social gambling and amusement devices. Qualified organizations may obtain a social or charitable gambling license to conduct fund-raising activities benefiting educational, civic, public, charitable, patriotic, or religious purposes.

Sales Tax Information

Gambling receipts are subject to Iowa sales tax, even for nonprofit organizations. All taxes are payable to the Iowa Department of Revenue, and should not be submitted to DIA. More information about taxes on gambling receipts can be found on the [Iowa Department of Revenue website](#).

Types of Gambling Licenses

Charitable Gambling

In order to conduct charitable gambling activities, a nonprofit organization will first need to obtain a Charitable Gambling License. The Charitable Gambling License applications describe the various types of gambling activity that are permitted by the licensees. The only gambling activities authorized under these licenses are bingo, raffles, and games of skill and chance.

A license must be issued by DIA before gambling takes place, including the promotion and sale of tickets. Applications should be received by DIA **at least** 30 days prior to the intended start of activity.

The type of license you need will depend on the period of time for which you plan to conduct gambling activity in your organization.

- [Qualified Organization License, 14-Day](#) (\$15)
- [Qualified Organization License, 90-Day](#) (\$40)
- [Qualified Organization License, 180-Day](#) (\$75)
- [Qualified Organization License, One-Year](#) (\$150)
- [Qualified Organization License, Two-Year](#) (\$150)
- [Bingo at a Fair or Festival License](#) (\$50)
- [Very Large Raffle License](#) (\$100)

License Type/Gambling Activity Permitted	Two-Year Qualified	One-Year Qualified Organization	180-Day Qualified Organization	90-Day Qualified Organization	14-Day Qualified Organization	Bingo at a Fair or Festival
	*					
Bingo	Three occasions per week/15 occasions per month	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Two total occasions	One occasion per day for length of event
Games of Skill & Chance	Unlimited carnival-style games	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Unlimited carnival-style games	Not allowed
Game Night	One per calendar year	One per calendar year	One per calendar year	One per calendar year	One per calendar year	Not allowed
Very Small/ Small Raffles	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Not allowed
Large Raffles	One per calendar year	Eight per license period w/each raffle conducted in a different county	One per calendar year	One per calendar year	One per calendar year	Not allowed

License Type/Gambling Activity Permitted	Two-Year Qualified	One-Year Qualified Organization	180-Day Qualified Organization	90-Day Qualified Organization	14-Day Qualified Organization	Bingo at a Fair or Festival
	*					
Very Large Raffles**	One per calendar year w/additional Very Large Raffle License	One per calendar year w/additional Very Large Raffle License	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed
Electronic Raffles	One small raffle per day; One large raffle per calendar year	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed

*An organization requesting a Two-Year Qualified Organization License must have been in existence for at least five years.

**In addition to a One-Year or Two-Year Qualified Organization License, organizations wishing to conduct a Very Large Raffle will need to complete a separate Very Large Raffle License Application.

Definitions

- Bingo Conducted at a Fair or Community Festival** – License that allows bingo to be conducted for the duration of a fair or community festival of no more than six consecutive days in length held by a community group. Bingo occasions held under this license shall not be counted in determining whether a qualified organization has conducted the maximum three occasions per week or 15 occasions per month.
- Community Festival** – A festival of no more than six consecutive days in length held by a community group.
- Community Group** – An Iowa nonprofit, tax-exempt organization which is open to the general public and established for the promotion and development of the arts, history, culture, ethnicity, historical preservation, tourism, economic development, festivals or municipal libraries. “Community group” does not include a school, college, university, political party, labor union, fraternal organization, church, convention or association of churches or organizations operated primarily for religious purposes, or which are operated, supervised, controlled or principally supported by a church, convention or association of churches.
- Games of Skill and Chance** – Includes but not limited to carnival-style games. They do not include casino-style games (See Game Night).
- Game Night** – An event at which casino-style games may be conducted, in addition to games of skill and games of chance, within one consecutive 24-hour period.
- Raffle** – A lottery in which each participant buys an entry for a chance at a prize with the winner determined by a random method and the winner is not required to be present to win. For raffles, the license duration must include your advertising, ticket sales, and drawing of the

winner(s). A combination of licenses may be used to obtain the requested length of time.

