



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII – CENTRAL VISAYAS
Schools Division of Cebu Province

**Office of the Schools Division
Superintendent**

June 15, 2022

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 174, s. 2022

**FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS OF THE REQUIRED HEALTH STANDARDS,
VACCINATION, AND ONSITE/OFFSITE WORK REQUIREMENTS**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
Chief Education Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors/Districts-in-Charge
Public Elementary/Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1.The Office hereby clarifies on the required health standards, vaccination, and onsite/offsite work requirements for the guidance of all concerned. **Regional Memorandum No. 0022, s. 2022 dated 08 January 2022 and Regional Memorandum No. 0113, s. 2022 dated 15 February 2022** which are self-explanatory are hereby attached/enclosed for the information of all concerned.

2.Due to some concerns about vaccination, the “PROOF OF FULL VACCINATION” upon entry in the schools, learning centers or offices shall no longer be required. **Division Memorandum No. 156, s. 2022 dated 05 January 2022 is hereby immediately revoked or rescinded upon the issuance of this Memorandum.**

2.The negative antigen test results upon entry in the schools or offices may still be required provided the cost or expenses shall be charged to the schools’ MOOE; if the unvaccinated teacher or employee is not willing to shoulder the cost of the testing and no more funds/MOOE available at the school, then the unvaccinated teacher or employee may avail the work-from-home arrangement. However, the unvaccinated teacher or employee may be allowed to report or do work onsite upon consultation or agreement with the school head provided that maintenance of the minimum health protocols and standards shall be observed. If the teacher/employee is in work-from-home scheme, his/her daily time record (DTR) shall be supported by teacher attendance monitoring (TAM) and accomplishment reports. If the teacher has no internet connection at home, the weekly work plan and accomplishment reports shall be attached.

3.Districts and schools shall refrain/avoid from **using** Rural Health Units in order to discriminate against **unvaccinated teachers, students or parents (refer to the attached Memorandum No. 13-2022 dated 13 June 2022, 3rd paragraph)**, thus, to avoid discriminatory practice in the schools or districts, **unvaccinated parents, teachers and learners regardless of age** shall be allowed to participate or attend face-to-face graduation/completion ceremonies provided that the minimum health standards and protocols shall be observed at all the times.



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4. The fifteen (15) unvaccinated school heads are given the option to avail the work-from-home arrangement or work onsite in consultation with the public schools district supervisor concerned, however, face-to-face classroom observation shall be done by the public schools district supervisor or master teachers in the district.

5. The request of the unvaccinated teachers to teach face-to-face classes with unvaccinated learners is held in abeyance pending further guidance from the Central Office. Learners are not allowed to have direct contact with unvaccinated teachers or personnel as stipulated in **DepEd-DOH JMC No. 01, s. 2022 dated 06 April 2022** (please see enclosure).

6. **Letter-requests by the unvaccinated teachers to teach face-to-face classes must given to the district supervisors and shall be submitted to SGOD so that these requests can be submitted/forwarded to the Central Office as soon as possible.**

7. Please refer to the enclosures or attachments for further information. **The Division Office will always adhere to the directives from higher offices, and if there are changes pertaining to vaccination, health protocols and onsite or offsite work arrangements, these will be immediately disseminated to the field for proper guidance.**

8. All previous issuances which are inconsistent to any provisions of this Memorandum are hereby repealed, rescinded or modified accordingly. All other issuances which are not affected by this new issuance are still in effect and in order.

9. Wide dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum is hereby desired.


MARILYN S. ANDALES EdD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent 

sds/sgod/vay/2022



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Enclosure 1

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Cebu
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MEMORANDUM NO. 13 - 2022

TO : **ALL MAYORS**
Province of Cebu

SUBJECT : **VACCINATION**
Discrimination against unvaccinated

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 11525, otherwise known as the COVID-19 Vaccination Program Act of 2021, COVID-19 vaccination shall **not** be considered as an *additional mandatory requirement for educational, employment, and other similar government transaction purposes.*

In this regard, you are reminded to refrain from implementing or supporting policies that make vaccination mandatory for educational, employment, and other similar government purposes.

Rural Health Units **should not** be used by Department of Education District Superintendents, District Supervisors, and School Heads in order to *discriminate* against unvaccinated teachers, students, or parents.

FOR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE.

Cebu Provincial Capitol, Cebu City, June 13, 2022.


GWENDOLYN F. GARCIA



Enclosure 7



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS

Office of the Regional Director

FEB 15 2022

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 0113, s. 2022

REITERATION OF THE REQUIRED HEALTH STANDARDS, VACCINATION, AND ON-SITE WORK REQUIREMENTS

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
School Health and Nutrition Personnel
All Others Concerned

1. This office disseminates to the Schools Division Offices the attached DepEd Task Force COVID-19 Memorandum No. 587 entitled, "*Reiteration of the Required Health Standards, Vaccination, and On-site Work Requirements*", for information and guidance.
2. Ineligible unvaccinated personnel can be allowed to report on-site provided a negative RT-PCR/antigen test results (depending on the availability in your locality) be presented at the expenses of the employee.
3. For queries regarding this concern, please contact Dr. Rogelio John M. Villamor, Jr. on his mobile number 09158904005 or through his email to rogelio.villamor@deped.gov.ph.
4. Compliance of this Memorandum is desired.

SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ JD, EdD, CESO V
Director IV
Regional Director

STJ/CAE/ESSD/TTP/RMV



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Republika ng Pilipinas
Kagawaran ng Edukasyon
Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

DepEd Task Force COVID-19
MEMORANDUM No. 587
03 January 2022

For: Leonor Magtolis Briones
Secretary
Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister
Schools Division Superintendents
School Heads

Subject: REITERATION OF THE REQUIRED HEALTH STANDARDS, VACCINATION, AND ON-SITE WORK REQUIREMENTS

The government has reverted the National Capital Region (NCR) back to the stricter **COVID-19 Response Alert Level No. 3** for 03-15 January 2022. For this period, the rest of the country remains under Alert Level 2. Significant increase in cases has been noted in the past days, while it is "highly possible" that there is already a local transmission of the highly contagious Omicron variant.¹ There are also reports of fully vaccinated individuals being confined in Intensive Care Units (ICU), although the number is very low, especially compared to unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals.²

In this light, the DepEd Task Force COVID-19 (DTFC) reminds all personnel, learners, and stakeholders, even those who have been fully vaccinated, to **strictly observe the required health standards**. This entails wearing of masks, practicing proper hand hygiene and cough etiquette, observing physical distance, ensuring airflow, and avoiding crowded and enclosed spaces. Further, all concerned are enjoined to **immediately report to health authorities** any symptoms or possible exposure to COVID-19 for monitoring and management, and to comply with existing quarantine and isolation protocols.

Those who have not completed their vaccines are strongly encouraged to take their second dose, and those fully vaccinated, their boosters, when already eligible. Those who have not been vaccinated but are eligible to be vaccinated are strongly enjoined to be vaccinated as soon as possible.

¹ NCR reverted to Alert Level 3 on Jan. 3-15: Palace exec, <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1164240>

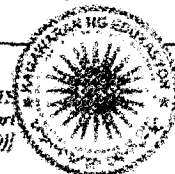
² Sa datos mula sa DOH retained hospitals sa Metro Manila, 85% ng COVID-19 patients na nakaratay sa ICU ay hindi nakunado!, <https://www.facebook.com/OfficialDOHgov/posts/291681436331969>



Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)

Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO)

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The required health standards, vaccination, and the early detection and management of cases are proven effective in preventing the further transmission of the virus, and need to be reiterated especially as personnel are returning to on-site work from the holidays. Heads of Offices are reminded to ensure proper ventilation and good airflow in workspaces, while personnel are reminded to avoid unnecessary close interaction with other personnel who are reporting on-site even if they are sharing the same workspaces. If interaction is necessary, they shall keep their masks on and observe proper physical distance. Congregating shall be avoided and face-to-face meetings shall be limited.

With regard to the minimum on-site work capacity and the IATF vaccination/RT-PCR/antigen test requirement for personnel reporting on-site, the DTFC invites all to revisit the guidance it has already provided in its previous issuances, particularly **DTFC Memorandum No. 575** titled *IATF Requirement for Personnel Reporting On-Site Beginning 01 December 2021* and **DTFC Memorandum No. 586** which provides further clarifications to DTFC Memorandum No. 575.

The latest Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for COVID-19 Response of the IATF can be accessed at https://iatf.doh.gov.ph/?page_id=77. The latest document available is dated **14 December 2021**, which provides for the following minimum/required percentages of the workforce that needs to be present on-site in government agencies:

Alert Level	Provisions Related to Work in Government ³
Alert Level 5	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall be fully operational, with a skeleton workforce on-site and the remainder under alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency unless a greater on-site capacity is required in agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services, in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC).
Alert Level 4	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least a 40% on-site workforce . Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the CSC. Heads of agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services shall operate at a workforce beyond the minimum as may be necessary to deliver their mandates.
Alert Level 3	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least a 60% on-site workforce . Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the CSC.

³ These provisions are consistent both with DTFC Memorandum No. 575 and with the Memorandum Circular No. 93 from the Office of the President dated 17 December 2021 titled *Required On-site Workforce in Government Agencies and Instrumentalities under the Alert Level System*, disseminated by the Public Affairs Service through a Memorandum dated 24 December 2021.



Alert Level	Provisions Related to Work in Government ³
	Heads of agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services shall operate at a workforce beyond the minimum as may be necessary to deliver their mandates.
Alert Level 2	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 80% on-site workforce . Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the CSC. Heads of agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services shall operate at a workforce beyond the minimum as may be necessary to deliver their mandates.
Alert Level 1	All establishments, persons, or activities, are allowed to operate, work, or be undertaken at full on-site or venue/seating capacity provided it is consistent with minimum public health standards; provided further, that face to face classes for basic education shall be subject to prior approval of the Office of the President.

All offices and schools shall ensure compliance with minimum/required percentages of the on-site workforce depending on the alert levels of their respective workplaces.

