

THE PRELIMINARY TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT IS:

61D-14.032 Progressive Slot Machine Requirements.

(1) All progressive slot machines offered for play by a slot machine licensee shall be located within the slot machine licensee's facility.

(2) The current total of the progressive jackpot display shall be displayed to the player; and

(3) The progressive meter must display the winning value of the jackpot being recognized by the facility based monitoring system.

(4) For purposes of this rule the term "progressive link" means the connectivity or connection among and between all progressive slot machines or slot machine games into a single progressive slot machine game.

(5) The progressive slot machine manufacturer offering a progressive slot machine or slot machine game, or any component employed in a progressive link shall be responsible for all scientific testing and technical evaluation performed pursuant to subsection (3) of this rule:

(a) the progressive slot machine manufacturer shall:

1. Coordinate with an independent testing laboratory licensed by the state; and

2. Provide all progressive system components and technical data the independent testing laboratory requires to test and determine certification of the progressive slot machine or slot machine game;

3. Ensure payment of all costs associated with the testing and evaluation, and

4. Identify deficiencies and ensure the resolution of those deficiencies in order to obtain certification for use in the state.

(4) The requirements of this rule shall apply equally to one progressive slot machine game linked to a progressive controller as well as to several progressive slot machine games linked to one progressive controller.

(a) One or more progressive slot machine(s) or slot machine game(s) shall be linked directly to one mechanical, electrical, or electronic device, including at least one video display;

(b) The video display shall:

1. Show the amount of the possible progressive game payoff; and

2. Be incremented at a set rate of progression as credits are wagered.

(5) A progressive system (excluding any server and/or progressive components housed in a secure area) shall be able to withstand electro-static interference tests as described in this rule and resume its function without operator intervention.

(a) The electro-static interference tests shall be conducted with a minimum severity level of 27KV air discharge;

(b) The progressive components shall be electrically grounded in such a way that static discharge energy shall not damage or inhibit the normal operation of the electronics or other components within the progressive system;

(c) Progressive system components subjected to a significant electro-static discharge greater than human body discharge, may exhibit temporary disruption, but the progressive system components shall recover after any interrupted function without loss or corruption of any progressive system control or data information.

(6) An independent testing laboratory (laboratory) licensed by the state shall test each progressive slot machine and/or progressive slot machine game for compliance with Chapter 551, F.S. and Chapter 61D-14, F.A.C. In that testing the laboratory shall:

(a) Inspect for marks or symbols indicating that a device has undergone product safety compliance testing;

(b) Perform a review of submissions and information contained therein related to electromagnetic interference (EMI), radio frequency interference (RFI), magnetic interference, liquid spills, and power fluctuations and environmental conditions.

(c) Perform electrostatic discharge testing on the progressive slot machine or slot machine game (excluding any server components). This electrostatic discharge testing shall simulate techniques observed in the field being used to attempt to disrupt the integrity of progressive slot machines or slot machine games;

(d) Test hardware associated with progressive slot machines and slot machine games to determine whether or not outside influences affect game fairness or create cheating opportunities;

(e) Test the slot machine progressive controller and all devices involved with the slot machine progressive controller. The slot machine progressive controller and all devices shall achieve a 99.99 percent accuracy rate at the time the slot machine progressive controller is certified in order to be approved.

(f) Provide written certification to the division of:

1. The results of all tests performed in the certification process; and

2. A list of those tests not performed for each progressive slot machine and/or progressive slot machine game tested.

(7) The Progressive jackpots shall not be used to satisfy theoretical slot machine payout percentage required pursuant to Section 551.103(1)(h), F.S. and Rule 61D-14.038, F.A.C.

(8) The following minimum payout percentage requirements apply to a progressive slot machine or slot machine game.

(a) When the current progressive slot machine or progressive slot machine jackpot values can not be set lower than the minimum specified values, the minimum specified values shall be set to the minimum percentage payout pursuant to Rule 61D-14.038, F.A.C.; or

(b) When the progressive program is an indispensable part of the 85 percent payout computation:

1. The progressive contribution shall be set at zero; and

2. The entire progressive slot machine or progressive slot machine game shall yield the minimum percentage payout pursuant to Rule 61D-14.038, F.A.C.

(9) A slot machine licensee who offers a progressive slot machine or slot machine game to the public for play must maintain a minimum reserve to ensure the licensee has funds available to pay all financial liabilities regarding progressive games.

