

Eastern Washington University Raffle Guidelines

There are strict laws and regulations that apply to conducting a raffle in Washington State. These rules fall under the authority of the Washington State Gambling Commission (WSGC).

What is a raffle?

A raffle is a game where tickets are sold and prizes are awarded based on chance. (RCW 9.46.0277). Raffles are considered to be a form of gambling under Washington's laws.

Who may offer raffles?

EWU Groups and Affiliates Eligible to Offer Raffles:

ASEWU:

The ASEWU is eligible to offer raffles as they meet the Washington State Gambling Commission's definition of a nonprofit organization for educational purposes under RCW 9.46.0209. Likewise, student clubs and organizations that are affiliated with ASEWU umbrella are also eligible to offer raffles. **However**, the ASEWU **must** obtain a license from the Washington State Gambling Commission before the ASEWU or any club or organization under ASEWU is permitted to have a raffle on campus. Note: When any student club or organization offers a raffle under the auspices of the ASEWU, the Office of Student Activities, Involvement, and Leadership (SAIL) shall direct and control all raffle activities to ensure compliance with WSGC rules for raffle conduct, recordkeeping and reporting.

FRATERNITIES, SORORITIES, AND OTHER NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS:

Fraternities, Sororities and other nonprofit organizations that are affiliated with EWU (e.g. EWU Foundation, Alumni Association, Friends of the Library, and similar, bona fide nonprofit organizations) are eligible to offer raffles, so long as they meet all other qualifying requirements established under RCW 9.46.0209. However, before any fraternity or sorority offers a raffle, they should consult with their national headquarters and the Washington State Gambling Commission to ensure they are permitted to offer a raffle and that any raffle conducted meets all of the necessary requirements.

Who may not offer raffles?

No department or unit of Eastern Washington University may offer a raffle.

Rules for conducting raffles

All raffles conducted on campus or at university events must fully comply with all regulations of the Washington State Gambling Commission.

WSGC rules are contained in Chapter 230-11, Washington Administrative Code.

1. Use of raffle proceeds:

Proceeds must be used towards the organization's stated purpose. However, proceeds may go to the charitable benefit of a specific person, but only if you get approval from the WSGC before offering the raffle.

2. Licensing:

The ASEWU must obtain a license from the Washington State Gambling Commission before offering any raffles. Other bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations may also be required to obtain a license. To obtain a license, please contact the WSGC at (509) 325-7900.

3. Additional Rules and Procedures:

There are a variety of additional rules and procedures that must be followed when offering a raffle. Additional information is available at: <http://www.wsgc.wa.gov/activities.aspx>. These rules address, among other things:

- Selling Tickets
- Rules of Play
- Advertising
- Purchasing Tickets
- Prizes
- Determining Winners
- Notifying Local Police
- Recordkeeping and Reporting
- Public Raffles
- Member-Only Raffles

Points of Contact

ASEWU, Student Clubs and Organizations

SAIL, 110 Sutton Hall
509.359.2514
Email: sail@ewu.edu

All other groups, departments, or organizations:

AVP for Business & Auxiliary Services
211 Tawanka Hall
509.359.6618
Email: tlutey@ewu.edu

Washington State Gambling Commission:

901 N. Monroe, Suite 240
Spokane, WA 99201
(509) 325-7900
Email: SpokaneFO@wsgc.wa.gov