7. **Very Small Raffle** – A raffle where the total value of cash and/or merchandise prizes is \$1,000 or less and the value of all entries sold is \$1,000 or less, or the total value of donated merchandise prizes is \$5,000 or less and the value of all entries sold is \$5,000 or less.
8. **Small Raffle** – A raffle where the total value of cash and/or prizes is more than \$1,000 but not more than \$10,000.
9. **Large Raffle** – A raffle where the total value of cash and/or prizes is more than \$10,000 but not more than \$100,000.
10. **Very Large Raffle** – A raffle where the total value of cash and/or prizes is more than \$100,000 but not more than \$200,000 or if the prize is real property.

Social Gambling

Social Gambling License for Beer and Liquor Establishments

Authorizes small stakes card and parlor games **between individuals** (i.e., euchre, hearts, pitch, pinochle, gin rummy, poker, cribbage, pepper, darts, and billiards). **Additionally, this license allows the establishment to conduct sports betting pools.**

A license must be issued by DIA before gambling takes place, including the promotion. Applications should be received by DIA **at least** 30 days prior to the intended start of activity.

- **License duration:** Two years
- **Cost:** \$150

Access the [Social Gambling License Application](#).

Social Gambling License for Public Place, No Alcohol Allowed

Authorizes patrons to socially gamble amongst themselves in the licensed establishment on small stakes card and parlor games (i.e., euchre, hearts, pitch, pinochle, gin rummy, poker, cribbage, pepper, darts, and billiards). **This license does not allow sports betting pools.**

A license must be issued by DIA before gambling takes place, including the promotion. Applications should be received by DIA **at least** 30 days prior to the intended start of activity.

- **License duration:** Two years
- **Cost:** \$100

The following activities are **NOT permissible** under this license:

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- Raffles
 - Bingo
 - Poker tournaments
 - Poker runs
 - Roll-of-the-day
 - Bookmaking
 - Casino-style games other than poker

Access the [Social Gambling License Application](#).

Sports Betting Pools

Iowa Code section 99B.6(7) permits the **those with a two-year Social Gambling License for Beer and Liquor Establishments** (see tab above) to conduct a sports betting pool under certain circumstances. There is no additional cost to conduct a sports-betting pool.

- [Guidelines to Iowa sports betting pools](#)
- [NCAA tournament brackets](#)

[Contact us](#) with questions.

Amusement Concessions

"Amusement concession" means a game of skill or game of chance with an instant win possibility where, if the participant completes a task, the participant wins a prize. "Amusement concession" includes but is not limited to carnival-style games that are conducted by a person for profit. "Amusement concession" **does not** include casino-style games or amusement devices required to be registered pursuant to section 99B.53.

Games may only be conducted after a license has been issued by DIA. Applications should be received by DIA **at least** 30 days prior to the intended start of activity.

- **License duration:** One year
- **Cost:** \$50 per game

View or download the [Amusement Concession License Application](#).

Image



Bingo/Electronic Raffle Manufacturer or Distributor

"Manufacturer or distributor" means a person engaged in business in Iowa who originally produces, or purchases from a business that originally produces, equipment or supplies which are specifically used in the conduct of a bingo occasion or an electronic raffle.

A license must be issued by DIA before any distribution begins. Applications should be received by DIA **at least** 30 days prior to the intended start of activity.

- **License duration:** One year
- **Cost:** \$1,000

View or download the [Bingo/Electronic Raffle Manufacturer or Distributor License Application](#).

Bingo Manufacturers and Distributors Licensed in Iowa

All American Bingo, Inc. 12947 A. Gravois Road Sunset Hills, Missouri 63127 800.752.4675	Arrow International, Inc. 9900 Clinton Road Brooklyn, Ohio 44144 216.961.3500	Ayers Distributing, Inc. 13434 Millard Ave. Omaha, Nebraska 68137 402.551.0190	Doolin Amusement Supply Co. 511 North Halstead Street Chicago, Illinois 60642 312.243.9424
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Integrity Bingo, LLC. 504 34th Avenue Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501 712.266.9553	Pollard Games, Inc. 140 Otter Street Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 0M8 Canada 204.474.2323	VKGS, LLC. 1045 North 115th Street, Suite 200 Omaha, Nebraska 68154 402.951.2970
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Electronic Raffle Manufacturers and Distributors Licensed in Iowa

AscendFS Delaware, Inc.
700 - 1 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario M5E 1W7
Canada
[416.479.3873](tel:416.479.3873)

Iowa Code

- [Iowa Code Chapter 99B](#)

Administrative Rules

- [481 IAC 100](#), “Administration”
- [481 IAC 101](#), “Amusement Concessions”
- [481 IAC 103](#), “Bingo”
- [481 IAC 106](#), “Card Game Tournaments by Veterans Organizations”

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