



**GCB**

Curaçao Gaming Control Board

## **Digital Seal Policy for Online Gaming Operators**

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## **Introduction**

### **Purpose**

This policy outlines the guidelines for the use of the Digital Seal granted by the Curacao Gaming Control Board (the “GCB”).

The aim of this policy is to ensure that license holders utilize the Digital Seal responsibly and in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth by the GCB.

### **Policy Updates**

*Effective as of 23rd September 2024*

This policy is subject to change to reflect the dynamic nature of our licensing policy. The GCB reserves the right to update this policy periodically. Operators are advised to check the GCB portal regularly to stay informed of any changes or updates to the policy.

### **Digital Seal Definition**

The GCB utilizes an online Digital Seal System to offer real-time public verification of a license holder's current status. This digital seal, which is unique to each domain, serves as an instant verification tool, ensuring transparency and trust.

The Digital Seal links to a certification portal operated by the GCB, and displays one of these options, based on the domain name:

1. The Progress and Status of an Application for a License
2. The Status of a License
3. The Status of an Operating Sub-License.

This system enhances accountability by providing immediate, verifiable updates to the public about the licensing status of operators, directly linked to their domain.

Excepting their individual purpose, the Green Digital Seal and Orange Digital seal as outlined below are the equivalent to each other by way of real-time public verification.



## **Types of Digital Seal**

### **Green Digital Seal**

The following green Digital Seal is the only authorized seal by the GCB that must and can only be used by online games of chance license holders that have obtained a license from the GCB on the basis of the National Ordinance on Offshore Games of Hazard (NOOGH):



### **Orange Digital Seal**

The Orange Digital Seal is a temporary Certificate of Operation available only to sub-licensees who have applied for a direct license from the GCB under the NOOGH and are awaiting a decision from the GCB on their license application at the time that their Master License agreement expires.

The Orange Digital Seal is not a guarantee that an applicant will have a license granted or be entitled to a Green Digital Seal.

The Orange Digital Seal is an entitlement not an obligation on applicants, but once the seal is used the non-refundable fee outlined below is mandatory.





### **Status of An Application**

An application goes through a number of stages before being granted a license. These stages, in order of the manner carried out are:

- New – Means that the applicant has started a license on the GCB Portal, but not yet submitted to the GCB.
- In Progress – The license is being processed by the GCB
- On Hold – The GCB is waiting for information from the applicant.
- Withdrawn – At any point during the application process, the applicant withdraws the application voluntarily
- Approved and Granted
  - Approved: The license has been approved by the GCB, along with the Initial Invoice as referenced in the Fees and Collections Policy. The license is not formally granted until the Initial Invoice is paid in full. The operator may not use the Green Digital Seal at this time.
  - Granted: The license is formally granted, added to the licensee register on the GCB website and the operator is authorized to use the Green Digital Seal.
- Rejected – The application process was completed but it was not found suitable for a license

### **Status of a License**

Once a license has been granted it can hold any of the following status:

- Active – The license is valid and active.
- Suspended – The License is active but there are some restrictions on its operations
- Revoked – The License has been revoked by the GCB.
- Withdrawn – The license has been voluntary withdrawn by the operator with the permission of the GCB.

### **Eligibility for Digital Seal Usage**

#### **Criteria for Use**

By displaying the digital seal on their approved websites, operators are granted a limited, non-exclusive, and non-transferable license to use the seal solely for the purpose of indicating their compliance with regulatory standards and their status as a licensed online gaming operator under the New Policy under NOOGH.



#### Green Digital Seal

- Available only to entities that have been granted a direct license by the GCB and whose name is on the list of licensed entities that is publicly available on the GCB website.
- Available only to entities who are compliant and up-to-date with all payments in accordance with the Fees and Collections Policy publicly available on the GCB website.

#### Orange Digital Seal

- Available only to entities that have been operating as sub-licensees and submitted applications on or before April 30<sup>th</sup> 2024.
- In principle, only domains officially registered under a valid Master License agreement at the time the application was made are eligible to display the Orange Digital Seal. The orange seal will be automatically available in this case.
- The GCB is aware that some sub-license holders making their application before or on April 30<sup>th</sup> 2024, incorrectly or inadvertently, did not link the domains to the original Master License holder as outlined on the GCB Portal. To this end we will consider such applications on an individual basis.
  - Note that this particular certificate is addressed on a case-by-case basis and issued only at such a time that the GCB is satisfied that excepting for the application anomaly the operator would otherwise be entitled to the Orange Digital Seal.

To apply for this seal, an operator must email [orangeseal@gcb.cw](mailto:orangeseal@gcb.cw) providing necessary evidence that each domain requested has indeed been operational under a Master License.

#### **License and Seal Fees**

##### **Green Digital Seal**

The license fee owed by the permit holder amounts to NAF 120,000 per year for licenses with up to 40 main domain names, subject to future adjustments, including, but not limited to, the ability to charge a fee to approve future changes or additions, such as domains or UBOs.



