

# Raffle

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 [lgcamb.ca/gaming/charitable-gaming/raffle/](https://lgcamb.ca/gaming/charitable-gaming/raffle/)

## **NOTICE: Cannabis Cannot be a Raffle Prize**

**We've updated our terms and conditions for raffle licensees. These now specify that cannabis cannot be given as a prize for licensed raffles. Please download the new raffle terms and conditions.**

A raffle is a lottery scheme where a prize(s) is awarded randomly to someone who has purchased a chance to win.

The most common types of raffles the LGCA licenses are:

**Regular raffle:** A predetermined number of tickets are printed and sold. Winners are chosen by pulling a ticket stub from the pool of all tickets sold.

**Player's choice raffle:** These are also called rainbow auctions. Players choose which draw they wish to participate in from displayed prizes (or prize packages) and place their tickets in the respective draw bag, bin, box or pail.

**Percentage payout raffle:** These are also called 50/50s. A number of tickets are sold and a predetermined percentage of sales is identified as the prize(s).

**Calendar raffle:** A predetermined number of tickets are printed and sold (usually on the back page of an actual calendar) and each ticket has a chance to win any number of times during a specified series of draws (e.g. daily, weekly or monthly). Calendar raffles can be for a portion of a year or for an entire year.

**Sport or event raffle:** Examples include Grey Cup or Super Bowl raffles. Tickets are produced with scores marked on each portion of the ticket. The winners are determined by matching the score in the game with the score on the ticket. Tickets are printed in a series containing all possible scores.

The LGCA licenses charitable and religious organizations to conduct raffles in accordance with Section 207(1)(b) of the *Criminal Code (Canada)*. If your organization has never been licensed, you must submit background information about your organization to determine your eligibility. You cannot advertise your raffle until your licence is approved.

Individuals groups or businesses that are not a charitable or religious organization and want to hold a one-time event at a venue such as a banquet hall, restaurant, bar or community centre are able to apply for a [social occasion raffle licence](#). This licence allows raffles such as 50/50s or player's choice raffles to be offered at the event.

All raffles must be licensed regardless of the nature and expected profits. Conducting a raffle without a licence is a criminal offence.

## Terms and Conditions

Organizations holding raffles must comply with the terms and conditions set by the LGCA.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Raffle

#### Electronic Raffle Systems

An electronic raffle system is computer software and related equipment used by raffle licensees to sell tickets, account for sales, determine winners through random selection, and to distribute prizes. Only charitable and religious organizations with a raffle licence or a community raffle licence are eligible to use an electronic raffle system.

To be approved to use an electronic raffle system, you must complete the application appendix below to provide information on how you propose to use the system for your raffle, and if the system is being supplied or developed in-house. If the electronic raffle system is being supplied, your supplier must be licensed by the LGCA. Also, the system you use must be tested by an accredited testing facility and approved by the LGCA.

#### Application Forms

The type of licence your organization must apply for is determined by the anticipated gross revenue of your raffle.

#### **For raffles with anticipated gross revenue of \$10,000 or less:**

- [GUIDE: Community raffle application guide](#)
- [GUIDE: Community raffle application guide for youth sports](#)
- [FORM: Community raffle application](#)
- [FORM: Appendix for electronic raffles](#)
- [FORM: Licence Amendment](#)

#### **For raffles with anticipated gross revenue of greater than \$10,000:**

- [GUIDE: Raffle application guide](#)
- [FORM: Raffle application](#)
- [FORM: Appendix for electronic raffles](#)
- [FORM: Licence Amendment](#)

#### Raffle Listing

[Click here for a current list of LGCA-licensed raffles.](#)

[Click here for information about pending raffle applications.](#)

These lists do not include ongoing raffles such as weekly 50/50 draws or community raffles with anticipated revenue of \$10,000 or less.

## Fees

There are no fees for raffles with anticipated gross revenue of \$10,000 or less.

For raffles with anticipated gross revenue over \$10,000, the licence fee is 1.5% of the actual gross revenue. The fee is due after the event, when you submit your financial reports. The LGCA will let you know your reporting requirements when your licence is issued.

