



**I-Gaming Licensing and Regulations Group
Electronic Gaming Licensing Department**

THE UNIFIED GAMING LICENSE

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Article establishes the framework for the Unified Gaming License (UGL), a streamlined and incentive-based licensing system designed to enable qualified operators to run multiple PAGCOR-approved gaming offerings within a single, integrated gaming venue under one license.

The UGL aims to enhance efficiency by reducing administrative processes, costs, and redundancies associated with maintaining multiple Standard Gaming Licenses (SGLs). It also supports unified gaming operations through consolidated approvals for marketing and promotions and allows operators to utilize a single gaming platform through accredited Gaming System Administrators without managing separate system activations.

The policy applies to both **new applicants establishing integrated gaming venues** and **existing operators seeking to consolidate their current SGLs into a UGL**, while maintaining the availability of SGLs as a separate licensing option.

Overall, the UGL framework promotes **integration, operational flexibility, and regulatory efficiency** while ensuring continued compliance with PAGCOR's standards for responsible gaming, system integrity, and venue operations.

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SECTION 1. OBJECTIVES

This Article establishes the policy, coverage, requirements, procedures, and regulatory parameters for the issuance and implementation of the UGL.

The UGL is an alternative and incentive-based licensing structure for qualified Operators that intend to operate the full range of authorized game offerings within one integrated gaming venue.

The UGL aims to:

1. Provide a streamlined and cost-efficient licensing structure that allows qualified Operators to offer multiple PAGCOR-approved game offerings under one Gaming License, thereby reducing separate applications, repetitive submissions, and administrative and licensing fees associated with maintaining multiple Gaming Licenses;
2. Facilitate unified gaming operations through consolidated licensing and simplified approval of integrated marketing and promotional activities covering multiple approved game offerings; and
3. Allow UGL holders to contract with a PAGCOR-accredited Gaming System Administrator (GSA) with a unified gaming platform, without the need to separately disable or enable specific approved game offerings.

SECTION 2. COVERAGE

This Article shall apply to:

1. Applicants seeking to establish and operate a new gaming venue under a UGL for the full range of authorized game offerings; and
2. Existing Operators seeking to consolidate or convert their approved gaming operations from SGL/s into a UGL.

The license applications, requirements and procedures, and compliance and regulatory obligations under this Regulatory Framework and other applicable

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PAGCOR regulatory frameworks, including those on minimum terminals, fees, inspection, monitoring, and enforcement, shall apply to UGLs unless otherwise provided in this Article.

Nothing in this Article shall be construed as discontinuing, replacing, or limiting the availability of the SGL.

SECTION 3. DEFINITION AND DISTINCTION FROM STANDARD GAMING LICENSE

A UGL is a Gaming License issued by PAGCOR that authorizes a qualified Operator to establish and operate a gaming venue offering the full range of Mandatory Game Offerings under EGLD, subject to compliance with this Regulatory Framework and other applicable PAGCOR rules and regulations.

The UGL is intended for integrated or multi-game gaming venues where PAGCOR-approved game offerings are operated under a single license within one gaming venue.

An SGL authorizes only the specific game offering or game offerings expressly approved by PAGCOR. Separate SGLs may have different validity and renewal dates.

A UGL shall have one validity period for all authorized game offerings. Upon approval and issuance by PAGCOR:

1. A new UGL shall be valid for three (3) years, with the first year serving as the period within which the Operator shall commence gaming operations;
2. A renewed UGL shall be valid for two (2) years;
3. An amended or reprinted UGL due to an approved relocation shall retain the unexpired term of the existing UGL; and
4. Failure to commence operations within the prescribed period shall be governed by the applicable provisions of this Regulatory Framework on extension, cancellation, or revocation.

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Applications for a new UGL shall follow the same application requirements, evaluation procedures, documentary submissions, inspection requirements, and payment of fees applicable to an SGL under this Regulatory Framework, unless otherwise provided in this Article.

In addition to the application requirements applicable to an SGL, an applicant for a UGL shall comply with the prescribed venue configuration, minimum gaming venue requirements, system and equipment readiness standards, mandatory game offering requirements, Performance Cash Deposit (PCD), applicable fees, and such other requirements prescribed for UGL gaming venues.

A new application for a UGL shall be subject to the approval of the PAGCOR Board of Directors. The submission of complete requirements shall not guarantee approval.

Upon approval, the applicant shall comply with the applicable pre-operational inspection, testing, payment, and other regulatory requirements under this Regulatory Framework. No gaming operation shall commence unless the corresponding Notice to Commence (NTC) or written authorization has been issued by PAGCOR.

