

How to apply for an Isle of Man Gambling Licence

Applying for an Isle of Man online gambling licence, also known as an eGaming or OGRA licence, can seem like a daunting task but is quite straight forward. Our team at Manavia, part of the MannBenham Group, has over 25 years of experience in the field and will be happy to assist you in the process. Below is a quick overview of what to expect once you decide to proceed:

1. Decide if your activity is licensable and what licence to apply for. Not all activities require a licence under Isle of Man regulation, and we will be happy to review this with you. Once you have determined that your activity requires a licence, you can decide which type to apply for:

Full Licence – covers all online gambling activities allowed under Isle of Man regulations, including casino, live casino, sports betting, poker, bingo, lottery, pools and other games of chance.

Sub Licence – allows all activities permitted under the Full Licence but requires the sub-licensee to exclusively work with a full licence holder.

Network Licence – includes all aspects of the Full Licence and also allows operators to accept players from operators licensed elsewhere to play without having to re-register them

Software Supplier Licence – a purely voluntary licence that allows companies to have their products and services listed on the Isle of Man software supplier register. Also available as Token based version.

2. Get started with Manavia. Once you have decided that you want a licence, it's time to put a formal letter of engagement in place between yourself and us. This will outline the services we provide, and the costs associated with them. We will also ask you for due diligence from your side as required under local regulations.

3. After you have been onboarded, the actual application process starts. We will guide you through this step by step and supply you with the required templates and documents, including the business plan and financial projections templates, as well as draft versions of all required policies if you do not yet have your own. We will assist with the completion of all required paperwork and be always on hand to answer any questions.
4. Once the application pack has been completed, we will submit it to the Isle of Man Gambling Supervision Commission and also work with the regulator during the 12 week period reserved for Questions & Queries. Following this, we will attend the licence hearing with you, after which the licence will usually be issued.
5. Once the licence is issued, we will work with you on the Go Live phase. You have nine months to go live from the date the licence was issued. We will do as little or as much as you require from us, and our managed services often come into play here. These allow us to provide you with key roles such as MLRO and Operations Manager if and where needed.
6. Finally, it's time to go live and start operating under your Isle of Man licence. Our team will be at hand to support your operation where needed and ensure everything runs smoothly.

The whole process from issuing our letter of engagement to having an Isle of Man licence on your office wall can be completed in as little as six months. Contact us today to get started!

Simply email us at egaming@manavia.im



MANAVIA
Corporate & Trust Services

Manavia Limited

49 Victoria Street, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 2LD



+44 (0)1624 639350



egaming@manavia.im



www.manavia.im



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