

Lake County Video Gaming Revenue Policy

Background

The Video Gaming Act (230 ILCS 40) provides the Illinois Gaming Board with jurisdiction over and supervision of all gaming operations within the state. This Act establishes a 30-percent tax on gross terminal revenue, of which one-sixth is distributed to the governing body where the revenue was generated. On August 13, 2013, the Lake County Board adopted the Lake County Video Gaming Ordinance, thereby permitting lawful video gaming within unincorporated areas of Lake County. At the direction of the Lake County Board, funds distributed by the Illinois Gaming Board shall be allocated into the Video Gaming Management Center.

Purpose

This policy establishes a framework for:

- 1) Capturing video gaming administrative, legal, and enforcement costs; and
- 2) Evaluating and possibly funding social programs, projects (excluding capital improvements), and/or services that benefit Lake County residents.

Eligibility

At a minimum, the following criteria must be met to be considered for award of Video Gaming funds:

- 1) The request must be from an organization with a physical presence in Lake County.
- 2) The request must provide a measurable benefit to Lake County residents.
- 3) The request must meet at least one of the goals and/or values of the [Lake County Strategic Plan Community Action Plan for Behavioral Health in Lake County](#).
- 4) The request must be for no more than 12 months of program costs, ~~with no guarantee of ongoing funding.~~ [unless a multi-year request is necessary.](#)
- 5) [Multi-year requests will only be awarded to programs that:](#)
 - o [Have a clear benefit to the entire County population.](#)
 - o [Include clear evidence of long term financial viability \(minimum five years\) supported by reality-based assumptions.](#)
 - o [Include matching funds greater than or equal to the requested award.](#)
- 6) Requests for real estate or capital improvements are ineligible and will not be considered.
- 7) Agencies must commit to using ServicePoint for sending and receiving service referrals when practicable.

Submittal Requirements

A request for Video Gaming funds must be submitted using the "Lake County Human Services Grant Application". This application requires, but is not limited to, the following information:

- 1) A brief description of the request;
- 2) The amount of the request;
- 3) Description of how the request meets one or more goals and/or values of the Lake County Strategic Plan;
- 4) Supporting documentation demonstrating how the funds will serve the need;
- 5) A copy of the requesting organization's budget; and
- 6) A summary of performance measures that will quantify the program's estimated outcomes.

Evaluation Process

Applications shall be submitted to Lake County Community Development no later than the date on which the Lake County Human Services Grant Application is due (typically the third week of October). There will be no cap on the number of applicants, nor will there be a cap on the award amount for a single applicant within a fiscal year. The requests will be evaluated by the Public Services Advisory and Recommendation Committee (ARC) and who will make recommendations to the Housing and Community Development Commission (HCDC). Evaluations will occur in November and December. Funding recommendations will be made to the Lake County Board in March and be subject to annual appropriations. The HCDC will make recommendations to the Housing and Community Services committee who will pass their recommendations on to the Financial & Administrative Services Committee who is responsible for the final vote on funding recommendations.

The funding recommendations will be subject to annual appropriations. Preference will be given to requests seeking to alleviate the negative effects of gambling addiction in Lake County, although applications for other social programming, projects, and/or services will also be considered as well. Lake County Community Development will reflect the preferences of the Board using a tiered scoring system that includes a threshold below which programs are ineligible for funding consideration. This threshold will be set at 70% of available points and is reflected in the table located in Appendix A of this policy.

Funding from other County sources may be considered during the evaluation process. Combined funding of a single program, project, or service may be allowed if the combined award received from all funding programs is less than or equal to the financial need. At its sole discretion, the Lake County Board Finance and Administration Committee shall determine whether funds, in-full or in-part, are granted and in what amounts. Nothing included in this policy shall be deemed to require and/or imply a guarantee of Video Gaming funds, even if all eligibility guidelines are met. Applicants are welcome to apply in every funding round regardless of their performance in previous rounds. Though applicants are not guaranteed funding beyond the year in which they applied for and received an award, they may reapply for funding in preceding years. Applicants are welcome to apply in every funding round regardless of their performance in previous rounds.

Administrative Standard Operating Procedures

So that the County Board can more accurately budget for Video Gaming administrative costs, enforcement, and grants, these expenses will be budgeted using revenues received two fiscal years prior. This allows for State-shared Video Gaming to be fully reconciled, thereby making known the full amount available for grant awards.

Community Development will administer and manage the awarded monies from the Video Gaming Management Center, with assistance from the Finance and Administrative Services Department (FAS). To cover administrative costs, Community Development will receive up to, but not more than, 10 percent of the funds within the Video Gaming Management Center each fiscal year, consistent with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development standards. The Liquor Commissioner, as part of the budgeting process, will determine the amount necessary for administration of the grants derived from video gaming revenue; however, these administrative costs shall not exceed 10 percent of the funds within the Video Gaming Management Center.

Additionally, the Liquor Commissioner as part of the budgeting process, will determine the amount necessary for administration of the Video Gaming Revenue Policy, as well as amounts withheld for video gaming and liquor enforcement inspections, if applicable. These enforcement costs – subject to the Lake

County Video Gaming Ordinance, Section 5: Inspection of Premises – will be paid using the annual revenue generated from video gaming terminal permit stickers, as well as fines imposed on establishments found in violation of the Lake County Video Gaming Ordinance, Section 4: Regulations for Operating Video Gaming Terminals. If fee and fine revenue does not fund total enforcement costs as decided by the Liquor Commissioner, the remainder will be drawn from [State-shared](#) Video Gaming revenue ~~prior to being shared with Community Development for administration.~~

Once administrative and enforcements costs are accounted for, the remaining balance within the Video Gaming Fund Management Center will be available for [grant](#) awards. ~~Video Gaming revenue grants will be awarded retroactively, such that selected agencies will receive Video Gaming revenue collected from the State in the prior fiscal year.~~ Selected agencies will submit regular invoices to Community Development to recoup those costs as identified in their Lake County Human Services Grant Application. For agencies that do not spend the entirety of their grant during the fiscal year in which it was awarded, FAS may carry over the remaining balance into the next fiscal year for those agencies to use. If the Lake County Board does not award the entirety of the monies within the Video Gaming Management Center in a single fiscal year, the Board may carry the remaining balance into the next fiscal year.

[Grants will include performance measures, and these will be reported quarterly by the agency receiving the award. Each program will be monitored and progress towards their performance measures evaluated. Program awards may be rescinded if organizations are not making reasonable progress towards their outcomes.](#)

[Each year, no more than 40% of available grant funds will be retained for spending in future grant years. Contracts for multi-year awards shall not be written to obligate the County to more than an initial grant of two years subject to hold-back, at the County's discretion, of up to 40% of the year's total available funds; the County may thereafter consider the option of subsequent one-year awards. Such awards may also take the form of "step-down" grants. The nature of the request will determine how funds will be earmarked for multi-year awards. The manner in which funds are set aside will be incorporated into funding recommendations at the ARC, HCDC and HCS meetings noted above with a final determination made by the Finance and Administration committee.](#)

[At least every three years, this video gaming revenue policy and the overall program progress shall be reviewed with the Finance and Administrative committee of the Lake County Board to determine the need for any revision](#)

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Appendix A

Scoring tiers/threshold (based on a 225-point scoring tool)

Tier	Minimum Points Required	Minimum % Required
1	157	70%
2	147	65%
3	136	60%
4	126	56%