

**DECISION**  
**No. 690, dated 02.09.2020**

**ON THE DETERMINATION OF PROCEDURES FOR HOLDING THE  
COMPETITION, ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR APPLICANTS COMPETING TO BE  
GRANTED A LICENSE FOR THE "CASINO" CATEGORY, THE PROCEDURE FOR  
ANNOUNCING THE WINNER, AND THE CASES OF REVOCATION OR  
SUSPENSION OF THIS LICENSE**

*(as amended by DCM no. 312, dated 04.06.2025)*

*(updated)*

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, point 1 of Article 36, and Law No. 155/2015, "On gambling in the Republic of Albania," as amended, upon the proposal of the Minister of Finance and Economy, the Council of Ministers

DECIDES:

CHAPTER I  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This decision defines the procedures for holding the competition, additional criteria for applicants competing to be granted a license for the "Casino" category, the procedure for announcing the winner, and the cases for revocation or suspension of this license.
2. The category of gambling "Casino," for the purposes of this decision, includes special zones designated for the development of gambling, where games are conducted only with means for gambling, such as slot machines, electronic roulette, or similar machines, as well as "live games."
3. The Supervisory Authority for gambling, hereinafter referred to as the "Authority," is the authorized public institution responsible for issuing licenses in the "Casino" category.
4. The words and expressions used in this decision shall have the same meaning as those given in Law no. 155/2015, "On Gambling in the Republic of Albania," as amended, and the acts issued pursuant thereto, except where the context requires otherwise or where, in accordance with the given context, these acts expressly provide otherwise.
5. The Authority shall consider the licensee as the sole point of contact regarding matters related to the granted license.
6. In any case of transfer of the shares of the licensee in the category "Casino," prior approval from the Authority shall be obtained.

## CHAPTER II

### APPLICATION AND FORM OF ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS

1. The competition for granting the license for "Casino" is announced by the Authority. The notice for opening the competition for the licensing in the category of gambling "Casino" is announced by the Authority, which is obliged to publish the announcement for the competition in the "Casino" category of gambling on its official website, in two newspapers published in our country, in sequential numbers, and also in the Public Notices Bulletin.
2. The notice must include:
  - a) the location, date, and time for the submission of documents;
  - b) the language of the document submission;
  - c) the manner of document submission;
  - ç) the location, time, and date of the document review.
3. The application consists of the entirety of documents specified in this decision and any other document or information that the Authority deems necessary to request from the applicant during the review of the application for being granted a license in the "Casino" category.
4. The application is submitted through a request for being granted a license to the Authority, accompanied by the supporting documents, according to the provisions of this decision.
5. The supporting documents must be submitted in original or as copies that are certified with the originals and must be drafted according to the formats determined by the applicable legislation.
6. The accompanying documents, including all correspondence and documents for this application, must be in the Albanian language. The applicant may also submit documents in a foreign language, provided they are accompanied by a certified translation into Albanian. Official acts from foreign jurisdictions must be accompanied by a certified translation into Albanian and must be legalized in accordance with the applicable laws and international agreements ratified by the Republic of Albania.
7. The applicant shall bear all costs related to the preparation and submission of the application, including, among others, all costs and expenses related to preparing responses to questions or requests for clarification or meetings with the Authority.

## CHAPTER III

### CONDITIONS, TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS, AND DOCUMENTATION FOR OBTAINING A LICENSE IN THE "CASINO" CATEGORY

1. Every legal entity or association of legal entities, domestic or foreign, that seeks to obtain a license in the "Casino" category must meet the minimum criteria as follows:

- a) must be a joint stock company, with headquarters in the territory of the Republic of Albania, and whose activity is specifically defined as gambling, specifying the type of game required;
- b) the share capital must be no less than 1,200,000,000 (one billion and two hundred million) ALL;
- c) The source of the capital to be invested for carrying out the activity in the field of “Casino” must be declared”;
- ç) must have experience in the field of gambling;
- d) must have the technical, financial, administrative, organizational capacities, and credibility to successfully undertake and implement such projects;
- dh) to submit the financial guarantee, together with the application, along with the conditions for the seizure of this guarantee;
- e) to submit the restrictions on changes in the ownership of shares for the licensees;
- ë) to set up the server, on which full information will be provided regarding every transaction carried out between the entity and the players, the turnover and profit, as well as any data requested by the AMLF in relation to the development of this activity. The AMLF shall have real-time access to this server;
- f) *Must be certified or classified in accordance with the definitions of point 2, Article 35, of Law no. 155/2015, “On gambling in the Republic of Albania.”*