SECTION 4. MINIMUM GAMING VENUE REQUIREMENTS

(a) Unless otherwise modified by PAGCOR, the following reduced minimum requirements shall apply to UGL gaming venues:

1. Twenty-five (25) terminals or machines for Electronic Bingo Games;
2. Twenty-five (25) terminals or machines for Electronic Casino Games;
3. Twenty-five (25) terminals or seats for Traditional Bingo Games, if offered as an Ancillary Game Offering; and
4. One (1) terminal or machine for Sports Betting, Specialty Games, Numeric Games, Online Poker Games, and other approved game offerings requiring terminal or machine deployment.

(b) The minimum terminal, machine, or seat requirements shall apply to the gaming venue as a whole. The Operator shall ensure that the venue, systems, terminals,

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machines, equipment, and operational setup are sufficient to support all Mandatory Game Offerings and any approved Ancillary Game Offerings.

- (c) A UGL may cover gaming areas located on different floors, units, or portions of the same building or approved premises, including areas with varying accessibility or configuration, provided that:
1. The complete approved address of the gaming venue, including the specific floors, units, or portions covered by the UGL, shall be clearly indicated in the UGL and corresponding approvals.
 2. The Operator exercises common management and operational control over all gaming areas;
 3. The gaming venue collectively complies with the minimum UGL terminal, machine, or seat requirements, while each separately configured gaming area complies with the applicable gaming venue requirements under this Regulatory Framework;
 4. The configuration does not impair PAGCOR inspection, monitoring, surveillance, access control, or responsible gaming measures; and
 5. The original UGL is posted at all times in a visible location within the gaming venue. Separately configured gaming areas shall post a reprinted copy of the UGL and shall comply with the requirements of this Regulatory Framework.
- (d) Any movement, transfer, deployment, reduction, increase, or reallocation of terminals, machines, seats, equipment, or gaming areas shall comply with this Regulatory Framework and latest Regulatory Framework for Gaming Venue Operations. The Operator shall secure prior PAGCOR approval or written authorization prior to implementation.
- (e) Before the commencement of any Mandatory Game Offering, the Operator shall undergo the required pre-operational inspection, testing, or validation by the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Department – Electronic Games (CMED-EG). Upon satisfactory compliance, EGLD shall issue the corresponding



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NTC before the affected Mandatory Game Offering may commence.

- (f) The Operator shall continuously comply with this Regulatory Framework and other applicable regulatory frameworks, including but not limited to gaming venue requirements, electronic gaming system requirements, and responsible gaming measures. Compliance shall be subject to monitoring, inspection, and enforcement by CMED-EG and other appropriate PAGCOR departments.

SECTION 5. CLASSIFICATION OF GAME OFFERINGS UNDER THE UGL

Game offerings under a UGL shall be classified as Mandatory Game Offerings or Ancillary Game Offerings.

Mandatory Game Offerings shall consist of:

1. Electronic Bingo Games, and
2. Electronic Casino Games

Ancillary Game Offerings shall consist of:

1. Traditional Bingo Games;
2. Sports Betting;
3. Specialty Games;
4. Online Poker Games; and
5. Numeric Games.

Mandatory Game Offerings form the core basis of the UGL. The Operator shall commence gaming operations within the first year from approval of the UGL and shall maintain the authority, capacity, and operational readiness to offer all Mandatory Game Offerings throughout the validity of the UGL, subject to PAGCOR's rules on temporary suspension, amendment, reclassification, cancellation, or revocation.

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Ancillary Game Offerings are optional and may be added or removed during the validity of the UGL, subject to approval of the EGLD and compliance with the following requirements:

1. Submission of Operational Request Form;
 2. Existing and proposed floor layout plans and site concept renderings, with an as-built plan when required;
 3. Valid business permit issued to the Operator;
 4. Board Resolution or Secretary's Certificate authorizing the request and the authorized representative and signatory; and
 5. Latest General Information Sheet.
- (a) The addition of an Ancillary Game Offering shall be subject to final testing and inspection by CMED-EG. Upon satisfactory compliance, EGLD shall issue the corresponding NTC.
- (b) The removal of an Ancillary Game Offering shall be confirmed in writing by EGLD. Such removal shall not affect the validity of the UGL, provided that the Operator continues to comply with all Mandatory Game Offerings and the other requirements of the UGL.
- (c) An Operator that permanently removes any Mandatory Game Offering shall no longer be allowed to hold a UGL. The UGL shall be converted to the appropriate SGL/s covering the existing operational game offerings and/or approved Ancillary Game Offerings.
- (d) Conversion from a UGL to the appropriate SGL/s shall be subject to submission of the applicable form, Board Resolution or Secretary's Certificate, latest General Information Sheet, and payment of the applicable reprinting fees. Upon conversion, the Operator shall comply with the minimum and other requirements applicable to a regular gaming venue.
- (e) A Mandatory Game Offering may be temporarily suspended for a period not exceeding ninety (90) calendar days, subject to the conditions and procedures on