As the IATF guidelines provides for the *minimum* onsite capacity, it is understood that the percentage of personnel reporting may go beyond the said numbers. Heads of Offices, however, are reminded to consider the vaccination and health status of their personnel, in determining whom to report on-site and whom to be placed under work-from-home arrangements, in line with DTFC Memorandum Nos. 586 and 575.

DTFC Memorandum No. 586 has also advised everyone to closely follow and pay attention to any new national issuances that may provide relevant updates and changes to DTFC memoranda, in light of the evolving guidance from national authorities. As also indicated in DTFC Memorandum No. 575, these national updates and changes shall be automatically honored.

For queries regarding this concern, please contact the DTFC Secretariat, Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), through (02) 8632 9935 or email at medical.nursing@deped.gov.ph.

For proper guidance and widest dissemination.

ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA
Undersecretary
Chairperson, DTFC



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Republika ng Pilipinas
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DepEd Task Force COVID-19
MEMORANDUM No. 586
28 December 2021

For: Secretary LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister
Schools Division Superintendents
School Heads

Subject: CLARIFICATIONS ON DTFC MEMORANDUM NO. 575
TITLED IATF VACCINATION REQUIREMENT FOR
PERSONNEL REPORTING ON-SITE BEGINNING
01 DECEMBER 2021

The DepEd Task Force COVID-19 (DTFC) provides the following clarifications on the **DTFC Memorandum No. 575** titled *IATF Requirement for Personnel Reporting On-Site Beginning 01 December 2021*. The memorandum has been approved by the Secretary for compliance by the offices and personnel concerned.

1. The IATF vaccination/RT-PCR/antigen requirement for onsite personnel, as stipulated in IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149 and as elaborated in DTFC Memorandum No. 575, applies only to "areas where there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines *as determined by the National Vaccines Operation Center (NVOC)*" (italics added).

As such, offices and schools have been instructed to coordinate with their respective Regional VOCs and/or Local VOCs to inquire whether there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines in their respective areas, *as determined by the NVOC*.

In principle, the IATF requirement cannot be implemented until an area has been *determined by the NVOC* to have sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines.

Per the DTFC's latest coordination with the NVOC, the mechanism to determine whether an area (e.g., an LGU) has sufficient supplies of the COVID-19 vaccines is still being finalized.

Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)

(Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRMMS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO))

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2. When and where already implemented, the requirement to present a negative RT-PCR/antigen result shall apply to those who are required to report onsite but are not fully vaccinated, and shall be **at their own expense**, except when they have valid medical reasons (as validated by a DepEd medical officer) and their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine they received as first dose whose tests shall be facilitated or covered by their respective offices.

IATF Resolution No. 149 does not say that "all partially vaccinated employees in the public and private sector tasked to do onsite work need not undergo regular RT-PCR test" per se, but that they need not undergo it "*at their own expense*, as long as their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine received as first dose" (*italics added*).

Thus, personnel who have acceptable reasons for not being fully vaccinated will still be required to present a negative RT-PCR/antigen result but the testing shall not be at their own expense.

3. In consideration of offices who may not have the capacity to facilitate/cover the expenses for the testing of the said personnel, the existing onsite work capacity requirements based on the Alert Levels may be maximized to place concerned personnel under applicable work arrangements while they are waiting to be fully vaccinated.

At Alert Level II, government agencies are allowed to place up to 20% of its workforce under work-from-home arrangement. Personnel who are not yet fully vaccinated may be placed under such arrangement, while they shall continue to be encouraged to be fully vaccinated, especially in anticipation that LGUs will soon be placed under Alert Level I, where full onsite capacity will already be required for all government agencies and instrumentalities.

4. As indicated in DTFC Memorandum No. 575, all are advised to adhere to the guidance of the Bureau of Human Resource and Organizational Development in handling the attendance records of personnel (e.g., marking as absent, charging to existing leave credits) who may not be able to report onsite due to failure to comply with the vaccination/RT-PCR/antigen requirement.
5. The DTFC also clarifies that its recommendation in DTFC Memorandum No. 575 to impose the same vaccination/RT-PCR/antigen requirement to "visitors who need to enter officer premises for necessary transactions" is in the context of the said visitors sharing the same workspace as the fully vaccinated personnel.

For consistency, if only personnel who are fully vaccinated or who present a negative RT-PCR/antigen result are allowed to report onsite, the same shall be expected of guests who will share the same workspace or have close contact with the onsite personnel.



Such requirement, however, is not *necessarily* expected of guests and visitors who may need to enter work premises but will not have close contact or share the same space with fully-vaccinated personnel reporting onsite, such as the case of parents and other community members entering schools to pick up modules. It is reiterated, however, that the required health standards, such as mandatory wearing of masks at all times, observing physical distancing and preventing crowding/congregating, shall be strictly observed.

For these instances, the Head of Functional Office or the team designated for COVID-19 response in the office is given the authority to impose such requirement, as deemed necessary. For example, the Central Office (CO) Task Force COVID-19, through the CO Medical Clinic, has long made this a requirement for visitors and guests entering CO premises, even before the IATF issued a similar requirement.

Given the evolving guidance from national authorities regarding this matter, all are advised to closely follow and pay attention to any new national issuances that may provide relevant updates and changes to DTFC Memorandum No. 575. As also indicated in the said memorandum, these updates and changes will be automatically honored.

For queries regarding this concern, please contact the DTFC Secretariat, BLSS-SHD, through (02) 8632 9935 or email at medical.nursing@deped.gov.ph.

For proper guidance and widest dissemination.


ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA

Undersecretary
Chairperson, DepEd Task Force COVID-19



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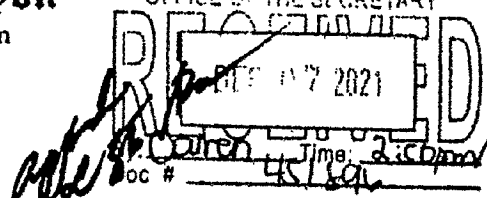
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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DepEd Task Force COVID-19
MEMORANDUM No. 575
7 December 2021



For: **Secretary LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES**

Subject: **IATF VACCINATION REQUIREMENT FOR PERSONNEL
REPORTING ON-SITE BEGINNING 01 DECEMBER 2021**

The Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) issued Resolution No. 148-B (**Annex A**), which should have **taken effect on 01 December 2021**¹, provides that "in areas where there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines as determined by the National Vaccines Operation Center (NVOC), **all establishments and employers in the public and private sector shall require their eligible employees who are tasked to do on-site work to be vaccinated against COVID-19.** Eligible employees who remain to be unvaccinated may not be terminated solely by reason thereof. However, they shall be **required to undergo RT-PCR tests regularly at their own expense for purposes of on-site work.** Provided that, antigen tests may be resorted to when RT-PCR capacity is insufficient or not immediately available."

The following guidelines are further provided through IATF Resolution No. 149 (**Annex B**):

- In furtherance of IATF Resolution No. 148-B (s. 2021) providing for the implementation of measures to increase demand for COVID-19 vaccinations but except when all the onsite employees/workers of an establishment are required under the Alert Level System Guidelines to be fully vaccinated, all partially vaccinated employees in the public and private sector tasked to do onsite work need not undergo regular RT-PCR test at their own expense, as long as their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine received as first dose.
- To clarify the requirement of regular RT-PCR tests for purposes of onsite work, its frequency shall be construed as that determined by the employer but which should be at least once every two weeks.

¹ After publication in a newspaper of general circulation and/or the Official Gazette



Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)

[Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO)]

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In this regard, the DepEd Task Force COVID-19 (DTFC) recommends the following guidelines, for compliance by the offices and personnel concerned, upon approval of the Secretary:

1. All offices and schools shall ensure compliance with the minimum/required percentage of the workforce that needs to be present on-site, based on the latest guidelines of the IATF accessible at https://iatf.doh.gov.ph/?page_id=77. To date, the latest *Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for Covid-19 Response* are as of 18 November 2021, and provide the following:

Alert Level	Provision on Work in Government
Alert Level 5	Areas placed under Alert Level 5 shall observe the guidelines applicable to Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) as provided for under the IATF Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended. The benefits applicable to ECQ shall be applicable in Alert Level 5. ²
Alert Level 4	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 40% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.
Alert Level 3	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 60% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.
Alert Level 2	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 80% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.
Alert Level 1	All establishments, persons, or activities, are allowed to operate, work, or be undertaken at full on-site or venue/seating capacity provided it is consistent with minimum public health standards; provided further, that face to face classes for basic education shall be subject to prior approval of the Office of the President.

2. Offices and schools shall continue to consider the health status of the personnel (e.g., comorbidities) in determining who will be required to report on-site to comply with the minimum/required percentage of on-site personnel.
3. Consistent with IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149, s. 2021, the following shall be observed in DepEd:
 - a. Offices and schools shall coordinate with their respective Regional VOCs and/or Local VOCs to inquire whether there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines in their respective areas, as determined by the NVOC.

² Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines with Amendments as of September 23, 2021: Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall be fully operational, with a skeleton workforce on-site and the remainder under alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency unless a greater on-site capacity is required in agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services, in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). (As amended by Paragraph B of IATF Resolution no. 106-B, March 28, 2021)



- i. The IATF vaccination/RT-PCR/antigen requirement for onsite personnel, as stipulated in IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149 and as elaborated in this section, applies only to such areas.
 - ii. The DTFC is coordinating with the NVOC for a centralized reference list of areas where there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines and which are covered by the IATF resolutions.
- b. Only personnel who have been fully vaccinated will be allowed to work on-site. They shall be required to present their vaccination cards as proof of vaccination before they are included in the list of personnel allowed to report on-site. Those who have not been vaccinated shall remain under a work-from-home arrangement.
- c. Personnel who have not been vaccinated, but are eligible, shall continue to be encouraged to be vaccinated, especially if they will soon be required to report on-site.
- d. If unvaccinated personnel will be required to report on-site, they shall **be required to present a negative result of RT-PCR test undertaken at most 48 hours before the day of reporting, and which shall be valid for up to two weeks from the day of testing³**, unless the personnel develop symptoms, for which they shall stop reporting on-site and proceed to established health protocols.
- i. When RT-PCR capacity is insufficient or not immediately available, antigen tests may be resorted to.
 - ii. The RT-PCR or antigen test of unvaccinated personnel **who have refused to be vaccinated despite being eligible** for vaccination shall be charged at the personnel's expense.
 - iii. Partially vaccinated personnel required to do onsite work **need not undergo regular RT-PCR test at their own expense, as long as their second dose is not yet due** pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine they received as first dose.
 - iv. Concerned offices and schools are requested to **facilitate/cover the costs of the testing of personnel** who are required to report on-site but cannot be vaccinated because their **second dose is not yet due** pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine they received as first dose or because of **valid medical reasons**.

