

230.300 License to conduct race meetings or engage in simulcasting and intertrack wagering as a receiving track -- Application -- Racing dates. (Effective July 15, 2026)

- (1) Any person desiring to conduct horse racing at a horse race meeting within the Commonwealth of Kentucky or to engage in simulcasting and intertrack wagering as a receiving track during any calendar year shall first apply to the corporation for a license to do so. The application shall be filed at the corporation's general office on or before October 1 of the preceding year with respect to applications to conduct live horse race meetings, and with respect to intertrack wagering dates, and on forms prescribed by the corporation. The application shall include the following information:
 - (a) The full name and address of the person making application;
 - (b) The location of the place, track, or enclosure where the applicant proposes to conduct horse racing meetings;
 - (c) The dates on which the applicant intends to conduct horse racing, which shall be successive days unless authorized by the corporation;
 - (d) The proposed hours of each racing day and the number of races to be conducted;
 - (e) The names and addresses of all principals associated with the applicant or licensee;
 - (f) The type of organizational structure under which the applicant operates, i.e., partnership, trust, association, limited liability company, or corporation, and the address of the principal place of business of the organization;
 - (g) Any criminal activities in any jurisdiction for which any individual listed under paragraphs (a) and (e) has been arrested or indicted and the disposition of the charges, and any current or on-going criminal investigation of which any of these individuals is the subject; and
 - (h) Any other information that the corporation by administrative regulation deems relevant and necessary to determine the fitness of the applicant to receive a license, including fingerprints of any individual listed under paragraphs (a) and (e), if necessary for proper identification of the individual or a determination of suitability to be associated with a licensed racing association.
- (2) An application for association license shall be accompanied by the following documents:
 - (a) For a new license applicant, a financial statement prepared and attested to by a certified public accountant in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, showing the following:
 1. The net worth of the applicant;
 2. Any debts or financial obligations owed by the applicant and the persons to whom owed; and
 3. The proposed or current financing structure for the operation and the sources of financing.
 - (b) For a license renewal applicant, an audited financial statement for the prior

- year;
- (c) A copy of the applicant's federal and state tax return for the previous year. Tax returns submitted in accordance with this provision shall be treated as confidential;
 - (d) A statement from the Department of Revenue that there are no delinquent taxes or other financial obligations owed by the applicant to the state or any of its agencies or departments;
 - (e) A statement from the county treasurer of the county in which the applicant conducts or proposes to conduct horse racing meetings that there are no delinquent real or personal property taxes owed by the applicant.
- (3) The completed application shall be signed by the applicant or the chief executive officer if the applicant is an organization, sworn under oath that the information is true, accurate, and complete, and the application shall be notarized.
 - (4) If there is any change in any information submitted in the application process, the applicant or licensee shall notify the corporation within thirty (30) days of the change.
 - (5)
 - (a) The corporation shall as soon as practicable, but in no event later than November 1 in any calendar year, award dates for racing in the Commonwealth during the next year. In awarding dates, the corporation shall consider and seek to preserve each track's usual and customary dates, as these dates are requested. If dates other than the usual and customary dates are requested, the applicant shall include a statement in its application setting forth the reasons the requested dates are sought. Dates for the conduct of intertrack wagering shall be awarded as provided in KRS 230.377.
 - (b) After November 1, the corporation may authorize additional racing dates or otherwise make adjustments or amendments to the racing dates awarded if doing so is requested by the licensed association, supported by the applicable horsemen's group, deemed to be in the best interest of racing, and, if the change impacts the race dates of another licensed association, only with the affected licensed association's express written consent.
 - (6) The corporation may issue a license to conduct a horse race meeting to any association making the aforesaid application if the applicant meets the requirements established in KRS 138.530 and other applicable provisions of this chapter, and if the corporation finds that the proposed conduct of racing by the association would be in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare of the immediate community as well as to the Commonwealth.
 - (7) As a condition precedent to the issuance of a license, the corporation may require a surety bond or other surety conditioned upon the payment of all taxes due the Commonwealth, together with the payment of operating expenses including purses and awards to owners of horses participating in races.
 - (8) The corporation may impose a fee and may establish, by administrative regulation promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A, a fee schedule for association license applications.
 - (9) The corporation may require an applicant for an association license to submit to a

background check of the applicant, or of any principal, individual, or organization associated with the applicant. The corporation shall not require a background check for any individual who is a principal as defined in KRS 230.210 but owns stock or financial interest in the applicant of less than ten percent (10%). An applicant shall be required to reimburse the corporation for the cost of any background check conducted.

