A raffle is any situation in which a group sells tickets in exchange for a chance to win a prize. Licenses are required regardless of the length of time in which the raffle is conducted and whether it is required to be present to win.

Raffles continue to be a profitable form of fundraising if done legally. The first step is to apply for a raffle license through the Department of Administration for the State of Wisconsin. There are restrictions for applying organizations including proof that the organization has been in existence for at least 1 year immediately prior to the application or have proof that the group belongs to a state or national organization that has been in existence for at least 3 years (Ch. 563.90, Wis. Stats.).

Applications and further details are available at www.doa.state.wi.us/section_detail.asp?linkcatid=689&linkid=116&locid=7 or by calling 608-270-2552 or 1-800-791-6973

The state requires a $25.00 fee of any group approved for a raffle license, which allows charitable groups to conduct up to 200 raffle drawings during a one-year period.