³ IATF Resolution No. 149 provides: "To clarify the requirement of regular RT-PCR tests for purposes of onsite work, its frequency shall be construed as that determined by the employer but which should be at least once every two weeks."



- v. Personnel who have valid medical reasons for not being vaccinated shall present a medical certificate from their attending physician, for validation by the nearest DepEd medical officer⁴. The DepEd medical officer shall monitor the personnel's condition and request the regular updating of their medical certificate, as may be applicable, and ensure that the personnel will be vaccinated when already eligible or cleared.
- e. For consistency, the same requirement—that they are either fully vaccinated or RT-PCR/antigen-negative, as described above—shall be imposed on:
 - i. personnel required to travel or attend a work-related face-to-face gathering (e.g., seminar, training, monitoring, workshop, forum, meeting);
 - ii. visitors who need to enter officer premises for necessary transactions;
 - iii. guests who need to join work-related face-to-face gatherings.
- f. The Bureau of Human Resource and Organizational Development (BHROD) is requested to provide guidance on how to handle the attendance records of personnel who cannot be accommodated in office premises, despite being required to report onsite, due to failure to present proof of vaccination or valid negative RT-PCR/antigen test result.
- g. It is reiterated that vaccination remains **not mandatory**, and no personnel who remain to be unvaccinated may be terminated solely by reason thereof.

This is consistent with **Republic Act No. 11525** titled *An Act Establishing the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program, Expediting the Vaccine Procurement and Administration Process, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes*, as cited in **DepEd Memorandum No. 28, s. 2021** titled *Comprehensive Guidance on the Participation of the Department of Education in the Implementation of the Philippine National Deployment and Vaccination Plan for COVID-19 Vaccines*.

- 4. All concerned units at the Central Office and the field offices, including the BHROD, the Central Office Task Force COVID-19, and the Composite Team in charge of the pilot implementation of face-to-face classes, are requested to provide necessary guidance or update existing guidelines as may be needed to comply with this memorandum and the cited national issuances.

⁴ In case the SDO does not have a medical officer, the medical officer from the Regional Office (RO) may validate the medical certificate. In case both the SDO and the RO do not have a medical officer, the medical officer from nearby SDO may validate the medical certificate.



5. In case of changes to national issuances which became the bases for this memorandum, such changes will be automatically honored.

For queries regarding this concern, please contact the DTFC Secretariat, BLSS-SHD, through (02) 8632 9935 or email at medical.nursing@deped.gov.ph.

For the consideration and approval of the Secretary.

ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA

Undersecretary
Chairperson, DepEd Task Force COVID-19



cc: **Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister
Schools Division Superintendents
School Heads**



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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

RESOLUTION NO. 148-B

Series of 2021

November 11, 2021

WHEREAS, Section 15 Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Section 2(e) of Executive Order No. 168 (s.2014) mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) to educate the public on emerging infectious diseases and its prevention, control and management to promote positive health behaviors, and address public fear and anxiety through the conduct of a nationwide EID awareness campaign;

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2020, recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic requires the mobilization of a whole-of-government response, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte declared a State of Public Health Emergency in the entire Philippines through Proclamation No. 922. The declared State of Calamity was extended on 16 September 2021 for one year through Proclamation No. 1021 s.2020, and on September 10, 2021, was further extended until September 12, 2022, unless earlier lifted or extended as circumstances may warrant, through Proclamation No. 1218 (s.2021);

WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccines that have been granted with Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the Philippine Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are considered safe and effective, and, based on current available evidence, have been shown to (1) prevent symptomatic infection (2) prevent severe infection and (3) prevent transmission;

WHEREAS, following the Enhanced Prevent - Detect - Isolate - Treat - Reintegrate - Vaccinate Strategy of the National Task Force Against COVID-19, its Vaccine Cluster is currently implementing the National COVID-19 Immunization Program that aims to provide added protection to all eligible Filipinos from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the National COVID-19 Immunization Program has been opened to the general public nationwide as provided for under IATF Resolution No. 141 (s.2021). Further, the IATF approved the recommended strategy for the Vaccination Rollout for the Rest of the Pediatric Population (ROPP) pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 146 (s.2021);



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WHEREAS, as of 04 November 2021, the country already received a total of 108.9 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines with additional shipments until the end of the year. These doses of vaccines shall cover the target of vaccinating 54 million Filipinos with one dose by the end of November 2021 and 54 million Filipinos fully vaccinated by the end of December 2021;

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte has given new directives for a whole-of-government solution to increase the demand for COVID-19 vaccination, regardless of brand, for a healthier and resilient Philippines.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, in compliance with the directives of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, the IATF approves the following measures to the extent applicable under existing laws, rules, and regulations:

- A. In areas where there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines as determined by the National Vaccines Operation Center (NVOC), all establishments and employers in the public and private sector shall require their eligible employees who are tasked to do on-site work to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Eligible employees who remain to be unvaccinated may not be terminated solely by reason thereof. However, they shall be required to undergo RT-PCR tests regularly at their own expense for purposes of on-site work. Provided that, antigen tests may be resorted to when RT-PCR capacity is insufficient or not immediately available.
- B. As a condition for continuing their operations, public transportation services in the road, rail, maritime, and aviation sectors shall require all their eligible workers to be fully vaccinated.
- C. Public and private establishments, even if not required by the Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for COVID-19 Response in Pilot Areas to accommodate only fully vaccinated individuals, may nonetheless validly refuse entry and/or deny service to individuals who remain to be unvaccinated, or are merely partially vaccinated, despite being eligible for vaccination. Provided that frontline and emergency services shall continue to render assistance to all persons regardless of vaccination status.
- D. Local Government Units (LGUs) are strongly enjoined to issue orders or ordinances to ramp up demand for vaccination by, among others, providing incentives for fully vaccinated individuals, and for business establishments which



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institute measures that promote vaccination among their employees and clients; and to the extent allowed by law, requiring proof of vaccination before individuals and/or entities may undertake or qualify for certain activities.

- E. Upon sufficient proof of a confirmed vaccination schedule, all workers to be vaccinated during work hours shall not be considered as absent during that period.
- F. In all of the foregoing, only the presentation of a medical clearance issued by a Municipal Health Office, City Health Office, and/or Provincial Health Office or birth certificate, as the case may be, shall serve as sufficient and valid proof of ineligibility for vaccination.
- G. All Government Agencies are hereby enjoined to implement measures prioritizing fully vaccinated individuals availing of government programs and services.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that this Resolution shall take effect on 01 December 2021, after publication in a newspaper of general circulation and/or the Official Gazette. Let three (3) copies of this Resolution be furnished to the University of the Philippines Office of the National Administrative Register.

RESOLVED FINALLY, that the Chairperson and the Co-Chairperson shall be duly authorized to sign this Resolution for and on behalf of the Inter-Agency Task Force.

APPROVED during the 148th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this November 11, 2021, via video conference.


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III
Secretary, Department of Health
IATF Chairperson


KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES
Secretary, Office of the Cabinet Secretariat
IATF Co-Chairperson



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently an Undersecretary of the Department of Health;
2. I am the Head of the Secretariat of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases created under Executive Order No. 168, (s.2014) and chaired by the Department of Health (DOH);
3. The IATF Secretariat holds office in the DOH Main Office, San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, Manila;
4. I am the custodian of the records of the IATF, including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions;
5. In the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on 11 November 2021 via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. 148-B was unanimously approved and adopted;
6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and/or Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles upon the authority of the IATF Members;
7. The aforesaid resolution has not been altered, modified nor revoked and the same is now in full force and effect;
8. I am executing this Certification for whatever legitimate purpose this may serve.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature this 11th day of November 2021, Manila.


ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE
Undersecretary of Health
Head Secretariat, IATF



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

RESOLUTION NO. 149

Series of 2021

November 18, 2021

WHEREAS, Section 15 Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Section 2 (b) of Executive Order No. 168 (s.2014) mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) to prevent and/or minimize the entry of suspected or confirmed patients with emerging infectious diseases into the country;

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2021, the President issued Proclamation No. 1218 (s.2021) further extending the period of the State of Calamity throughout the Philippines until September 12, 2022, unless earlier lifted or extended as circumstances may warrant;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH), the University of the Philippines-Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC), and the University of the Philippines-National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH) biosurveillance have detected B.1.1.7 (Alpha), B.1.351 (Beta), and P.1 (Gamma) variants of SARS-CoV-2 in the Philippines. The DOH, UP-PGH, and UP-NIH have likewise confirmed the presence of the B.1.617 (Delta) variant that was first detected in India;

WHEREAS, the continued implementation of proactive measures and restrictions must be put in place to slow down the surge in COVID-19 cases, stop further spread of variants, buy time for the health system to cope, and to protect more lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the IATF approves the following:

- A. The Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases designates Cabinet Secretary and concurrent Acting Presidential Spokesperson Karlo Alexei B. Nograles as the spokesperson for the IATF. The IATF expresses its utmost gratitude to Secretary Herminio L. Roque and wishes him the best in his future endeavors.



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B. The recommendations of the Technical Working Group are ratified, the specifics of which are as follows:

1. The conduct of the Philippine Motorcycle Tourism Program Kick-Off Ride and Hybrid Pre-Ride Webinar of the Department of Tourism and its Tourism Promotions Board are approved as the same are within the agency's mandate and is compliant with the IATF Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the national COVID-19 vaccination certificate of the following countries, namely Austria, Kazakhstan, Singapore, and the United Arab Emirates shall be accepted/recognized for purposes of arrival quarantine protocols as well as for interzonal/intrazonal movement, in addition to such other countries/territories/jurisdictions whose proofs of vaccination the IATF already approved for recognition in the Philippines, and without prejudice to such other proofs of vaccination approved by IATF for all inbound travelers.

