

491—1.7(99D,99F) Criteria for granting licenses, renewing licenses, and determining race dates. The commission sets forth the following criteria which the commission will consider when deciding whether to issue a license to conduct racing or gaming or sports wagering in Iowa. The various criteria may not have the same importance in each instance, and other factors may present themselves in the consideration of an application for a license. The criteria are not listed in order of priority. After the initial consideration for issuing a license, applicable criteria need only be considered when an applicant has demonstrated a deficiency.

1.7(1) Compliance. The commission will consider whether or not the applicant is and has been in compliance with the terms and conditions specified in Iowa Code section 99D.9 or 99F.4. The commission will also consider whether the proposed facility is in compliance with applicable state and local laws regarding fire, health, construction, zoning, and other similar matters.

1.7(2) Gaming integrity. The commission will consider whether the proposed operation would ensure that gaming and sports wagering are conducted with a high degree of integrity in Iowa and that the officers, directors, partners, or shareholders of the operation are of good repute and moral character. The commission shall decide what weight and effect evidence about an officer, director, partner, or shareholder should have in the determination of whether there is substantial evidence that the individual is not of good reputation and character. For the purposes of this chapter, the term “directors” shall also include managers of limited liability companies and the term “shareholders” shall also include members of limited liability companies.

1.7(3) Economic impact and development. The commission will consider:

a. The amount of revenue to be provided by the proposed facility to the state and local communities through direct taxation on the facility’s operation and indirect revenues from tourism, ancillary businesses, creation of new industry, and taxes on employees and patrons. The commission may engage an independent firm proficient in market feasibility studies in the industry for specific analysis of any application to determine the potential market of any proposed facility as well as the impact on existing licensees.

b. The level of financial and other support the proposed operation will provide to the community in order to improve the quality of life of the residents of the community.

c. The viability and overall net benefit of the proposed operation to the state gaming industry, taking into consideration:

(1) Investment versus projected adjusted gross revenue.

(2) Impact on existing operators’ adjusted gross revenue versus existing operators’ ratio of adjusted gross revenue to investment.

(3) Ratio of equity to total investment and whether the proposed project is adequately and properly financed.

(4) Percent of projected adjusted gross revenue from underserved markets.

(5) Percent of projected adjusted gross revenue from existing Iowa operators.

(6) Stability and reliability of out-of-state market(s).

d. The benefits to Iowa tourism.

e. The number and quality of employment opportunities for Iowans.

f. The development and sale of Iowa products.

g. The number and types of developments and amenities associated with the proposed operation in addition to the gaming floor.

1.7(4) Efficient and safe operation. The commission will consider whether the proposed facility is planned in a manner that promotes efficient and safe operation of all aspects of the facility including providing adequate security for employees and patrons. Adequate employment to serve patrons’ needs, facility scope and design, parking facilities, access to cashier windows, concessions, and restrooms will be considered.

1.7(5) Community support. The commission will consider support for the proposed project within the community in which a proposed facility is to be located.

1.7(6) Nurture of the racing industry. The commission will consider whether the proposed racetrack operation would serve to nurture, promote, develop, and improve the racing industry in Iowa and provide

high-quality racing in Iowa. The commission will also consider if the proposed racetrack operation will maximize purses and is beneficial to Iowa breeders.

1.7(7) *Other factors.* The commission will consider such other factors as may arise in the circumstances presented by a particular application.

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