Community Gaming Grants – New Online System

What is happening

Community Gaming Grants is getting a new online grant system. Online applications for Program Grants, PAC & DPAC Grants and Capital Projects Grants will be refreshed and moved to a new platform.

The new system is being developed for use by several provincial grant programs. It is designed to enhance the applicant experience and combines existing government standards in form design and security.

The Gaming Online Service (GOS) will no longer be used for submitting applications for Community Gaming Grants, including PAC & DPAC Grants as well as Capital Projects Grants.
GOS will continue to be used by Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch (GPEB) and by the public for services such as applying for a gaming license.

Why is this important

How applicants access the online system will change and the online applications will have a different look and feel with enhanced features.

A BCeID is required for applicants to log in to the new online system, starting Feb. 1, 2025. These two options will be available for Community Gaming Grants applicants:

Business BCeID: A Business BCeID account is used to log in to services online when representing an organization. An organization may have multiple user accounts that can access services on their behalf. People use a username and password for their own access. This type of account may take up to 90 days to complete or require in person verification, depending on the type of business that is being registered.

Basic BCeID: A Basic BCeID account is used by an individual to access services, through a single sign-in that cannot be shared with other users. If a Basic BCeID is used, only that individual will have access to the records they have created. Community Gaming Grants will not be able to provide records to individuals who did not create them, even if they are part of the organization. This type of account is easier to set up and can be done completely on-line in one session.

The Business BCeID is strongly recommended for the purposes of applying with Community Gaming Grants. This option will provide applicants the ability to have multiple staff or volunteers collaborate on applications and have access to past records even when turnover occurs. The Basic BCeID is an account that can only be used by a single person, thus, no one else at the organization will have access to the application form, or any historical records (as they become available).

Application Forms

Application forms for the Program Grants, PAC & DPAC Grants and Capital Projects Grants are being refreshed. The Common Hosted Forms Service is the standard for online form submissions with the provincial government. Online forms will meet accessibility standards, can be saved and reopened later (no more racing the clock) and will provide an updated, modern format.

The refreshed application forms will include minor changes in the language used and questions asked. This is intended only for simplification and clarity, not a reflection of changes to grant criteria. Any updates to program eligibility criteria are published in the annual updates to the Community Gaming Grants Guidelines.

What are the details?

Ability to save an application and return to it (everyone).

Ability for multiple staff/volunteers to collaborate on an application when using a business BCeID.

Ability to log in and see past applications and GASRs (once records are created in future)

Differences in who can see which records

- multiple users with Business BCeID
- single user only with Basic BCeID

Applicants will be able to print, save to PDF and access their own records, so Community Gaming Grants will no longer be providing this service. This is to comply with FOIPPA requirements.

Online reporting is on the radar and remains a long-term goal. While the grant application forms are confirmed for February 1, 2025, the timeline for online reporting options is unknown.

Community Gaming Grants is working to import records into the new system; however, there may be instances of incomplete information transfers, and the branch may request some previously submitted information such as the mailing address, fiscal year end date, society number, etc. It will become very important for returning applicants to carefully review and update (if required) organization information.

What do I need to know/do?

The new system will be accessible to applicants in the Arts & Culture sector on February 1st, 2025. Updated forms for other sectors will go live as per the published intake dates. There are no changes to intake dates in 2025. Links to the online system will be automatically updated on the program webpages. Returning applicants are encouraged to update any browser bookmarks they have saved previously.

Can I provide feedback?

Yes! Feedback is appreciated as we roll out enhancements to the application system in 2025. Please email CGGOutreach@gov.bc.ca and use the subject line Application Feedback.