Frequently Asked Questions
Electronic Raffle Systems use for Ticket Raffles

This document is a resource for convenience and guidance; for more information related to ERS and Licensed Charitable Gaming, please visit our website: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/gambling-fundraising/gambling-licence-fundraising

All applicants are strongly encouraged to review the Licensed Charitable Gaming Rules (the Rules) in their entirety to ensure they understand all eligibility and application criteria. This document provides information for eligible organizations that wish to use ERS for the operation of ticket raffles.

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The Frequently Asked Questions cover several topics related to ERS including eligible organizations, types of uses, applying for a ticket raffle licence and requirements for being approved to use an ERS to operate a ticket raffle.

1. *What is an Electronic Raffle System?*

Electronic Raffle Systems (ERS) are electronic services offered by a registered services provider to conduct ticket raffles. Eligible organizations are permitted to use ERS on a Class A or B licence to conduct their ticket raffles. Licensees are authorized to use the following certified electronic services when offered by a registered service provider:

1. **Online Ticket Sales:** To sell tickets through the Internet by way of a real time processing and payment system where the purchaser's ticket is paid for and delivered immediately online.
2. **Online Ticket Distribution:** To send a purchaser a ticket by email or through the internet and where the purchaser downloads a copy of the ticket.
3. **Electronic Ticket Draw:** To determine a prize winner by conducting an electronic draw using computer software or a computer application that utilizes a GPEB certified software random number generator (RNG).
4. **Online Prize Distribution:** To send a winner a prize voucher by email or online and where the prize winner downloads a voucher or gift certificate for redemption in cases where the prizes are suitable for online distribution and each prize is worth $2,500 or less.
5. **Raffle Sales Unit (RSU):** A GPEB approved unit for ticket sales which is comprised of a combination of hardware and/or software provided by the gaming services provider and configured to operate as a point of sale that generates and prints or delivers raffle tickets.

Licensees may apply to use an ERS by selecting the ERS option within the online application and submitting the required documents, which include an addendum and the contract with their service provider via email to gaming.licensing@gov.bc.ca

2. *Am I eligible to use ERS for my gaming event?*

Only eligible organizations applying on a Class A or B gaming event licence are eligible to use a certified ERS for a ticket raffle provided by a GPEB registered gaming services provider.

Organizations intending to use gaming funds to subsize their own purposes and programs must be deemed eligible by GPEB. Eligibility is determined on a case-by-case basis dependent on organizational structure, purpose and programs.

An eligibility review will be required for:

- Each Class A application;
- Organizations submitting a first-time Class B application for its own purposes;
- Organizations with reviews having taken place 5+ years prior; or
- Clarity at the discretion of GPEB.

Community Fundraising Groups (CFGs) are not eligible to run ticket raffles through the use of ERS. A CFG is an unstructured group of community members that is not eligible itself but fundraises to assist an organization that is eligible.

For information on whether you are eligible to apply for a Class A or B Gaming Event licence see: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/sports-recreation-arts-and-culture/gambling/licences/rules-licensed-charitable-gaming.pdf

3. ***Can ERS be used for any licence class or type of gaming event?***

Eligible organizations applying for a Class A or B gaming event licence may apply to use ERS for the operation of their ticket raffles only.

ERS is not permitted for bingo, poker, wheel of fortune or casino games; or on Class C or D licences.

4. ***Where do I submit my gaming event application?***

All applications must be submitted using the Online System.

To assist, step-by-step application guides are available on the GPEB website at: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/gambling-fundraising/gambling-licence-fundraising/documents-forms

5. ***How long will it take to process my gaming event application?***

Once a complete application is received, the following processing times begin:

- Class A applications may require up to 10 weeks; and
- Class B applications may require up to 10 business days.

If additional information is required to assess an application, the application is considered incomplete until such information is received; this may impact processing time.

6. ***Can I use technology facilitated components outside of ERS?***

The following technology facilitated licensed gaming components are not considered to be ERS. These components do not require registration or certification and are permitted on all classes of licences, however, may be limited by event type.

- Live streaming
- Electronic Fund Transfers
- Sales via the Internet
- Online Ordering
- Scanning and Emailing of Entries

Specifics regarding how these components may be used can be found within Section 10 of the Rules.

If an applicant plans to utilize any technology facilitated components in conjunction with a licensed gaming event, this must be approved prior to the application being issued. Licensees must specify this as part of an application or by submitting an email to gaming.licensing@gov.bc.ca

7. *Can I add ERS to my existing licence?*

   It is possible to request an amendment where ticket sales have not started.

   If sales have not yet started, ERS may be added to an existing licence. A request for an amendment to a gaming event licence for the addition of ERS should include a completed addendum and service contract and must be submitted via email by a board member or officer responsible to gaming.licensing@gov.bc.ca

   A licence amendment request will be processed on a date-received basis and requires up to 10 business days processing time.

8. *Are there any additional licence fees related to ERS?*

   No, there is no additional licence fee for applying to use ERS on a licence.

9. *How do I confirm if a gaming services provider is approved with GPEB?*

   ERS services must be provided by a GPEB registered gaming services provider utilizing GPEB certified equipment.

   A list of ERS services providers registered and certified by GPEB can be obtained by contacting Corporate Registration at: Gaming.Registration@gov.bc.ca.

10. *Who do I go to for help related to Charitable Licensing?*

    If you have questions about these changes, please contact Charitable Licensing using the information below:

    - Email: Gaming.Licensing@gov.bc.ca
    - Direct Phone: 250 387-5311 ext. 1
    - Toll Free within Canada/USA: 1 800 663-7867 (ask to be transferred to the direct number above)