(10) Each slot machine or slot machine game on the progressive link shall have the same probability of winning the progressive, adjusted for the denomination played.

(11) During the operation of a slot machine or slot machine game functioning in the progressive mode, the progressive controller shall continuously monitor each device on the progressive link for credits wagered. The progressive controller shall multiply the credits wagered by the rate of progression and denomination in order to determine the correct amounts to apply to the progressive jackpot.

(12) The following requirement applies to progressive slot machine games offering multiple levels of awards:

(a) The player must always be paid the higher progressive jackpot amount when won; and

(b) If a particular jackpot combination is won, that jackpot win should result in the higher paying award.

(13) A slot machine licensee may impose a maximum amount on a progressive slot machine or slot machine game jackpot. When a maximum amount is imposed, the licensee shall:

(a) Inform the public of the maximum winning amount offered; and

(b) Prominently display a notice of the maximum winning amount offered on the progressive slot machine game.

(14) A progressive slot machine game shall not be discontinued or withdrawn from play until:

(a) All of the progressive jackpot amounts have been awarded; or

(b) The progressive jackpot amount liability is moved to another progressive game within the slot machine licensee's facility.

(15) A progressive jackpot may be transferred to another progressive slot machine game at the same slot machine licensed facility provided:

(a) The progressive liability transfer is immediately documented (advertised progressive amount, minus the normal non-progressive award for the combination that would have awarded the progressive amount);

(b) The licensee maintains the liability and offers the progressive until the progressive transfer is completed; and

(c) Once a progressive award has been offered for play, it must be permitted to remain on that progressive system until it is won by a player either on the original progressive slot machine or after transfer to a different progressive slot machine or slot machine game at the slot machine licensee's facility.

(16) When a progressive slot machine game has been offered for play:

(a) The progressive jackpot amount for that game cannot be changed to a lower amount until after the progressive jackpot has been won; and

(b) The jackpot amount must be changed prior to any additional play on the winning machine.

(17) The progressive slot machine is required to update its electronic meters to reflect the winning progressive jackpot amount consistent with the following procedures:

(a) Electronic accounting meters shall be maintained in credit units equal to the denomination, or in dollars and cents;

(b) Electronic accounting meters shall be labeled so they can be clearly understood in accordance with their function;

(c) All slot machine devices shall be equipped with a device, mechanism, or method for retaining the value of all meter information which must be preserved for a minimum of 72 hours in the event of power loss to the gaming device; and

(d) Progressive slot machine game wins may be added to the credit meter if:

1. The credit meter is maintained in monetary value or credits;

2. The progressive meter is incremented to whole credit amounts; or

3. The prize, in monetary value, is converted to credits on transfer to the player's credit meter in a manner that does not mislead the player. The conversion from monetary value to credits must always round up to the next higher whole number.

(18) When a progressive amount has been awarded, the gaming device shall:

(a) Display a message indicating a progressive jackpot is awarded;

(b) Lock-up or cease play until the award has been paid by the attendant unless the amount is transferred to the player's credit meter; and

(c) Update all meters related to progressive slot machine play.

(19) When a progressive slot machine resumes play after the award of a progressive jackpot, the following shall occur:

(a) Any communications to the progressive slot machine controller shall not begin until the progressive slot machine program resumption routine, including self-tests, is completed successfully; and

(b) Progressive system control programs shall test themselves for possible corruption due to failure of the program storage media and the integrity of all critical memory shall be checked. The system control program authentication may use:

1. The preferred Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC) calculations at least 16 bit;

2. The less preferred checksum routine; or

3. Other test methodologies if at a comparable level of integrity.

(20) Prior to any implementation at a slot machine licensee's facility, any additions to previously certified functionality of the progressive system shall be:

(a) Certified by an independent testing laboratory licensed by the state; and

(b) Approved by the division consistent with the requirements of Chapter 551, F.S. and Chapter 61D-14, F.A.C.

(21) Progressive jackpot records shall:

(a) Record the amount of total progressive liability shown on each progressive jackpot meter;

(b) Be maintained at each slot machine licensee facility;

(c) Be sent, as records justifying any reduction in the pay-off amount reported in the marketing section of the previous weekly slot summary report, to the Chief of Slot Operations.

3. Retained pursuant to Rule 61D-14.080, F.A.C.

Specific Authority 551.103(1), 551.122 FS. Law Implemented 551.103(1)(c), (d), (e), 551.121(5) FS.
History – New _____.