

Sports Wagering FAQ's

What is sports betting or sports wagering?

"Sports wagering" means accepting wagers on sporting events or portions of sporting events, or on the individual performance statistics of athletes in a sporting event or combination of sporting events, by any system or method of wagering, including but not limited to in-person, or over the internet through websites and on mobile devices. The term includes but is not limited to single-game bets, teaser bets, parlays, over-under, money line, pools, exchange wagering, in-game wagering, in-play bets, and proposition bets.

The term does not include fantasy sports, sports pool/tab boards, or Calcutta auctions.

Is sports betting legal in Montana?

In May of 2018 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act (PASPA) was unconstitutional. PASPA was a federal law that barred single-bet sports betting outside of Nevada. With PASPA being struck down, it enables states to allow sports betting.

The 2019 Montana Legislature passed a law allowing sports wagering through the Montana Lottery. The bill was signed into law on May 3. The Montana Lottery is now working toward launching sports wagering.

What is legal and illegal regarding sports wagering?

Betting on professional and collegiate sports through the Lottery's sports betting platform will be legal in licensed locations in the state of Montana.

It is not legal to place a bet on any sport outside of the Lottery's offering in the state of Montana. It will not be legal for any other entity to offer sports wagers for betting, or operate a sportsbook, outside of the sportsbook operated and regulated by the Lottery.

If I have questions, where can I access the latest information on sports wagering?

You can find sports wagering information on the Montana Lottery's website (<https://www.montanalottery.com/en/view/sports-wagering>), which will be updated with the latest information as they move through the process. Or, you can call the Lottery at 406-444-5825.

Questions or information related to illegal sports wagering can be directed to the Gambling Control Division by calling 406-444-1971 or by submitting a report on the [Anonymous Tip Reporting page](https://dojmt.gov/gaming/anonymous-tip-reporting/) (<https://dojmt.gov/gaming/anonymous-tip-reporting/>).

Who can sell sports wagers?



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After administrative rules are through the public hearing process, locations that meet all the licensing requirements defined in the Lottery's law and rules can sell sports wagers through the Lottery's sports betting platform.

When will I be able to place a sports wager in Montana?

The Montana Lottery is working toward launching the sports wagering program. While there are many variables, they are hopeful sports wagering will be available by the end of 2019.