- (10) Every license issued under this chapter shall specify among other things the name of the person to whom issued, the address and location of the track where the horse race meeting to which it relates is to be held or conducted, and the days and hours of the day when the meeting will be permitted; provided, however, that no track that is granted overlapping dates for the conduct of a live race meeting with another horse racing track within a fifty (50) mile radius shall be permitted to have a post time after 5:30 p.m., prevailing time for overlapping days between July 1 and September 15, unless agreed to in writing by the tracks affected.
- (11) A license issued under this section is neither transferable nor assignable and shall not permit the conduct of a horse race meeting at any track not specified therein. However, if the track specified becomes unsuitable for racing because of flood, fire, or other catastrophe, the corporation may, upon application, authorize the meeting, or any remaining portion thereof, to be conducted at any other suitable track available for that purpose, provided that the owner of the track willingly consents to the use thereof.
- (12) Horse racing dates may be awarded and licenses issued authorizing horse racing on any day of the year. Horse racing shall be held or conducted only between sunrise and midnight.
- (13) The corporation may at any time require the removal of any official or employee of any association in those instances where it has reason to believe that the official or employee has been guilty of any dishonest practice in connection with horse racing or has failed to comply with any condition of his or her license or has violated any law or any administrative regulation of the corporation.
- (14) Every horse race not licensed under this section is hereby declared to be a public nuisance and the corporation may obtain an injunction against the same in the Circuit Court of the county where the unlicensed race is proposed to take place.
- (15) (a) A licensee or applicant under this chapter, KRS Chapter 238, or any other licensee that the corporation has authority over, shall not be issued a license or be allowed to renew a license if there is a failure by the licensee or applicant to pay any taxes imposed under KRS 138.510, 138.513, 138.552, in addition to any other taxes, license fees, or any other payments required to the Commonwealth under this chapter and KRS Chapters 132, 138, 139, 141, and 238, including but not limited to:
 1. Any financial obligations related to the following:
 - a. Pari-mutuel wagering;
 - b. Advance deposit wagering;
 - c. Sports wagering;
 - d. Fantasy contests;

- e. Event contracts; or
 - f. Charitable gaming; or
2. Any transactions or fees or any other financial obligations owed to the state or any of its agencies or departments.
- (b) The Department of Revenue may provide information to the corporation pertaining to a potential applicant or licensee in paragraph (a) of this subsection as permitted by KRS 131.190.

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History: Amended 2026 Ky. Acts ch. 184, sec. 19, effective July 15, 2026. -- Amended 2025 Ky. Acts ch. 124, sec. 39, effective July 1, 2025. -- Amended 2024 Ky. Acts ch. 171, sec. 56, effective July 1, 2024. -- Amended 2010 Ky. Acts ch. 24, sec. 455, effective July 15, 2010. -- Amended 2009 Ky. Acts ch. 80, sec. 6, effective June 25, 2009. -- Amended 2005 Ky. Acts ch. 85, sec. 633, effective June 20, 2005. -- Amended 2004 Ky. Acts ch. 191, sec. 11, effective July 13, 2004. -- Amended 1998 Ky. Acts ch. 237, sec. 5, effective July 15, 1998. -- Amended 1992 Ky. Acts ch. 109, sec. 20, effective March 30, 1992. -- Amended 1990 Ky. Acts ch. 159, sec. 4, effective March 30, 1990. -- Amended 1986 Ky. Acts ch. 296, sec. 4, effective July 15, 1986. -- Amended 1984 Ky. Acts ch. 240, sec. 5, effective July 13, 1984. -- Amended 1978 Ky. Acts ch. 438, sec. 1, effective June 17, 1978. -- Amended 1974 Ky. Acts ch. 403, sec. 4. -- Amended 1970 Ky. Acts ch. 156, sec. 5. -- Amended 1968 Ky. Acts ch. 214, sec. 1. -- Created 1960 Ky. Acts ch. 184, sec. 10.