



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB2947

Introduced 2/6/2025, by Rep. Robert "Bob" Rita

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

230 ILCS 10/9

from Ch. 120, par. 2409

Amends the Illinois Gambling Act. Provides that the Illinois Gaming Board shall not require individuals hired exclusively to perform functions that are not related in any way to gaming operations to hold an occupational license. Provides that the Board may issue a non-gaming identification badge upon payment of a non-refundable annual fee set by the Board. Sets forth eligibility requirements for a non-gaming identification badge. Effective immediately.

LRB104 11840 LNS 21930 b

1 AN ACT concerning gaming.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Gambling Act is amended by
5 changing Section 9 as follows:

6 (230 ILCS 10/9) (from Ch. 120, par. 2409)

7 Sec. 9. Occupational licenses.

8 (a) The Board may issue an occupational license to an
9 applicant upon the payment of a non-refundable fee set by the
10 Board, upon a determination by the Board that the applicant is
11 eligible for an occupational license and upon payment of an
12 annual license fee in an amount to be established. To be
13 eligible for an occupational license, an applicant must:

14 (1) be at least 21 years of age if the applicant will
15 perform any function involved in gaming by patrons. ~~Any~~
16 ~~applicant seeking an occupational license for a non gaming~~
17 ~~function shall be at least 18 years of age;~~

18 (2) not have been convicted of a felony offense, a
19 violation of Article 28 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or the
20 Criminal Code of 2012, or a similar statute of any other
21 jurisdiction if the applicant will perform any function
22 involved in gaming by patrons;

23 (2.5) not have been convicted of a crime, other than a

1 crime described in item (2) of this subsection (a),
2 involving dishonesty or moral turpitude if the applicant
3 will perform any function involved in gaming by patrons,
4 except that the Board may, in its discretion, issue an
5 occupational license to a person who has been convicted of
6 a crime described in this item (2.5) more than 10 years
7 prior to his or her application and has not subsequently
8 been convicted of any other crime;

9 (3) have demonstrated a level of skill or knowledge
10 which the Board determines to be necessary in order to
11 operate gambling aboard a riverboat, in a casino, or at an
12 organization gaming facility; and

13 (4) have met standards for the holding of an
14 occupational license as adopted by rules of the Board.
15 Such rules shall provide that any person or entity seeking
16 an occupational license to manage gambling operations
17 under this Act shall be subject to background inquiries
18 and further requirements similar to those required of
19 applicants for an owners license. Furthermore, such rules
20 shall provide that each such entity shall be permitted to
21 manage gambling operations for only one licensed owner.

22 (b) Each application for an occupational license shall be
23 on forms prescribed by the Board and shall contain all
24 information required by the Board. The applicant shall set
25 forth in the application: whether he has been issued prior
26 gambling related licenses; whether he has been licensed in any

1 other state under any other name, and, if so, such name and his
2 age; and whether or not a permit or license issued to him in
3 any other state has been suspended, restricted or revoked,
4 and, if so, for what period of time.

5 (c) Each applicant shall submit with his application, on
6 forms provided by the Board, 2 sets of his fingerprints. The
7 Board shall charge each applicant a fee set by the Illinois
8 State Police to defray the costs associated with the search
9 and classification of fingerprints obtained by the Board with
10 respect to the applicant's application. These fees shall be
11 paid into the State Police Services Fund.

12 (d) The Board may in its discretion refuse an occupational
13 license to any person: (1) who is unqualified to perform the
14 duties required of such applicant; (2) who fails to disclose
15 or states falsely any information called for in the
16 application; (3) who has been found guilty of a violation of
17 this Act or whose prior gambling related license or
18 application therefor has been suspended, restricted, revoked
19 or denied for just cause in any other state; (4) who has a
20 background, including a criminal record, reputation, habits,
21 social or business associations, or prior activities, that
22 poses a threat to the public interests of this State or to the
23 security and integrity of gaming; or (5) for any other just
24 cause. When considering criminal convictions of an applicant,
25 the Board shall consider the following factors:

26 (1) the length of time since the conviction;

1 (2) the number of convictions that appear on the
2 conviction record;

3 (3) the nature and severity of the conviction and its
4 relationship to the safety and security of others or the
5 integrity of gaming;

6 (4) the facts or circumstances surrounding the
7 conviction;

8 (5) the age of the employee at the time of the
9 conviction; and

10 (6) evidence of rehabilitation efforts.

11 (e) The Board may suspend, revoke or restrict any
12 occupational licensee: (1) for violation of any provision of
13 this Act; (2) for violation of any of the rules and regulations
14 of the Board; (3) for any cause which, if known to the Board,
15 would have disqualified the applicant from receiving such
16 license; or (4) for default in the payment of any obligation or
17 debt due to the State of Illinois; or (5) for any other just
18 cause.

19 (f) A person who knowingly makes a false statement on an
20 application is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

21 (g) Any license issued pursuant to this Section shall be
22 valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance.

23 (h) Nothing in this Act shall be interpreted to prohibit a
24 licensed owner or organization gaming licensee from entering
25 into an agreement with a public community college or a school
26 approved under the Private Business and Vocational Schools Act

1 of 2012 for the training of any occupational licensee. Any
2 training offered by such a school shall be in accordance with a
3 written agreement between the licensed owner or organization
4 gaming licensee and the school.

5 (i) Any training provided for occupational licensees may
6 be conducted either at the site of the gambling facility or at
7 a school with which a licensed owner or organization gaming
8 licensee has entered into an agreement pursuant to subsection
9 (h) .

10 (j) The Board shall not require individuals hired
11 exclusively to perform functions that are not related in any
12 way to gaming operations to hold an occupational license. The
13 Board may issue a non-gaming identification badge upon payment
14 of a non-refundable annual fee set by the Board. To be eligible
15 for a non-gaming identification badge, the individual must:

16 (1) be at least 18 years of age;

17 (2) have passed a background check completed by a
18 licensed owner or organization gaming licensee; and

19 (3) pass an annual background check completed by a
20 licensed owner or organization gaming licensee.

21 (Source: P.A. 102-538, eff. 8-20-21; 103-550, eff. 1-1-24.)

22 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
23 becoming law.