The payment of the license fee is as follows:

- NAF 36,000 upon granting of the permit, as further determined by the GCB.
- NAF 7,000 per month, from the first month, as further determined by the GCB.
- For each main domain name added to the license, an annual license fee of NAF 500 per main domain name.

The Initial Invoice of NAF 36,000 must be paid in full before the license holder is authorized to use the Green Digital Seal.

### **Orange Digital Seal**

The sub-licensee authorized to display the temporary Orange Digital Seal must pay a non-refundable fee of Naf 28,000. For operators who use the Orange Digital Seal, this payment will be deducted from the license fee upon approval by the GCB. Non-payment of the fee for the Orange Digital Seal will delay or affect the outcome of the license holder's application.

## **Digital Seal Specifications**

### **Design and Format Requirements**

1. The Digital Seal may (and must) only be used (no other text or graphics) on the authorized websites to indicate the operator's authorization from the GCB.
2. The Digital Seal link must be downloaded from the GCB portal and cannot be recreated or re-worked. The link contains an active image that sends information to the GCB on its usage. Therefore, it is prohibited to use a copy of the seal image on the home page or direct it's hyperlink to any other page.
3. A click on the seal should lead to the certificate of the operator on the cert website by the GCB. The green seal certificate shows the name of the operator, date of licensing, license number, the standing of the operator and the main domains connected to the license. The orange seal certificate shows the name of the operator, license application number, the main domains and states that the operator is permitted to continue operations until is decided on its license.



## Placement on Digital Platforms

1. The Digital Seal must be prominently positioned on the footer of the homepage or main landing page of the authorized website.
2. Optimal display size for the image is 150 x 85 pixels. Notwithstanding its size must not be reduced to the extent that the text or graphics become unreadable to the human eye.
3. If the seal is enlarged or reduced in size, the scale of the image may not be altered.
4. The colors of the Digital Seal must not be adjusted. If the Digital Seal does not contrast with the background, a 2-pixel white (#FFF) border must be placed around it.

## Proper Use of Digital Seal

1. Image Link: The preferred method is to create a direct link to the seal image provided here.
2. Image Association: Ensure the seal is linked to this URL:  
[https://cert.gcb.cw/certificate?id=DOMAIN\\_TOKEN](https://cert.gcb.cw/certificate?id=DOMAIN_TOKEN). You can obtain the DOMAIN\_TOKEN from your account on the portal.
3. Further information is available on the GCB portal

## Adding Domains for Digital Seals

Digital Seals are issued to:

1. Licensed operators will receive a digital seal.
2. Sub-licensee operators applying for a gaming license will receive a Certificate of Operation.

### Add Domains to the Portal

1. Log in to the Portal.
2. Navigate to the Domains section in the Dashboard.
3. Add the domains you own. You can either:
  - Add One domain at a time, or
  - Multiple domains at once by using a comma-delimited list or separating each domain by a carriage return.

### Obtain and Add Unique Token as DNS Record

1. For each domain added to the Portal, a unique token will be automatically generated.
2. Add this unique token as a DNS record in the TXT zone file of the Domain Name Server (DNS) for the corresponding domain.  
HOST: @  
VALUE: gcb\_domain=<Domain Unique Token>

### Verification Process

The verification of your domains is partially automated and partially manual. It may take some time for the verification to be completed.

### Display the Digital Seal on Your Website

1. Find the right digital seal on the Portal's front page.
2. Follow the provided instructions to correctly display the digital seal on your website.



If you are a sub-licensee and have been awarded a license then you need to transfer the domains from the sub-license to the application using the transfer button.



GCB Portal



### **Mirror Domains**

The GCB is aware that some operators use mirror domains. The conditions for use of mirror domains as well as further instruction as to digital seals on mirror domains, and subsequent costs will be issued at a later date.

### **Intellectual property rights**

All intellectual property rights in the Digital Seals, including any goodwill, reside with the GCB.

### **Compliance**

All entities must ensure full compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and licensing requirements, including the guidelines outlined in this policy and any additional directives issued by the GCB from time to time regarding the use of the Digital Seal. Any violations or concerns regarding the use of the Digital Seal should be reported promptly to the GCB for investigation including those committed by the licensee itself.

### **Expiration of Usage Rights**

Upon the expiration, suspension, withdrawal or revocation of the license issued by the GCB, the respective entity shall immediately cease all use of the green Digital Seal.

If a license application is denied by the GCB, the respective applicant shall immediately cease all use of the Orange Digital Seal. Upon the granting of the license pursuant to the NOOGH, the licensed entity must use the green Digital Seal.

### **Enforcement**

Failure to comply with this policy may result in sanctions, including but not limited to suspension or revocation or denial of a license.

### **Modification of this policy**

This policy may be modified or updated by the GCB at any time without prior notice. Affected parties are responsible for regularly reviewing any published policy to ensure their continued compliance.