349.155 LICENSES; LICENSE ACTIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Forms.** All applications for a license must be on a form prescribed by the board. In the case of applications by an organization the board may require the organization to submit a copy of its articles of incorporation and other documents the board deems necessary.

Subd. 2. **Investigation fee.** In addition to initial and renewal application fees, the board may charge license and renewal applicants a fee to cover the costs of background investigations conducted under this chapter.

Subd. 3. **Mandatory disqualifications.** (a) In the case of licenses for manufacturers, distributors, distributor salespersons, linked bingo game providers, and gambling managers, the board may not issue or renew a license under this chapter, and shall revoke a license under this chapter, if the applicant or licensee, or a director, officer, partner, governor, or person in a supervisory or management position of the applicant or licensee:

(1) has ever been convicted of a felony or a crime involving gambling;

(2) has ever been convicted of (i) assault, (ii) a criminal violation involving the use of a firearm, or (iii) making terroristic threats;

(3) is or has ever been connected with or engaged in an illegal business;

(4) owes $500 or more in delinquent taxes as defined in section 270C.72;

(5) had a sales and use tax permit revoked by the commissioner of revenue within the past two years; or

(6) after demand, has not filed tax returns required by the commissioner of revenue. The board may deny or refuse to renew a license under this chapter, and may revoke a license under this chapter, if any of the conditions in this paragraph are applicable to an affiliate or direct or indirect holder of more than a five percent financial interest in the applicant or licensee.

(b) In the case of licenses for organizations, the board may not issue a license under this chapter, and shall revoke a license under this chapter, if the organization, or an officer or member of the governing body of the organization:

(1) has been convicted of a felony or gross misdemeanor involving theft or fraud; or

(2) has ever been convicted of a crime involving gambling.

Subd. 4. **License revocation, suspension, denial; censure.** (a) The board may by order (i) deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a license or premises permit, or (ii) censure a licensee or applicant, if it finds that the order is in the public interest and that the applicant or licensee, or a director, officer, partner, governor, person in a supervisory or management position of the applicant or licensee, an employee eligible to make sales on behalf of the applicant or licensee, or direct or indirect holder of more than a five percent financial interest in the applicant or licensee:

(1) has violated or failed to comply with any provision of this chapter or chapter 297E or 299L, or any rule adopted or order issued thereunder;

(2) has filed an application for a license that is incomplete in any material respect, or contains a statement that, in light of the circumstances under which it was made, is false, misleading, fraudulent, or a misrepresentation;

(3) has made a false statement in a document or report required to be submitted to the board or the commissioner of revenue, or has made a false statement to the board, the compliance review group, or the director;

(4) has been convicted of a crime in another jurisdiction that would be a felony if committed in Minnesota;

(5) is permanently or temporarily enjoined by any gambling regulatory agency from engaging in or continuing any conduct or practice involving any aspect of gambling;

(6) has had a gambling-related license revoked or suspended, or has paid or been required to pay a monetary penalty of $2,500 or more, by a gambling regulator in another state or jurisdiction;

(7) has been the subject of any of the following actions by the director of alcohol and gambling enforcement or commissioner of public safety: (i) had a license under chapter 299L denied, suspended, or revoked, (ii) been censured, reprimanded, has paid or been required to pay a monetary penalty or fine, or (iii) has been the subject of any other discipline by the director or commissioner;

(8) has engaged in conduct that is contrary to the public health, welfare, or safety, or to the integrity of gambling; or

(9) based on past activities or criminal record poses a threat to the public interest or to the effective regulation and control of gambling, or creates or enhances the dangers of unsuitable, unfair, or illegal practices, methods, and activities in the conduct of gambling or the carrying on of the business and financial arrangements incidental to the conduct of gambling.

(b) The revocation or suspension of an organization's license may not exceed a period of ten years, including any revocation or suspension imposed by the board prior to May 15, 2012, except that:

(1) any prohibition placed by the board on who may be involved in the conduct, oversight, or management of the revoked organization's lawful gambling activity is permanent; and

(2) a revocation or suspension will remain in effect until any taxes, fees, and fines that are delinquent have been paid by the organization to the satisfaction of the board.

Subd. 4a. **Illegal gambling.** (a) The board may not deny, suspend, or revoke an organization's premises permit because illegal gambling occurred at the site for which the premises permit was issued, unless the board determines that: (1) the organization knowingly participated in the illegal gambling; or (2) the organization or any of its agents knew of the illegal gambling and the organization did not notify the lessor of the premises, in writing and with specificity, that illegal gambling was being conducted on the premises and requesting that the lessor take appropriate action. For purposes of this paragraph, "agent" means any person, compensated or otherwise, who participates in the conduct of the organization's lawful gambling.

(b) The board may not deny, suspend, or revoke an organization's license because illegal gambling occurred at a site for which a premises permit was issued to the organization unless the board determines that the organization's chief executive officer, gambling manager, or one or more of its assistant gambling managers participated in or authorized the illegal gambling.

Subd. 5. **Contested case.** When the board, or director if the director is authorized to act on behalf of the board, determines that a license should be revoked, suspended or a licensee be censured under subdivision

3 or 4, or a civil penalty be imposed or a person be required to take corrective action, the board or director shall issue an order initiating a contested case hearing. Hearings under this subdivision must be conducted in accordance with chapter 14.

Subd. 6. **Notice of denial.** When the board, or director if authorized to act on behalf of the board, determines that a license or premises permit application or renewal should be denied under subdivision 3 or 4, the board or director shall promptly give a written notice to the licensee or applicant stating ground for the action and giving reasonable notice of the rights of the licensee or applicant to request a hearing. A hearing must be held not later than 30 days after the board receives the request for the hearing, unless the licensee or applicant and the board agree on a later date. If no hearing is requested within 30 days of the service of the notice, the denial becomes final. Hearings under this subdivision must be conducted in accordance with chapter 14. After the hearing the board may enter an order making such disposition as the facts require. If the applicant fails to appear at the hearing after having been notified of it under this subdivision, the applicant is considered in default and the proceeding may be determined against the person on consideration of the written notice of denial, the allegations of which may be considered to be true. All fees accompanying the license or renewal application are considered earned and are not refundable.

Subd. 7. MS 2008 [Repealed, 2009 c 124 s 60]

Subd. 8. **Actions in another state.** A licensee under this chapter must notify the board within 30 days of the action whenever any of the actions listed in subdivision 4, clause (6), have been taken against the licensee in another state or jurisdiction.

History: *1994 c 633 art 5 s 36; 1997 c 129 art 2 s 15; 1997 c 155 s 5; 2001 c 96 s 9; 2003 c 110 s 17; 1Sp2003 c 1 art 2 s 88; 2005 c 151 art 2 s 17; 2005 c 166 art 1 s 13; 2009 c 124 s 17,18; 2012 c 299 art 4 s 37,38*