The Bureau of Quarantine, the Department of Transportation - One-Stop-Shop, and the Bureau of Immigration are directed to recognize only the proofs of vaccination thus approved by the IATF.

3. The on-site capacities for agencies and instrumentalities of the government under the Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response shall be increased as the Guidelines shall be amended as follows:

a. **SECTION [3] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL**

4. *The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 4, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:*

xxx

7. *Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least*



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40% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.

xxx

b. SECTION [4] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL

3. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 3, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

xxx

4. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 60% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.

xxx

c. SECTION [5] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL

2. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 2, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

xxx

4. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 80% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.

xxx

To provide sufficient modes of transportation for such an increase, the Department of Transportation may proportionally increase the public transport capacity.

4. With regard to the voluntary use of face shields for areas under Alert Levels 3 to 1, it is hereby clarified that the same is without prejudice to employers still requiring their use for their employees/workers and/or customers in their respective premises.



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Moreover, all issuances of the national government agencies inconsistent with the Memorandum of the Executive Secretary dated 15 November 2021, on Protocols on the Use of Face Shields, shall be considered as amended and/or modified accordingly.


5. In furtherance of IATF Resolution No. 148-B (s.2021) providing for the implementation of measures to increase demand for COVID-19 vaccinations but except when all the onsite employees/workers of an establishment are required under the Alert Level System Guidelines to be fully vaccinated, all partially vaccinated employees in the public and private sector tasked to do onsite work need not undergo regular RT-PCR test at their own expense, as long as their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine received as first dose.
 6. To clarify the requirement of regular RT-PCR tests for purposes of onsite work, its frequency shall be construed as that determined by the employer but which should be at least once every two weeks.
- C. In support of the whole-of-nation and whole-of-society approach to COVID-19 vaccination, the IATF fully supports the National Vaccination Days or the "*Bayanihan, Bakunahan*" from November 29 to December 1, 2021. All member agencies are directed to extend full support for this simultaneous vaccination rollout. In furtherance thereto, all government offices, agencies, and instrumentalities, and local government units are encouraged to assign and/or allow all of their respective healthcare workers to participate in this event.
- D. In support of the thrust of the Department of Tourism to boost Philippine tourism, fully vaccinated individuals coming from Green List countries/territories/jurisdictions shall be allowed entry in the country subject to the guidelines as may be finalized and approved by the IATF.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Chairperson and the Co-Chairperson shall be duly authorized to sign this Resolution for and on behalf of the Inter-Agency Task Force.



**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

APPROVED during the 149th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this November 18, 2021, via video conference.


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III
Secretary, Department of Health
IATF Chairperson


KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES
Secretary, Office of the Cabinet Secretariat
IATF Co-Chairperson




REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently an Undersecretary of the Department of Health;
2. I am the Head of the Secretariat of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases created under Executive Order No. 168, (s.2014) and chaired by the Department of Health (DOH);
3. The IATF Secretariat holds office in the DOH Main Office, San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, Manila;
4. I am the custodian of the records of the IATF, including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions;
5. In the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on 18 November 2021 via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. 149 was unanimously approved and adopted;
6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and/or Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles upon the authority of the IATF Members;
7. The aforesaid resolution has not been altered, modified nor revoked and the same is now in full force and effect;
8. I am executing this Certification for whatever legitimate purpose this may serve.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature this 18th day of November 2021, Manila.


ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE
Undersecretary of Health
Head Secretariat, IATF

Enclosure 3



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS

Office of the Regional Director

JAN 08 2022

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 0022 s. 2022

**DISSEMINATION OF THE REITERATION OF THE REQUIRED HEALTH STANDARDS,
VACCINATION, AND ON-SITE WORK REQUIREMENTS**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned


1. This office disseminates to the Schools Division Offices the attached DepEd Task Force COVID-19 Memorandum No. 587 entitled, "*Reiteration of the Required Health Standards, Vaccination, and On-site Work Requirements*", for information and guidance.

2. Significant increase in COVID-19 cases has been noted in the past days, while it is "highly possible" that there is already a local transmission of the highly contagious Omicron variant.

3. In relation to this, the DepEd Task Force COVID-19 (DTFC) and the DepEd Regional Office VII remind all personnel, learners and stakeholders, even those who have been fully vaccinated, to **strictly observe the minimum required public health standards**. This entails wearing of masks, practicing proper hand hygiene and cough etiquette, observing physical distance, ensuring airflow, and avoiding crowded and enclosed spaces.

4. Furthermore, attached is the DepEd Task Force COVID-19 (DTFC) Memorandum No. 586 entitled, "*Clarification on DTFC Memorandum 575 Titled IATF Vaccination Requirement for Personnel Reporting On-site Beginning December 1, 2021*". Everyone is advised to closely follow and pay attention to any new national issuances that may provide relevant updates and changes to DTFC Memoranda, in light of the evolving guidance from national authorities.

5. Widest dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ JD, EdD, CESO V
Director IV
Regional Director



Address: Doña M. Gaisano St., Sucilon, Lahug, Cebu City
Telephone Nos.: (032) 231-1433; (032) 414-7399
Email Address: region7@deped.gov.ph



Republika ng Pilipinas

Kagawaran ng Edukasyon

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

DepEd Task Force COVID-19

MEMORANDUM No. 587

03 January 2022

For: **Leonor Magtolis Briones**
Secretary
Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister
Schools Division Superintendents
School Heads

Subject: **REITERATION OF THE REQUIRED HEALTH STANDARDS,
VACCINATION, AND ON-SITE WORK REQUIREMENTS**

The government has reverted the National Capital Region (NCR) back to the stricter **COVID-19 Response Alert Level No. 3** for 03-15 January 2022. For this period, the rest of the country remains under Alert Level 2. Significant increase in cases has been noted in the past days, while it is "highly possible" that there is already a local transmission of the highly contagious Omicron variant.¹ There are also reports of fully vaccinated individuals being confined in Intensive Care Units (ICU), although the number is very low, especially compared to unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals.²

In this light, the DepEd Task Force COVID-19 (DTFC) reminds all personnel, learners, and stakeholders, even those who have been fully vaccinated, to **strictly observe the required health standards**. This entails wearing of masks, practicing proper hand hygiene and cough etiquette, observing physical distance, ensuring airflow, and avoiding crowded and enclosed spaces. Further, all concerned are enjoined to **immediately report to health authorities** any symptoms or possible exposure to COVID-19 for monitoring and management, and to comply with existing quarantine and isolation protocols.

Those who have not completed their vaccines are strongly encouraged to take their second dose, and those fully vaccinated, their boosters, when already eligible. Those who have not been vaccinated but are eligible to be vaccinated are strongly enjoined to be vaccinated as soon as possible.

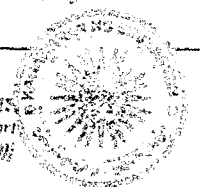
¹ NCR reverted to Alert Level 3 on Jan. 3-15: Palace exec, <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1164240>

² Sa dates mula sa DOH retained hospitals sa Metro Manila, 85% ng COVID-19 patients na nakaratay sa ICU ay hindi bakunado, <https://www.facebook.com/OfficialDOHgov/posts/291681436331969>

Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)

Administrative Services (AS), Information and Communications Technology Services (ICTS), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Pocono Teachers Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO)

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The required health standards, vaccination, and the early detection and management of cases are proven effective in preventing the further transmission of the virus, and need to be reiterated especially as personnel are returning to on-site work from the holidays. Heads of Offices are reminded to ensure proper ventilation and good airflow in workspaces, while personnel are reminded to avoid unnecessary close interaction with other personnel who are reporting on-site even if they are sharing the same workspaces. If interaction is necessary, they shall keep their masks on and observe proper physical distance. Congregating shall be avoided and face-to-face meetings shall be limited.

With regard to the minimum on-site work capacity and the IATF vaccination/RT-PCR/antigen test requirement for personnel reporting on-site, the DTFC invites all to revisit the guidance it has already provided in its previous issuances, particularly **DTFC Memorandum No. 575** titled *IATF Requirement for Personnel Reporting On-Site Beginning 01 December 2021* and **DTFC Memorandum No. 586** which provides further clarifications to DTFC Memorandum No. 575.

The latest Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for COVID-19 Response of the IATF can be accessed at <https://iatf.doh.gov.ph/>. The latest document available is dated **14 December 2021**, which provides for the following minimum/required percentages of the workforce that needs to be present on-site in government agencies:

Alert Level	Provisions Related to Work in Government ³
Alert Level 5	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall be fully operational, with a skeleton workforce on-site and the remainder under alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency unless a greater on-site capacity is required in agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services, in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC).
Alert Level 4	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least a 40% on-site workforce . Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the CSC. Heads of agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services shall operate at a workforce beyond the minimum as may be necessary to deliver their mandates.
Alert Level 3	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least a 60% on-site workforce . Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the CSC.

³ These provisions are consistent both with DTFC Memorandum No. 575 and with the Memorandum Circular No. 93 from the Office of the President dated 17 December 2021 titled *Required On-site Workforce in Government Agencies and Instrumentalities under the Alert Level System*, disseminated by the Public Affairs Service through a Memorandum dated 24 December 2021.



Alert Level	Provisions Related to Work in Government ³
	Heads of agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services shall operate at a workforce beyond the minimum as may be necessary to deliver their mandates.
Alert Level 2	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 80% on-site workforce . Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the CSC. Heads of agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services shall operate at a workforce beyond the minimum as may be necessary to deliver their mandates.
Alert Level 1	All establishments, persons, or activities, are allowed to operate, work, or be undertaken at full on-site or venue/seating capacity provided it is consistent with minimum public health standards; provided further, that face to face classes for basic education shall be subject to prior approval of the Office of the President.

All offices and schools shall ensure compliance with minimum/required percentages of the on-site workforce depending on the alert levels of their respective workplaces.

As the IATF guidelines provides for the *minimum* onsite capacity, it is understood that the percentage of personnel reporting may go beyond the said numbers. Heads of Offices, however, are reminded to consider the vaccination and health status of their personnel, in determining whom to report on-site and whom to be placed under work-from-home arrangements, in line with DTFC Memorandum Nos. 586 and 575.