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temporary suspension under the applicable Regulatory Framework. Justifiable grounds may include:

1. Change, replacement, transition, or rebranding of the GSA;
 2. System migration, maintenance, testing, certification, or technical upgrade;
 3. Temporary unavailability, replacement, repair, or upgrading of terminals, machines, equipment, or related gaming paraphernalia;
 4. Renovation, reconfiguration, repair, or improvement of the approved gaming area;
 5. Compliance with technical, operational, audit, inspection, or regulatory findings;
 6. Force majeure, fortuitous events, emergency conditions, or other circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the Operator;
 7. Temporary manpower, supplier, or operational transition issues; or
 8. Other analogous circumstances determined by PAGCOR to be meritorious.
- (f) Non-compliance with the applicable provisions on temporary suspension shall be deemed a removal of the affected Mandatory Game Offering and may result in the automatic conversion of the UGL to the appropriate SGL/s.

SECTION 6. CONVERSION OF EXISTING SGL/S TO UGL

- (a) An Existing Operator with valid SGL/s may apply to consolidate or convert its SGL/s into a UGL, provided that:
1. The relevant SGL/s remain valid at the time of application and pertain to the same approved gaming venue;
 2. The gaming venue is existing and duly approved by PAGCOR, regardless of operational status;
 3. The gaming venue has the capacity to comply with the minimum and venue configuration requirements applicable to a UGL;
 4. The Operator is in good standing and has no outstanding regulatory obligation, unpaid fee, penalty, assessment, or unresolved compliance

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requirement that would prevent conversion, unless otherwise allowed by PAGCOR; and

5. The Operator complies with such other qualifications and conditions as PAGCOR may require.

(b) An Existing Operator seeking conversion shall submit:

1. The prescribed Application Form for Conversion;
2. Valid business permit issued to the Operator;
3. Existing and proposed floor layout plans and site concept renderings indicating the number of machines or terminals and the specific brands or machine suppliers, with an as-built plan when required;
4. Board Resolution or Secretary's Certificate authorizing the conversion application and designating the authorized representative and signatory, together with the latest General Information Sheet; and
5. Payment of the applicable Application Fee, subject to the allowable credits or offsets under this Article.

(c) Upon submission of complete requirements and payment of the applicable fees, the application shall be endorsed to the PAGCOR Board of Directors for approval. Submission of complete requirements shall not guarantee approval, and no UGL authority shall take effect unless approved by the PAGCOR Board of Directors.

(d) The following amounts may be credited against the Application Fee for conversion, subject to PAGCOR validation and accounting clearance:

1. One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php100,000.00) for every complete and unexpired year remaining on each valid SGL to be consolidated, regardless of the operational status of the gaming venue;
2. Application fees previously paid for an additional game offering application that was not processed because of the Operator's decision to convert to a UGL; and
3. Renewal fees paid for an existing SGL where the Operator subsequently elects to convert to a UGL.

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Any credit shall apply only to the relevant conversion application, shall not exceed the applicable Application Fee, and shall not be refundable in cash.

- (e) Upon approval, PAGCOR shall issue a Notice of Approval indicating the approved operational game offerings and the requirement to post a Performance Cash Deposit (PCD) per gaming venue, and not per game offering, within fifteen (15) days from receipt of the Notice of Approval.
- (f) Any PCD previously posted for the SGL/s to be converted may be credited against the PCD required for the UGL, subject to PAGCOR accounting and clearance.
- (g) The affected SGL/s shall be cancelled and surrendered to EGLD before the release of the UGL. Upon release, the validity periods of the affected SGL/s shall be superseded by the validity period of the UGL.
- (h) Where conversion requires the commencement of any Mandatory Game Offering not yet operational, such game offering shall commence within one (1) year from approval of the conversion, subject to compliance with the applicable pre-operational requirements under this Regulatory Framework.
- (i) Conversion shall not extinguish any outstanding regulatory obligation, unpaid fee, penalty, assessment, or compliance requirement arising under the existing SGL/s.
- (j) The Operator shall continuously comply with this Regulatory Framework and other applicable PAGCOR regulations, subject to monitoring and inspection by CMED-EG and other appropriate PAGCOR departments.
- (k) Ancillary Game Offerings may be added after conversion, subject to approval of the EGLD Assistant Vice President and compliance with the same pre-operational requirements applicable to additional game offerings, except for the posting of an additional PCD.
- (l) Reprinting or reissuance of a UGL shall be governed by the applicable provisions under Article V of this Regulatory Framework.

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- (m) All applicable charges under the UGL shall be governed by the Regulatory Framework for Fees and Rates, unless otherwise expressly provided in this Article.

SECTION 7. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

The provisions of this regulatory framework shall repeal previous issuances of the independent provisions of which are inconsistent with the same.