

Bingo Division
Special Message: April 17, 2020

To all authorized organizations conducting bingo, commercial lessors,
manufacturers and distributors in Texas

Quarterly Reports for the first quarter of 2020:

In Order to timely file, quarterly reports must be postmarked by Monday, April 27th, 2020 or submitted electronically. The Commission's administrative rules do provide that an organization may file for an extension "because of natural disaster" of up to 90 days by filing a request to the bingo division within 5 days of the original due date. See Below.

Note: The Governor's disaster declaration of March 13, 2020 and the subsequent extension on April 12, 2020 may be used to justify the request for an extension.

Here is the rule for reference:

Texas Administrative Code, Title 16, Part 9, Chapter 402, Rule 402.600.

(l) Extensions.

(1) Filing extension because of natural disaster.

(A) The Director will grant to a licensee who has been identified as a victim of a natural disaster an extension of not more than 90 days to file a quarterly report and supplements or pay prize fees provided the licensee has filed a timely request for an extension. In determining the natural disaster victims, the Commission shall recognize the counties that have been identified by the Office of the Governor or the Comptroller of Public Accounts.

(B) The person owing the quarterly report, supplements, or prize fees must file a written request for an extension at any time before the expiration of five working days after the original due date in order to obtain an extension.

(C) If an extension under this paragraph is granted, interest on the unpaid prize fee does not begin to accrue until the day after the day on which the extension expires, and prize fees and penalties are assessed and determined as though the last day of the extension were the original due date.

Reminder:

- The Charitable Bingo Division has also received questions related to odd amounts when determining the states portion of the prize fees. See below for clarification.

Rule 402.600 (m) Rounding. Quarterly report entries must be rounded to whole dollar amounts, where indicated. To round off amounts to the nearest whole dollar, drop amounts under 50 cents and increase amounts from 50 - 99 cents to the next dollar. A quarterly report will not be considered inaccurate based on rounding numbers provided that such rounding does not result in more than a \$5.00 variance when all entries are summed up.

Please contact the Bingo Division if you have any questions,

Tom Hanson, Acting Director