DTFC Memorandum No. 586 has also advised everyone to closely follow and pay attention to any new national issuances that may provide relevant updates and changes to DTFC memoranda, in light of the evolving guidance from national authorities. As also indicated in DTFC Memorandum No. 575, these national updates and changes shall be automatically honored.

For queries regarding this concern, please contact the DTFC Secretariat, Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), through (02) 8632 9935 or email at tblssshd@deped.gov.ph.

For proper guidance and widest dissemination,

ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA
Undersecretary
Chairperson, DTFC



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BUREAU OF LEARNER SUPPORT SERVICES
SCHOOL HEALTH DIVISION





Republika ng Pilipinas
Kagawaran ng Edukasyon
Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

DepEd Task Force COVID-19
MEMORANDUM No. 586
28 December 2021

For: **Secretary LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES**
Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister
Schools Division Superintendents
School Heads

Subject: **CLARIFICATIONS ON DTFC MEMORANDUM NO. 575**
TITLED IATF VACCINATION REQUIREMENT FOR
PERSONNEL REPORTING ON-SITE BEGINNING
01 DECEMBER 2021

The DepEd Task Force COVID-19 (DTFC) provides the following clarifications on the **DTFC Memorandum No. 575** titled *IATF Requirement for Personnel Reporting On-Site Beginning 01 December 2021*. The memorandum has been approved by the Secretary for compliance by the offices and personnel concerned.

1. The IATF vaccination/RT-PCR/antigen requirement for onsite personnel, as stipulated in IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149 and as elaborated in DTFC Memorandum No. 575, applies only to "areas where there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines *as determined by the National Vaccines Operation Center (NVOC)*" (italics added).

As such, offices and schools have been instructed to coordinate with their respective Regional VOCs and/or Local VOCs to inquire whether there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines in their respective areas, *as determined by the NVOC*.

In principle, the IATF requirement cannot be implemented until an area has been *determined by the NVOC* to have sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines.

Per the DTFC's latest coordination with the NVOC, the mechanism to determine whether an area (e.g., an LGU) has sufficient supplies of the COVID-19 vaccines is still being finalized.



Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)

Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO)

Department of Education, Central Office, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Rm. 519, Mabini Bldg.; Mobile: +639260320762; Tel: (+632) 86337203, (+632) 86376237
E-mail: usec.admin@deped.gov.ph; Facebook/Twitter @depedtayo



2. When and where already implemented, the requirement to present a negative RT-PCR/antigen result shall apply to those who are required to report onsite but are not fully vaccinated, and shall be **at their own expense**, except when they have valid medical reasons (as validated by a DepEd medical officer) and their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine they received as first dose whose tests shall be facilitated or covered by their respective offices.

IATF Resolution No. 149 does not say that "all partially vaccinated employees in the public and private sector tasked to do onsite work need not undergo regular RT-PCR test" per se, but that they need not undergo it "*at their own expense*, as long as their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine received as first dose" (italics added).

Thus, personnel who have acceptable reasons for not being fully vaccinated will still be required to present a negative RT-PCR/antigen result but the testing shall not be at their own expense.

3. In consideration of offices who may not have the capacity to facilitate/cover the expenses for the testing of the said personnel, the existing onsite work capacity requirements based on the Alert Levels may be maximized to place concerned personnel under applicable work arrangements while they are waiting to be fully vaccinated.

At Alert Level II, government agencies are allowed to place up to 20% of its workforce under work-from-home arrangement. Personnel who are not yet fully vaccinated may be placed under such arrangement, while they shall continue to be encouraged to be fully vaccinated, especially in anticipation that LGUs will soon be placed under Alert Level I, where full onsite capacity will already be required for all government agencies and instrumentalities.

4. As indicated in DTFC Memorandum No. 575, all are advised to adhere to the guidance of the Bureau of Human Resource and Organizational Development in handling the attendance records of personnel (e.g., marking as absent, charging to existing leave credits) who may not be able to report onsite due to failure to comply with the vaccination/RT-PCR/antigen requirement.
5. The DTFC also clarifies that its recommendation in DTFC Memorandum No. 575 to impose the same vaccination/RT-PCR/antigen requirement to "visitors who need to enter officer premises for necessary transactions" is in the context of the said visitors sharing the same workspace as the fully vaccinated personnel.

For consistency, if only personnel who are fully vaccinated or who present a negative RT-PCR/antigen result are allowed to report onsite, the same shall be expected of guests who will share the same workspace or have close contact with the onsite personnel.



Such requirement, however, is not *necessarily* expected of guests and visitors who may need to enter work premises but will not have close contact or share the same space with fully-vaccinated personnel reporting onsite, such as the case of parents and other community members entering schools to pick up modules. It is reiterated, however, that the required health standards, such as mandatory wearing of masks at all times, observing physical distancing and preventing crowding/congregating, shall be strictly observed.

For these instances, the Head of Functional Office or the team designated for COVID-19 response in the office is given the authority to impose such requirement, as deemed necessary. For example, the Central Office (CO) Task Force COVID-19, through the CO Medical Clinic, has long made this a requirement for visitors and guests entering CO premises, even before the IATF issued a similar requirement.

Given the evolving guidance from national authorities regarding this matter, all are advised to closely follow and pay attention to any new national issuances that may provide relevant updates and changes to DTFC Memorandum No. 575. As also indicated in the said memorandum, these updates and changes will be automatically honored.

For queries regarding this concern, please contact the DTFC Secretariat, BLSS-SHD, through (02) 8632 9935 or email at blss-shd@deped.gov.ph.

For proper guidance and widest dissemination.


ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA

Undersecretary
Chairperson, DepEd Task Force COVID-19



DAVED



Republika ng Pilipinas
Kagawaran ng Edukasyon
Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DepEd Task Force COVID-19
MEMORANDUM No. 575
7 December 2021



For: **Secretary LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES**

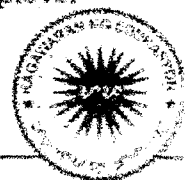
Subject: **IATF VACCINATION REQUIREMENT FOR PERSONNEL
REPORTING ON-SITE BEGINNING 01 DECEMBER 2021**

The Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) issued Resolution No. 148-B (**Annex A**), which should have **taken effect on 01 December 2021**¹, provides that "in areas where there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines as determined by the National Vaccines Operation Center (NVOC), **all establishments and employers in the public and private sector shall require their eligible employees who are tasked to do on-site work to be vaccinated against COVID-19.** Eligible employees who remain to be unvaccinated may not be terminated solely by reason thereof. However, they shall be **required to undergo RT-PCR tests regularly at their own expense for purposes of on-site work.** Provided that, antigen tests may be resorted to when RT-PCR capacity is insufficient or not immediately available."

The following guidelines are further provided through IATF Resolution No. 149 (**Annex B**):

- In furtherance of IATF Resolution No. 148-B (s. 2021) providing for the implementation of measures to increase demand for COVID-19 vaccinations but except when all the onsite employees/workers of an establishment are required under the Alert Level System Guidelines to be fully vaccinated, all partially vaccinated employees in the public and private sector tasked to do onsite work need not undergo regular RT-PCR test at their own expense, as long as their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine received as first dose.
- To clarify the requirement of regular RT-PCR tests for purposes of onsite work, its frequency shall be construed as that determined by the employer but which should be at least once every two weeks.

1. See publication in a newspaper of general circulation and/or the Official Gazette



Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)

*Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS),
Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), Bureau of Learner Support
Services (BLS), Baguio Teachers Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO)*

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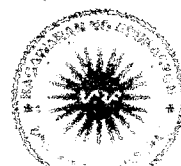
In this regard, the DepEd Task Force COVID-19 (DTFC) recommends the following guidelines, for compliance by the offices and personnel concerned, upon approval of the Secretary:

1. All offices and schools shall ensure compliance with the minimum/required percentage of the workforce that needs to be present on-site, based on the latest guidelines of the IATF accessible at https://iatf.doh.gov.ph/?page_id=77. To date, the latest *Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for Covid-19 Response* are as of 18 November 2021, and provide the following:

Alert Level	Provision on Work in Government
Alert Level 5	Areas placed under Alert Level 5 shall observe the guidelines applicable to Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) as provided for Under the IATF Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended. The benefits applicable to ECQ shall be applicable in Alert Level 5. ⁷
Alert Level 4	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 40% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.
Alert Level 3	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 60% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.
Alert Level 2	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 80% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.
Alert Level 1	All establishments, persons, or activities, are allowed to operate, work, or be undertaken at full on-site or venue/seating capacity provided it is consistent with minimum public health standards; provided further, that face to face classes for basic education shall be subject to prior approval of the Office of the President.

2. Offices and schools shall continue to consider the health status of the personnel (e.g., comorbidities) in determining who will be required to report on-site to comply with the minimum/required percentage of on-site personnel.
3. Consistent with IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149, s. 2021, the following shall be observed in DepEd:
 - a. Offices and schools shall coordinate with their respective Regional VOCs and/or Local VOCs to inquire whether there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines in their respective areas, as determined by the NVOC.

⁷ Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines with Amendments as of September 23, 2021: Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall be fully operational, with a skeleton workforce on-site and the remainder under alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency unless a greater on-site capacity is required at agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services, in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). (As amended by Paragraph B of IATF Resolution no. 106-B, March 28, 2021)



- i. The IATF vaccination/RT-PCR/antigen requirement for onsite personnel, as stipulated in IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149 and as elaborated in this section, applies only to such areas.
 - ii. The DTFC is coordinating with the NVOC for a centralized reference list of areas where there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines and which are covered by the IATF resolutions
- b. Only personnel who have been fully vaccinated will be allowed to work on-site. They shall be required to present their vaccination cards as proof of vaccination before they are included in the list of personnel allowed to report on-site. Those who have not been vaccinated shall remain under a work-from-home arrangement.
 - c. Personnel who have not been vaccinated, but are eligible, shall continue to be encouraged to be vaccinated, especially if they will soon be required to report on-site.
 - d. If unvaccinated personnel will be required to report on-site, they shall **be required to present a negative result of RT-PCR test undertaken at most 48 hours before the day of reporting, and which shall be valid for up to two weeks from the day of testing**, unless the personnel develop symptoms, for which they shall stop reporting on-site and proceed to established health protocols.
 - i. When RT-PCR capacity is insufficient or not immediately available, antigen tests may be resorted to.
 - ii. The RT-PCR or antigen test of unvaccinated personnel **who have refused to be vaccinated despite being eligible** for vaccination shall be charged at the personnel's expense.
 - iii. Partially vaccinated personnel required to do onsite work **need not undergo regular RT-PCR test at their own expense, as long as their second dose is not yet due** pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine they received as first dose.
 - iv. Concerned offices and schools are requested to **facilitate/cover the costs of the testing of personnel** who are required to report on-site but cannot be vaccinated because their **second dose is not yet due** pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine they received as first dose or because of **valid medical reasons**.