2. To verify the fulfillment of the requirements provided in point 1, Chapter III of this decision, the applicant must submit the following documentation to the Authority:

- a) A notarized copy of the registration certificate with the unique identification number of the applicant;
- b) The company's statute and/or the act of establishment;
- c) Historical extract of the entity's data, issued by the National Business Center, certifying that the company is in active status;
- ç) The applicant or at least one of its shareholders who has experience in the field of gambling must submit a list of activities in the field of gambling, accompanied by authorizations, approvals, licenses or permits, based on which such activities have been carried out;
- d) The applicant and the shareholders must submit documentation verifying the origin and capital funds, which will be invested in the conduct of the activity.
- dh) Confirmation from a banking institution certifying that the subject has the necessary financial capacity to fulfill obligations and financial guarantees, in favor of the ministry responsible for

finance and the AMLF, in accordance with Articles 19, point 3, the letter “e”, and 47, points 1 and 2, of Law no. 155/2015, "On gambling in the Republic of Albania," as amended;

e) The company’s shareholders, when these are legal entities, must submit their founding acts and respective statutes, along with a certificate issued by the relevant commercial registry, where the names of their shareholders, beneficial owners holding more than a qualifying percentage, names of shareholders holding special rights, names and identification of managing or representative bodies, as well as any other data required by law enforcement authorities, are clearly listed, if requested by the Authority;

ë) *A 5-star classification certificate or a certificate from the responsible institution confirming that the accommodation structure meets the general criteria for classification as a 5-star hotel.*

3. If the shareholders or the applying subject are individuals, they must submit the following documentation:

a) Certificate that the individual has not been criminally convicted by a final court decision and is not under criminal prosecution for criminal offenses in the field of economic crime, tax and/or customs evasion, abuse of office, bribery, corruption, theft, trafficking of narcotics or weapons, explosives, failure to pay fines, or other criminal offenses that compromise the person’s honor or integrity.

b) Certificate that the individual is not under judicial proceedings for criminal offenses as specified in letter "a" of this point.

c) Certificate from the Bailiff's Office that the individual is not undergoing enforcement proceedings for unpaid financial obligations. To fulfill the requirements of letters “a”, “b” and “c” of this point, the applicant must submit a criminal record certificate, confirmation from the court that there are no judicial proceedings, from the prosecution that there are no criminal proceedings, and from the enforcement service that there are no enforcement procedures underway.

ç) The applicant must submit the financial data for the business activity of the shareholders for the last 3 (three) years.

d) The applicant must submit documents for the company’s shareholders and representatives, information from the law enforcement bodies, documents proving that the applicant is active and has no criminal record, and confirmation that the entity is not undergoing bankruptcy procedures. The applicant must also submit certifications issued by the competent authorities, according to the subject’s territorial jurisdiction, confirming the following:

i. The subject is not under criminal investigation;

ii. The subject is not on trial for criminal offenses;

iii. The subject is not undergoing enforcement proceedings for unpaid financial obligations, from the Bailiff's Office.

4. In addition to the above, the following documentation must also be submitted:

a) Attestation of judicial status, submitted by the applicant/administrators or shareholders of the company at the time of application; confirmation that they are not under judicial proceedings or have not been convicted by a final court decision for criminal offenses in the field of economic crime, fiscal and/or customs evasion, abuse of office, bribery, theft, trafficking of narcotic substances or weapons, explosives, failure to pay fines, or other criminal offenses that compromise the integrity or honor of the person. In cases where the applicant, administrator, or shareholder is a foreign natural/legal person and such documents/certifications cannot be issued by the relevant institutions of the country of origin, a written declaration will suffice.

b) A preliminary agreement with at least one second-level bank operating in the territory of the Republic of Albania, for receipt, deposit, and transfer of payments.

c) Any other information that the Authority or its authorized representative deems necessary to request from the applicant in relation to the field of activity in the "Casino" category.

ç) In addition to the specified documentation, the applicant must also submit a self-declaration stating they are not under criminal investigation, and a document confirming that the applicant has fulfilled all past obligations.