- [Social Occasion Raffles](#)
- [Charitable Gaming](#)
  - [Charitable Financial Reporting](#)
  - [Raffle](#)
  - [Bingo and Breakopen](#)
  - [Media Bingo](#)
  - [Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament](#)
  - [Sports Draft](#)
  - [Calcutta Auction](#)
  - [Monte Carlo](#)
- [Lottery Ticket Retailers](#)
- [VLT Siteholders](#)
- [Gaming Employees](#)
- [Suppliers and Service Providers](#)
- [First Nations Gaming](#)
- [Municipalities](#)

## Questions?

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Click below for answers to some common questions about raffle licences. You can also contact us at 204-927-5300 or toll-free at 1-800-782-0363.

[Email the LGCA](#)

## Frequently Asked Questions

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My office holds a payday pool every second week. Do we need a licence?

All raffles must be licensed and only charitable or religious organizations are eligible to apply for gaming event licences. Businesses, offices and individuals do not qualify for a charitable gaming event licence regardless of the intended use of profits.

Can my business obtain a licence to hold a raffle and donate all the proceeds to charity?

Businesses and individuals do not qualify for raffle licences. Section 207(1)(b) of the *Criminal*

*Code (Canada)* states that you must be a charitable or religious organization to be licensed to conduct a lottery scheme, which includes raffles. The LGCA can license individuals and groups who are planning a one-time social event at a venue such as a banquet hall, restaurant, bar or community centre, and want to have a raffle such as a 50/50 or player's choice draw at the event. These draws are licensed under Section 207(1)(d) of the *Criminal Code (Canada)*. [Click here](#) to learn about social occasion raffles.

#### When is a licence not required for a draw?

A licence is not required if an organization is holding a free draw. Draws for door prizes do not require a licence if there is no charge or consideration to enter the draw. Consideration is when participants are required to make a donation or pay an entry fee to an event in order to enter a draw. The draw must be free and open to anyone who wishes to participate.

#### Is a silent auction considered a raffle?

A true silent auction, where participants voluntarily place written bids for a prize and only the highest bidder pays money for the prize, is not a raffle and does not require a licence.

#### Our organization is very small and we do not have the background documents requested in the raffle application. Can we still get a licence?

Yes, if your organization is a charitable or religious organization. The LGCA recognizes that smaller organizations may not have formal documentation. In these cases, minutes from meetings and/or letters of support from school principals, councilors, mayors/reeves, MLAs, MPs or religious leaders may be acceptable. These letters of support must state that your group is a bona fide organization, your aims and objectives, and the reasons for fundraising.

#### How can we use the money we raise through our raffle?

Funds raised through raffles must be used for education, religion, health, relieving poverty, or to benefit the community by promoting sports, recreation, culture, or any other area considered appropriate by the LGCA. Provide as much detail as possible on your application about how you intend to use the funds. Revenue generated from raffles cannot be used for anything that is considered personal gain.

#### What are the rules for advertising our raffle?

You cannot advertise your raffle until your licence is approved. Raffles can only be advertised in Manitoba. All advertisements must contain the name of the licensed organization and your licence number. If you are advertising on the internet, you must indicate that the event is intended for Manitoba residents only. Advertisements must adhere to all federal, provincial and community advertising laws and standards

#### If we are offering a prize such as a vehicle, is the prize taxable?

Generally, if you are offering a merchandise prize, the organization would pay applicable taxes when buying the prize. If you choose to leave this expense up to the winner of the prize, your ticket and rules must clearly state the exact costs that would be incurred to claim the prize.

#### Can we offer sellers' prizes?

Yes, sellers' prizes can be offered. Your application must specify what those will be.

#### Can we hold more than one raffle at a time?

Yes, organizations may be licensed to hold any number of raffles at the same time.

Can we apply for one licence to hold several raffles?

Yes. If you want to run ongoing draws (e.g. 50/50 draws every Friday) you would be issued a one-year licence that would cover all those specific draws. Organizations wanting to run several different types of raffles such as a 50/50 or players' choice throughout the year must apply for each licence individually.

Can we get a raffle licence elsewhere?

Organizations based in a rural community that want to operate a raffle may choose to apply to their municipal office, town office, local government district office or band office. These offices are authorized to issue licences to organizations based within their municipality, when the total prize value does not exceed \$3,000. Not all municipal offices issue licences. Check to see if this option is available for you. First Nations gaming commissions are also authorized to license charitable gaming events, including raffles, on reserve. If you plan on using an electronic raffle system, the LGCA must approve the system and the supplier must be licensed by the LGCA; municipalities and First Nations gaming commissions cannot approve electronic raffle systems. However, once your electronic raffle system is approved by the LGCA you can apply to municipalities or First Nations gaming commissions for a charitable raffle licence.