IATF Resolution No. 148 provides: "To clarify the requirement of regular RT-PCR tests for purposes of onsite work, its frequency shall be construed as that determined by the employer but which should be at least once every two weeks."

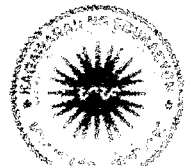


- v. Personnel who have valid medical reasons for not being vaccinated shall present a medical certificate from their attending physician, for validation by the nearest DepEd medical officer⁴. The DepEd medical officer shall monitor the personnel's condition and request the regular updating of their medical certificate, as may be applicable, and ensure that the personnel will be vaccinated when already eligible or cleared.
- e. For consistency, the same requirement—that they are either fully vaccinated or RT-PCR/antigen-negative, as described above—shall be imposed on:
 - i. personnel required to travel or attend a work-related face-to-face gathering (e.g., seminar, training, monitoring, workshop, forum, meeting);
 - ii. visitors who need to enter officer premises for necessary transactions;
 - iii. guests who need to join work-related face-to-face gatherings.
- f. The Bureau of Human Resource and Organizational Development (BHROD) is requested to provide guidance on how to handle the attendance records of personnel who cannot be accommodated in office premises, despite being required to report onsite, due to failure to present proof of vaccination or valid negative RT-PCR/antigen test result
- g. It is reiterated that vaccination remains **not mandatory**, and no personnel who remain to be unvaccinated may be terminated solely by reason thereof.

This is consistent with **Republic Act No. 11525** titled *An Act Establishing the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program, Expediting the Vaccine Procurement and Administration Process, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes*, as cited in **DepEd Memorandum No. 28, s. 2021** titled *Comprehensive Guidance on the Participation of the Department of Education in the Implementation of the Philippine National Deployment and Vaccination Plan for COVID-19 Vaccines*.

- 4 All concerned units at the Central Office and the field offices, including the BHROD, the Central Office Task Force COVID-19, and the Composite Team in charge of the pilot implementation of face-to-face classes, are requested to provide necessary guidance or update existing guidelines as may be needed to comply with this memorandum and the cited national issuances.

⁴ In case the SDO does not have a medical officer, the medical officer from the Regional Office (RO) may validate the medical certificate. In case both the SDO and the RO do not have a medical officer, the medical officer from nearby SDO may validate the medical certificate.



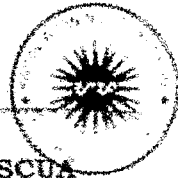
5. In case of changes to national issuances which became the bases for this memorandum, such changes will be automatically honored.

For queries regarding this concern, please contact the DTFC Secretariat, BLSS-SHD, through (02) 8632 9935 or email at medicalnursing@deped.gov.ph.

For the consideration and approval of the Secretary.


ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA

Undersecretary
Chairperson, DepEd Task Force COVID-19



cc. Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister
Schools Division Superintendents
School Heads





REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

RESOLUTION NO. 148-B

Series of 2021

November 11, 2021

WHEREAS, Section 15 Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Section 2(e) of Executive Order No. 168 (s.2014) mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) to educate the public on emerging infectious diseases and its prevention, control and management to promote positive health behaviors, and address public fear and anxiety through the conduct of a nationwide EID awareness campaign;

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2020, recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic requires the mobilization of a whole-of-government response, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte declared a State of Public Health Emergency in the entire Philippines through Proclamation No. 922. The declared State of Calamity was extended on 16 September 2021 for one year through Proclamation No. 1021 s.2020, and on September 10, 2021, was further extended until September 12, 2022, unless earlier lifted or extended as circumstances may warrant, through Proclamation No. 1218 (s 2021).

WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccines that have been granted with Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the Philippine Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are considered safe and effective, and, based on current available evidence, have been shown to (1) prevent symptomatic infection (2) prevent severe infection and (3) prevent transmission;

WHEREAS, following the Enhanced Prevent - Detect - Isolate - Treat - Reintegrate - Vaccinate Strategy of the National Task Force Against COVID-19, its Vaccine Cluster is currently implementing the National COVID-19 Immunization Program that aims to provide added protection to all eligible Filipinos from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the National COVID-19 Immunization Program has been opened to the general public nationwide as provided for under IATF Resolution No. 141 (s.2021). Further, the IATF approved the recommended strategy for the Vaccination Rollout for the Rest of the Pediatric Population (ROPP) pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 146 (s 2021);



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WHEREAS, as of 04 November 2021, the country already received a total of 108.9 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines with additional shipments until the end of the year. These doses of vaccines shall cover the target of vaccinating 54 million Filipinos with one dose by the end of November 2021 and 54 million Filipinos fully vaccinated by the end of December 2021;

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte has given new directives for a whole-of-government solution to increase the demand for COVID-19 vaccination, regardless of brand, for a healthier and resilient Philippines;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, in compliance with the directives of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, the IATF approves the following measures to the extent applicable under existing laws, rules, and regulations:

- A. In areas where there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines as determined by the National Vaccines Operation Center (NVOC), all establishments and employers in the public and private sector shall require their eligible employees who are tasked to do on-site work to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Eligible employees who remain to be unvaccinated may not be terminated solely by reason thereof. However, they shall be required to undergo RT-PCR tests regularly at their own expense for purposes of on-site work. Provided that, antigen tests may be resorted to when RT-PCR capacity is insufficient or not immediately available.
- B. As a condition for continuing their operations, public transportation services in the road, rail, maritime, and aviation sectors shall require all their eligible workers to be fully vaccinated.
- C. Public and private establishments, even if not required by the Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for COVID-19 Response in Pilot Areas to accommodate only fully vaccinated individuals, may nonetheless validly refuse entry and/or deny service to individuals who remain to be unvaccinated, or are merely partially vaccinated, despite being eligible for vaccination. Provided that frontline and emergency services shall continue to render assistance to all persons regardless of vaccination status.
- D. Local Government Units (LGUs) are strongly enjoined to issue orders or ordinances to ramp up demand for vaccination by, among others, providing incentives for fully vaccinated individuals, and for business establishments which



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institute measures that promote vaccination among their employees and clients, and to the extent allowed by law, requiring proof of vaccination before individuals and/or entities may undertake or qualify for certain activities.

- E. Upon sufficient proof of a confirmed vaccination schedule, all workers to be vaccinated during work hours shall not be considered as absent during that period.
- F. In all of the foregoing, only the presentation of a medical clearance issued by a Municipal Health Office, City Health Office, and/or Provincial Health Office or birth certificate, as the case may be, shall serve as sufficient and valid proof of ineligibility for vaccination.
- G. All Government Agencies are hereby enjoined to implement measures prioritizing fully vaccinated individuals availing of government programs and services.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that this Resolution shall take effect on 01 December 2021, after publication in a newspaper of general circulation and/or the Official Gazette. Let three (3) copies of this Resolution be furnished to the University of the Philippines Office of the National Administrative Register.

RESOLVED FINALLY, that the Chairperson and the Co-Chairperson shall be duly authorized to sign this Resolution for and on behalf of the Inter-Agency Task Force.

APPROVED during the 148th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this November 11, 2021, via video conference.


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III
Secretary, Department of Health
IATF Chairperson


KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES
Secretary, Office of the Cabinet Secretariat
IATF Co-Chairperson



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently an Undersecretary of the Department of Health;
2. I am the Head of the Secretariat of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases created under Executive Order No. 168, (s.2014) and chaired by the Department of Health (DOH);
3. The IATF Secretariat holds office in the DOH Main Office, San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, Manila;
4. I am the custodian of the records of the IATF, including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions;
5. In the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on 11 November 2021 via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. 148-B was unanimously approved and adopted;
6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and/or Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles upon the authority of the IATF Members;
7. The aforesaid resolution has not been altered, modified nor revoked and the same is now in full force and effect;
8. I am executing this Certification for whatever legitimate purpose this may serve

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature this 11th day of November 2021, Manila.


ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE
Undersecretary of Health
Head Secretariat, IATF



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

RESOLUTION NO. 149

Series of 2021

November 18, 2021

WHEREAS, Section 15 Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

WHEREAS, Section 2 (b) of Executive Order No. 168 (s.2014) mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) to prevent and/or minimize the entry of suspected or confirmed patients with emerging infectious diseases into the country;

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2021, the President issued Proclamation No. 1218 (s.2021) further extending the period of the State of Calamity throughout the Philippines until September 12, 2022, unless earlier lifted or extended as circumstances may warrant;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH), the University of the Philippines-Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC), and the University of the Philippines-National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH) biosurveillance have detected B.1.1.7 (Alpha), B.1.351 (Beta), and P.1 (Gamma) variants of SARS-CoV-2 in the Philippines. The DOH, UP-PGC, and UP-NIH have likewise confirmed the presence of the B.1.617 (Delta) variant that was first detected in India.

WHEREAS, the continued implementation of proactive measures and restrictions must be put in place to slow down the surge in COVID-19 cases, stop further spread of variants, buy time for the health system to cope, and to protect more lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the IATF approves the following:

- A. The Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases designates Cabinet Secretary and concurrent Acting Presidential Spokesperson Karlo Alexei B. Nograles as the spokesperson for the IATF. The IATF expresses its utmost gratitude to Secretary Herminio L. Roque and wishes him the best in his future endeavors.



