Self-exclusion is a process that allows a person to request to be excluded from legalized gaming activities within a casino and offsite venues, and to be prohibited from collecting any winnings, recovering any losses or accepting complimentary gifts or services or any other thing of value at any licensed facility.

Self-exclusion only applies to the gaming floor of the licensed gaming facilities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

How do I get placed on the Self-Exclusion List?

A person may have his or her name placed on the Self-Exclusion List by submitting, in person, a completed request for self-exclusion to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board. The instructions form can be found on the PGCB website. The submission may be made in person by scheduling an appointment at the PGCB Harrisburg Office, one of the PGCB’s regional offices or a PGCB office in a licensed facility. To make an appointment call the Office of Compulsive and Problem Gambling at 717-346-8300.

The request for self-exclusion requires the following identifying information:

1. Name, including any aliases or nicknames
2. Date of Birth
3. Address of current residence
4. Telephone number
5. Social Security number, when voluntarily provided in accordance with section 7 of the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. § 552a)
6. Physical description, including height, weight, gender, hair color, eye color and any other physical characteristic that may assist in identification.
7. Government-issued photo identification such as a driver’s license or passport

Can I place a family member with a gambling problem on the list?

No. A person cannot place another person on the Self-Exclusion List. Placement on the list is entirely voluntary and must be done by the individual seeking exclusion.

May I mail the self-exclusion request to the PGCB offices?

No. The person submitting the request for self-exclusion must apply in person to the PGCB office or other approved locations to be photographed, and will be required to present a valid government-issued photo identification containing the person’s signature and photograph.

How long will I be on the Self-Exclusion List?

The person submitting the request for self-exclusion may request to be excluded from gaming activities for a minimum length of one of the following:

- One year (12 months);
- Five years;
- Lifetime.

Self-exclusions do not expire.

Can my name be removed from the Self-Exclusion List?

Self-exclusions for 1 or 5 years remain in effect until the self-excluded person requests removal from the PGCB’s Self-Exclusion List. A person may, upon the conclusion of the minimum period of self-exclusion, request to be removed from the Self-Exclusion List by calling 717-346-8300. Individuals who choose the lifetime ban are unable to request removal from the Self-Exclusion List.

For more information on the Self-Exclusion List removal process call the Office of Compulsive & Problem Gambling at 717-346-8300.

What will happen after I sign up for self-exclusion?

Licensed facilities must refuse wagers from and deny gaming privileges to any self-excluded person; deny check cashing privileges, player club memberships, complimentary goods and services, junket participation and other similar privileges and benefits to any self-excluded person;
Is my gambling behavior problematic?

Please answer the following 10 yes / no questions honestly:
(NODS-SA NORC diagnostic screen for gambling problems-self administered)

1. Have there ever been periods lasting two weeks or longer when you spent a lot of time thinking about your gambling experiences, planning out future gambling ventures or bets, or thinking about ways of getting money to gamble with?*

2. Have there ever been periods when you needed to gamble with increasing amounts of money or with larger bets than before in order to get the same feeling of excitement?*

3. Have you ever felt restless or irritable when trying to stop, cut down, or control your gambling?*

4. Have you tried and not succeeded in stopping, cutting down, or controlling your gambling three or more times in your life?*

5. Have you ever gambled to escape from personal problems, or to relieve uncomfortable feelings such as guilt, anxiety, helplessness, or depression?*

6. Has there ever been a period when, if you lost money gambling one day, you would often return another day to get even?*

7. Have you lied to family members, friends, or others about how much you gamble, and/or about how much money you lost on gambling, on at least three occasions?*

8. Have you ever written a bad cheque or taken money that didn’t belong to you from family members, friends, or anyone else in order to pay for your gambling?*

9. Has your gambling ever caused serious or repeated problems in your relationships with any of your family members or friends? Or, has your gambling ever caused you problems at work or your studies?*

10. Have you ever needed to ask family members, friends, a lending institution, or anyone else to loan you money or otherwise bail you out of a desperate money situation that was largely caused by your gambling?*

*This self-assessment will help you figure out if there is a problem, but only a professional can diagnose if it is a gambling problem, a different problem, or both. If you answered yes to one or more of the above question, you should seek help.

Call the Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania Hotline at 1-800-GAMBLER

For information on the Board’s other Self-Exclusion Programs, visit the PGCB website.

Website: www.gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov
E-mail: problemgambling@pa.gov
Address: Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board
PO. Box 69060
Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060
Attn: Office of Compulsive and Problem Gambling