



Memorandum Order No. 2025-104
04 April 2025

POLICY ON RESPONSIBLE GAMING RESEARCH PROGRAM

I. BACKGROUND

The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) recognizes its responsibility to promote responsible gaming while generating revenue for health programs, medical assistance, and charitable causes. As part of its commitment to social responsibility and ethical gaming practices, PCSO aligns its responsible gaming initiatives with the standards set by the World Lottery Association (WLA). This Responsible Gaming Policy for Research outlines the principles, objectives, and guidelines governing research initiatives related to responsible gaming.

II. OBJECTIVES

This policy aims to:

1. Foster a culture of responsible gaming through evidence-based policies and practices.
2. Support research that enhances understanding of responsible gaming behaviors and problem gambling mitigation.
3. Provide guidelines for conducting ethical and high-quality research on gaming and its social impacts.
4. Ensure transparency, accountability, and compliance with WLA standards in gaming-related research.
5. Utilize research findings to inform policy decisions and program development.

III. COVERAGE

This policy applies to:

1. PCSO employees involved in research initiatives.
2. External researchers and academic institutions partnering with PCSO.
3. Institutions and organizations receiving funding from PCSO for responsible gaming research.
4. Government agencies and stakeholders collaborating on gaming-related studies.
5. Third-party service providers contracted for gaming-related research.

IV. CORE PRINCIPLES

PCSO adheres to the following core principles in responsible gaming research:

1. **Integrity and Transparency:** Research must be conducted ethically, ensuring data accuracy and openness in findings.
2. **Scientific Rigor:** Research methodologies must be robust, valid, and reliable.



3. **Independence:** Research findings should be free from undue influence, ensuring credibility and objectivity.
4. **Social Responsibility:** Research should prioritize public welfare and address problem gambling concerns.
5. **Privacy and Confidentiality:** Personal data collected during research must be protected in compliance with data protection laws.

V. RESEARCH GUIDELINES

1. **Ethical Considerations:** Research proposals must undergo an ethics review to ensure compliance with ethical standards.
2. **Collaboration and Partnerships:** PCSO encourages collaborations with universities, research institutions, and relevant stakeholders.
3. **Data Collection and Use:** Research must comply with privacy laws, ensuring data security and informed consent from participants.
4. **Dissemination of Findings:** Research results must be published and shared with relevant stakeholders to promote knowledge exchange.
5. **Application of Research:** Findings should inform responsible gaming initiatives, policies, and public awareness campaigns.

VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

PCSO will establish mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of responsible gaming research through:

1. **Annual Research Review:** Conducting an annual assessment of research projects and their impact on gaming policies.
2. **Stakeholder Engagement:** Consulting with industry experts, regulators, and affected communities to validate research outcomes.
3. **Performance Metrics:** Establishing key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure the success of responsible gaming initiatives based on research findings.

VII. ENFORCEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

1. **Regulatory Oversight:** PCSO will ensure compliance with gaming laws and ethical research standards.
2. **Audit Mechanisms:** Research projects will be subject to audits to verify adherence to ethical guidelines and responsible gaming principles.
3. **Sanctions and Penalties:** Non-compliance with research guidelines may result in suspension of funding, revocation of research and memorandum of agreements, or legal actions when necessary.

VIII. REVIEW AND UPDATES

This policy shall be reviewed and updated as necessary to ensure alignment with international best practices and evolving responsible gaming standards.

All updates will be made based on new research findings, regulatory changes, and stakeholder feedback and communicated to relevant partners and stakeholders.

For strict compliance.

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[REDACTED]
MELQUIADES A. ROBLES
General Manager [REDACTED]