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B. The recommendations of the Technical Working Group are ratified, the specifics of which are as follows:

1. The conduct of the Philippine Motorcycle Tourism Program Kick-Off Ride and Hybrid Pre-Ride Webinar of the Department of Tourism and its Tourism Promotions Board are approved as the same are within the agency's mandate and is compliant with the IATF Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the national COVID-19 vaccination certificate of the following countries, namely Austria, Kazakhstan, Singapore, and the United Arab Emirates shall be accepted/recognized for purposes of arrival quarantine protocols as well as for interzonal/intrazonal movement, in addition to such other countries/territories/jurisdictions whose proofs of vaccination the IATF already approved for recognition in the Philippines, and without prejudice to such other proofs of vaccination approved by IATF for all inbound travelers.

The Bureau of Quarantine, the Department of Transportation - One-Stop-Shop, and the Bureau of Immigration are directed to recognize only the proofs of vaccination thus approved by the IATF.

3. The on-site capacities for agencies and instrumentalities of the government under the Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response shall be increased as the Guidelines shall be amended as follows:

- a. *SECTION [3] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 4*
The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 4, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown.

xxx

7. *Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least*



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40% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.

xxx

b. *SECTION [4] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL*

3 The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 3, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

xxx

4 Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 60% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.

xxx

c. *SECTION [5] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL*

2 The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 2, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown.

xxx

4 Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 80% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.

xxx

To provide sufficient modes of transportation for such an increase, the Department of Transportation may proportionally increase the public transport capacity.

4. With regard to the voluntary use of face shields for areas under Alert Levels 3 to 1, it is hereby clarified that the same is without prejudice to employers still requiring their use for their employees/workers and or customers in their respective premises.



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Moreover, all issuances of the national government agencies inconsistent with the Memorandum of the Executive Secretary dated 15 November 2021, on Protocols on the Use of Face Shields, shall be considered as amended and/or modified accordingly.

5. In furtherance of IATF Resolution No. 148-B (s 2021) providing for the implementation of measures to increase demand for COVID-19 vaccinations but except when all the onsite employees/workers of an establishment are required under the Alert Level System Guidelines to be fully vaccinated, all partially vaccinated employees in the public and private sector tasked to do onsite work need not undergo regular RT-PCR test at their own expense, as long as their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine received as first dose.
 6. To clarify the requirement of regular RT-PCR tests for purposes of onsite work, its frequency shall be construed as that determined by the employer but which should be at least once every two weeks.
- C. In support of the whole-of-nation and whole-of-society approach to COVID-19 vaccination, the IATF fully supports the National Vaccination Days or the "*Bayanuhan, Bakunahan*" from November 29 to December 1, 2021. All member agencies are directed to extend full support for this simultaneous vaccination rollout. In furtherance thereto, all government offices, agencies, and instrumentalities, and local government units are encouraged to assign and/or allow all of their respective healthcare workers to participate in this event.
- D. In support of the thrust of the Department of Tourism to boost Philippine tourism, fully vaccinated individuals coming from Green List countries/territories/jurisdictions shall be allowed entry in the country subject to the guidelines as may be finalized and approved by the IATF.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Chairperson and the Co-Chairperson shall be duly authorized to sign this Resolution for and on behalf of the Inter-Agency Task Force.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

APPROVED during the 149th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this November 18, 2021, via video conference.


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III
Secretary, Department of Health
IATF Chairperson


KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES
Secretary, Office of the Cabinet Secretariat
IATF Co-Chairperson



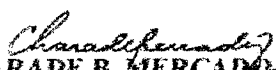
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently an Undersecretary of the Department of Health;
2. I am the Head of the Secretariat of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases created under Executive Order No. 168, (s.2014) and chaired by the Department of Health (DOH);
3. The IATF Secretariat holds office in the DOH Main Office, San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, Manila;
4. I am the custodian of the records of the IATF, including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions;
5. In the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on 18 November 2021 via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. 149 was unanimously approved and adopted;
6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and or Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles upon the authority of the IATF Members;
7. The aforesaid resolution has not been altered, modified nor revoked and the same is now in full force and effect;
8. I am executing this Certification for whatever legitimate purpose this may serve

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature this 18th day of November 2021, Manila.


ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE
Undersecretary of Health
Head Secretariat, IATF



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS

Office of the Regional Director

FEB 21 2022


REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 0140, s. 2022

CORRIGENDUM TO RM 0113 s. 2022 ENTITLED "REITERATION OF THE REQUIRED HEALTH STANDARDS, VACCINATION, AND ON-SITE WORK REQUIREMENTS"

To: Schools Division/City Superintendents
Officers-in-Charge of Regular/Interim Divisions
School Health and Nutrition Personnel
All Others Concerned

1. This has reference to the recently disseminated communication entitled, ***"Reiteration of the Required Health Standards, Vaccination, and On-Site Work Requirements"***.
2. In view thereof, corrigendum to the second paragraph ***"Ineligible unvaccinated personnel can be allowed to report on-site provided a negative RT-PCR/antigen test results (depending on the availability in your locality) be presented at the expenses of the employee"*** should be read as follows ***"Eligible unvaccinated personnel can be allowed to report on-site provided a negative RT-PCR/antigen test results (depending on the availability in your locality) be presented at the expenses of the employee"*** which means a person who has NO valid reason (e.g. medical) for being NOT vaccinated. In other words, this person is fit (eligible) for vaccination but decided not to be vaccinated (thus, still unvaccinated).
3. All other provisions of the Memorandum remain the same.
4. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ JD, EdD, CESO V
Director IV
Regional Director

STJ/CAE/ESSD/TTP/rmv



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS

Office of the Regional Director

FEB 15 2022

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. **0113**, s. 2022

REITERATION OF THE REQUIRED HEALTH STANDARDS, VACCINATION, AND ON-SITE WORK REQUIREMENTS

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
School Health and Nutrition Personnel
All Others Concerned

1. This office disseminates to the Schools Division Offices the attached DepEd Task Force COVID-19 Memorandum No. 587 entitled, "*Reiteration of the Required Health Standards, Vaccination, and On-site Work Requirements*", for information and guidance.
2. Ineligible unvaccinated personnel can be allowed to report on-site provided a negative RT-PCR/antigen test results (depending on the availability in your locality) be presented at the expenses of the employee.
3. For queries regarding this concern, please contact Dr. Rogelio John M. Villamor, Jr. on his mobile number 09158904005 or through his email to rogelio.villamor@deped.gov.ph.
4. Compliance of this Memorandum is desired.

SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ JD, EdD, CESO V
Director IV
Regional Director

STJ/CAE/ESSD/TTP/RMV



Address: Doña M. Gaisano St., Sudlon, Lahug, Cebu City
Telephone Nos.: (032) 231:1433; (032) 414-7399
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**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**
Joint Memorandum Circular No. 001, s. 2022
April 06, 2022



Enclosure 4

SUBJECT : REVISED OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES ON THE PROGRESSIVE EXPANSION OF FACE TO FACE LEARNING MODALITY

1. Background

The pilot implementation of the face to face classes in basic education was implemented from November 15 to December 17, 2021, with the participation of 284 public and private schools nationwide. These schools underwent rigorous preparations and assessments to meet school readiness standards, as well as health and safety requirements, as stipulated in the Department of Education (DepEd)-Department of Health (DOH) Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) No. 1, s. 2021, titled *Operational Guidelines on the Implementation of Face-to-Face Learning Modality*.

Based on the monitoring and evaluation results, the pilot implementation was highly successful. The survey of learners, parents, teachers and school leaders, as well as community stakeholders yielded the following major findings:

- There was a high level of attendance among participants of the pilot face to face classes.
- Learners, parents and teachers felt safe against COVID-19 during the implementation of F2F classes.
- Learners, parents and stakeholders were highly satisfied with the implementation of health and safety protocols.
- Learners and parents were highly satisfied in the improvements brought about by face to face classes in teaching and learning.
- Positive impact of reintroduction of F2F classes on learning behavior of learners.
- Teachers and school heads expressed confidence in the continued implementation of F2F classes.

The evaluation also generated positive feedback on other parameters such as engagement of stakeholders and partners during the pilot implementation, as well as on overall satisfactions of learners, teachers, parents and stakeholders in the pilot implementation. It also generated important feedback on challenges that will help DepEd further improve the implementation during the expansion phase.

After submission of the pilot implementation report and its presentation on January 17, 2022, the President approved the progressive expansion of face to face classes, and delegated to DepEd and DOH the authority to decide on the scale and mechanics of the expansion of face to face classes and other school-based activities.

Pursuant to the approval by the President, DepEd and DOH hereby issue the revised operational guidelines of face to face classes. This updated guidelines reflect assessment results, feedback from stakeholders and relevant health and safety protocols to better implement the face to face classes.

2. Scope

This policy shall provide guidance on the mechanisms and standards, particularly on health and safety protocols, on the progressive expansion of face to face classes in basic education institutions in response to the result of the assessment of the pilot implementation. The guidelines also cover the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders across governance levels to ensure effective, efficient, and safe implementation. This covers all grade levels in participating basic education institutions.

Basic education institutions that are deemed eligible per the applicable criteria and guidelines issued by the appropriate agencies will participate in the progressive expansion of face to face classes. Progressive expansion includes geographic expansion, inclusion of all grade levels, and increasing time in school subject to applicable guidelines, as part of the transition towards the new normal.