- fiscal obligations, issued by the tax administration;
- all social insurance obligations, issued by the tax administration.

d) A declaration by the applicant entity, through which the subject assumes responsibility for the accuracy of the data and documents submitted in the file;

dh) A declaration that the applying entity is not a debtor to state institutions and has fulfilled its obligations in accordance with the applicable legislation;

e) A declaration by the applying entity that none of its shareholders, legal representatives, or members of its governing bodies, nor any individuals who have been shareholders, legal representatives, or members of the governing bodies of other entities operating in gambling, are debtors to state institutions;

ë) A declaration that the applying entity has no shareholders, legal representatives, or members of its governing bodies, nor individuals who have been shareholders, legal representatives, or members of the governing bodies of entities operating in gambling, who have been convicted by a final court decision for criminal offenses specified in Law no. 155/2015, "On gambling in the Republic of Albania," as amended.

f) The draft regulation of the game, prepared in accordance with the requirements of Article 38 of Law no. 155/2015, "On gambling in the Republic of Albania," as amended;

g) In addition to the registration certificate verifying the registration of the entity, documents proving that the criteria set out in the legislation on gambling are met must be issued/approved by the relevant authorities within the last 3 (three) months from the date of application.

5. The Authority has the right to verify any information and document submitted by the applicant. For this, the applicant must include in their application an authorization allowing the Authority to conduct, without any restriction, verification of the documentation and/or information provided in the application. Failure by the applicant to provide such authorization will result in the rejection of the application.

## CHAPTER IV

### TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

1. The applicant entity must submit documents regarding organizational and administrative capacities, as follows:

a) A declaration of the average number of employees and the number of management staff;

b) Information about the tools and technical equipment available or that may be made available to the applicant, for the purpose of fulfilling obligations arising from the license;

c) Information and technical data regarding the electronic equipment used or to be used by the applicant, which must comply with international standards, with the purpose of providing real-time access to the AMLF through the back-office system for every transaction carried out between the entity and players, recording winnings, and any other data required by the Authority.

2. The applicant entity or at least one of the applicant's shareholders must demonstrate experience in the field of gambling, providing detailed information on this experience, accompanied by a list of licenses, qualifications of key staff, as well as any other supporting document deemed necessary.

3. The applicant entity must submit a list and declarations regarding:

- the software used or proposed to be used;
- the licensed models and SSL certificates used or proposed to be used;
- any international standard or certification, such as ISO 9001, 27001, etc.

4. The applicant entity must submit to the AMLF documents proving that the equipment to be used for the development of casino games meets the required standards, in accordance with the technical specifications set forth in Articles 42 and 43 of Law no. 155/2015, “On gambling in the Republic of Albania,” as amended.

5. The system must operate through a server that is monitored online by the AMLF. This server must meet all high-level security conditions and protective systems against interference from hazardous elements that may damage the data or shut down this server.

6. The organizer must ensure compliance with the provisions of Law no. 155/2015, “On Gambling in the Republic of Albania,” as amended, regarding online monitoring by the Central Online Monitoring System at the time of its operation.

## CHAPTER V

### LICENSING PROCEDURE

1. Every applicant must prepare a written request to the Authority (AMLF), accompanied by all the documentation required in this decision.
2. The documentation must be submitted in two copies (original and photocopy).
3. An applicant seeking clarification on the conditions and technical requirements provided in the law on gambling, relevant bylaws, or this decision, must submit a written request to the Authority. The Authority will review the request submitted by the applicant and respond within 5 (five) calendar days from the date of receipt of the request.
4. The Authority notifies the subject regarding any additional requests for documentation that it deems necessary. It may also summon the applicant for more detailed information.
5. The Authority reviews the application file within 30 (thirty) days from the date of submission of the documentation. This deadline may be extended by no more than 15 (fifteen) calendar days.
6. The Authority shall notify the applicant in writing of the acceptance or rejection of the application within the above-mentioned deadline.
7. In case of rejection, the applicant has the right, within 30 (thirty) days from the date of receiving the notification or the date on which the applicant became aware of the rejection, to file an appeal with the minister responsible for finance, who shall respond within 30 (thirty) days from the date of receipt of the appeal. The minister's decision is final at the administrative level.
8. In case of acceptance of the application, AMLF shall inform the applicant of the approval of the license request and shall invite the applicant to:
  - a) pay the fee, according to the relevant instruction of the Minister of Finance, “On the method and deadlines for paying the licensing fee for each category of gambling”;
  - b) secure the guarantee fund for the winner of the gambling, meaning the guarantee fund for fulfilling periodic obligations to state institutions, according to Article 47 of Law No. 155/2015, “On gambling in the Republic of Albania,” as amended.

## CHAPTER VI

### SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE

Failure to secure the guarantee funds or non-payment of the fee constitutes grounds for suspension and/or revocation of the license by AMLF.

## CHAPTER VII

### FINAL PROVISIONS

The Authority for the Supervision of Gambling at the Ministry of Finance and Economy is responsible for implementing this decision.

This decision enters into force upon its publication in the Official Journal.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER  
**Erion Braçe**