3. Definition of Terms

- 3.1. Air change per hour (ACH)** - refers to the air flow to a space expressed as volume per unit time divided by the volume of the space.
- 3.2. Alert Level System** - refers to the community quarantine classifications for dealing with COVID-19 of cities, municipalities, and regions, and aims to manage and minimize the risk of the disease through System Indicators, Triggers and Thresholds determined by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) to specify the public health and social measures to be taken in relation to the COVID-19 response, as may be updated based on new scientific knowledge, information about the effectiveness of control measures in the country and overseas, and its application (as per the Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response, as of December 14, 2021).
- 3.3. Blended Learning Approach** - refers to a learning delivery that combines face to face learning with any or a mix of online distance learning, modular distance learning, and TV/Radio-based Instruction.
- 3.4. Medical Isolation** - refers to separating someone with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19 infection to prevent their contact with others and to reduce the risk of transmission. Medical isolation ends when the individual meets pre-established clinical, time-based, and/or testing criteria for release from isolation, in consultation with clinical providers and public health officials. This does NOT refer to punitive isolation for behavioral infractions within the custodial setting.
- 3.5. Minimum Public Health Standards (MPHS)** - refer to the latest guidance provided by the DOH for the development of sector-specific and localized guidelines on mitigation measures for its COVID-19 response across all settings; the latest guidance may be found in the DOH Administrative Order No. 2021-0043, titled "*Omnibus Guidelines on the Minimum Public Health Standards for the Safe Reopening of Institutions*," with updates in the IATF Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response (as of February 27, 2022).
- 3.6. Protective Personal Equipment (PPE)** - refers to protective garments or equipment such as but not limited to face mask, face shield, and gloves, that must be worn by individuals to increase personal safety from infectious agents or to minimize exposure to hazards that may cause infection
- 3.7. Quarantine** - refers to the restriction of movement, or separation from the rest of the population, of healthy persons who may have been exposed to the virus, with the objective of monitoring their symptoms and ensuring early detection of cases.

3.8 School - for the purpose of these guidelines, 'school' refers to public and private schools recognized by DepEd unless otherwise explicitly specified.

4. Policy Statement

This Joint Memorandum Circular is hereby established to guide the safe implementation of face to face classes, focusing on health and safety protocols during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Specifically, the implementation seeks to:

- 4.1.** Deliver quality basic education in a safe learning environment to learners in areas under Alert Level 1 or 2 (or equivalent classification based on the latest national guidelines);
- 4.2.** Address the teaching and learning gaps encountered in the distance learning modalities; and
- 4.3.** Strengthen the school-community health and safety support system for all learners.

Specifically, this JMC shall focus on the protocols in establishing a safe school environment to better support the teaching and learning process. This includes ensuring safe operations of schools, and well-being and protection of learners and school personnel.

5. Operational Framework

In consideration of the results of the pilot implementation of face to face classes, this JMC maintains the adoption of the existing operational framework on shared responsibility reflected in the DepEd-DOH JMC No. 1, s. 2021.

The framework has four major pillars, namely: **(a) Safe Operations, (b) Teaching and Learning, (c) Including the Most Marginalized, and (d) Well-being and Protection.** Cutting across all the pillars are the policy and finance support to ensure operational mechanisms are in place. Central to this is the **Shared Responsibility** principle. The framework will effectively engage the entire society in making sure that learners are safe and healthy while attending the face to face classes. Specifically, the framework puts the learners' health and safety at the heart of the implementation, allowing them to learn better.

The framework is centered on the following common elements: **(a) Health and safety of learners, (b) Learning opportunities, (c) School operations, and (d) Engagement of the entire society.**

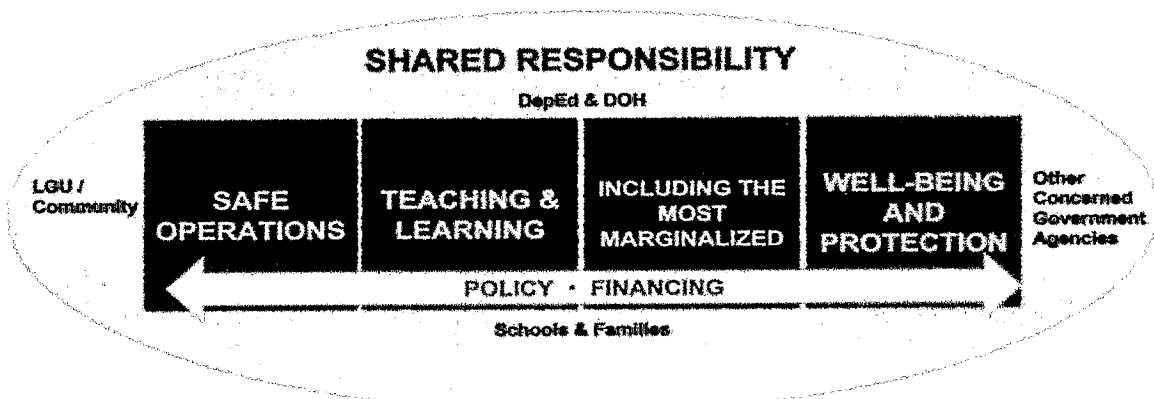


Figure 1: Based on the UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank, World Food Programme, and UNHCR Framework for Reopening Schools and DepEd Shared Responsibility Principle

6. Eligibility of Participation to the Implementation of Face to Face Classes

6.1. Schools. All participating schools shall meet the following requirements before reopening:

6.1.1. The school shall be located in areas under Alert Level 1 or 2 (or equivalent classification based on the latest national guidelines) before they can participate in the face to face classes.

6.1.2. Participating schools shall pass the school safety assessment using the School Safety Assessment Tool (SSAT).

6.1.3. The school shall have expressed support from local government units (LGUs) (Municipality/City) in the form of a resolution or letter of support allowing them to participate in face to face classes.

6.1.4. For schools in Indigenous Peoples (IP) communities or with a predominant number of IP learners, consultation processes guided by the principle of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) shall be undertaken with the IP community/ies according to their customary practice and in a language clearly understood by the community/ies. The cultural expression of consent and sealing of agreements shall be documented, with the permission of the community, and in a form acceptable to them (e.g., pictures, videos). Coordination with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) shall be conducted prior to the consultations, and NCIP may be tapped for technical support and invited to be a witness to the consultations, as necessary and as agreed with NCIP.

6.1.5. The school shall secure expressed support and consent of parents of learners who shall participate in the reopening of face to face classes, in the form of a written Consent Form.

6.1.6. For private schools that intend to participate in the implementation of face to face classes, the following requirements shall be submitted to the DepEd Regional Director:

6.1.6.1. Formal letter addressed to the DepEd Regional Director, copy furnished to the Schools Division Superintendent of the area where the school is located, stating the following:

6.1.6.1.1. Intent to implement face to face classes;

6.1.6.1.2. Objectives, expected outcomes, and commitment to observe the minimum health and safety protocols as stipulated in DepEd-DOH JMC No.1, s. 2021 and other applicable issuances; and

6.1.6.1.3. Willingness to submit a report on lessons and recommendations on a quarterly basis for the implementation of face to face classes

6.1.6.2. The following attachments shall be submitted along with the formal letter:

6.1.6.2.1 Implementation Plan, including the timelines following the four components of the operational framework, namely: (i) Safe Operations, (ii) Teaching and Learning, (iii) Including the Most Marginalized, and (iv) Well-being and Protection;

6.1.6.2.2. Contingency Plan showing action points to address contingencies that might occur during implementation;

6.1.6.2.3. Accomplished SSAT showing compliance with all indicators of the SSAT; and

6.1.6.2.4. Notarized Affidavit of Undertaking to comply with all rules and regulations relative to the conduct

of face to face classes and assume responsibility for its implementation

6.2. Teachers and Other School Personnel

6.2.1. All teachers and school personnel who are 65 years old and below and with no diagnosed comorbidities shall be eligible to provide service during the conduct of the face to face classes. Likewise, teachers and other school personnel who are considered PWDs, are pregnant and lactating, or with comorbidities, whose services are indispensable under the present circumstance may be considered eligible, (as provided for in Civil Service Commission (CSC) Memorandum Circular No. 18, s. 2020).

6.2.2. COVID-19 vaccination requirement for DepEd teachers and personnel shall follow the latest national guidelines. However, only vaccinated teachers and school personnel shall be allowed to interact with learners. Unvaccinated teachers and school personnel may report on-site provided that they will not interact with the learners.

6.3. Learners. Selection of learners who will participate in the face to face classes shall be guided by the following criteria:

All grade levels from Kindergarten to Senior High School;

6.3.1. Signed written consent from parent/guardian; and

6.3.2. While vaccination of learners is encouraged, all learners may participate in face to face classes regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status.

7. Standards and Procedures

7.1. Safe Operations. This shall guide schools on safely managing school reopening and operations.

7.1.1. Preparations for School Reopening

7.1.1.1. In preparation for school reopening, the school shall set up the physical structures, WASH facilities and supplies, personal protective equipment (PPEs), health and safety protocols, learning materials, class programs, and human resource requirements in accordance with these guidelines and the DOH Administrative Order No. 2021-0043, titled Omnibus Guidelines on the Minimum Public Health Standards for the Safe Reopening of Institutions.

7.1.1.2. The school shall orient learners, parents, guardians, teaching and nonteaching personnel, external stakeholders and LGU of the eligibility for participation, existing protocols, mechanisms, and procedures needed in conducting face-to-face classes. Orientation shall take place at least one week prior to the conduct of face to face classes to allow parents/guardians to help their children to mentally and emotionally adapt and cope with the transition. During the orientation, the school may distribute face masks to ensure that learners will be able to adhere to existing protocols. Orientation materials shall be made available for school administrators, teachers and other school personnel, parents and caregivers, community members, and learners.

7.1.1.2.1. Schools shall conduct advocacy campaigns to encourage teachers, school personnel, and learners to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

- 7.1.1.3.** The school shall screen the vaccination records of learners for routine non-COVID-19 immunizations to ensure that those enrolled are protected from vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs) and other infectious diseases to prevent additional COVID-19 burden. However, these routine immunizations are not a requirement to participate in the face to face classes.

7.1.2. Classroom Layout and Structure

- 7.1.2.1.** Classrooms shall be arranged to ensure safety of learners from COVID-19 transmission following the prescribed classroom layout. Physical arrangement of chairs and other furniture inside the classroom shall ensure proper physical distancing. Seats that will be occupied shall be at least 1 meter apart. Those which will not be occupied shall be marked with an "X" or may be removed.

- 7.1.2.2.** If the school does not have adequate classrooms to accommodate all learners, the school may adopt the use of the following, provided that there shall only be one section per additional learning space:

- 7.1.2.2.1.** Larger spaces in the school such as the gymnasium, school grounds, and the like may be repurposed as learning spaces; and

- 7.1.2.2.2.** Available learning spaces in the community near the school or residential area of the learners and teachers

- 7.1.2.3.** All heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems shall be in working order with increased ventilation whenever possible through the following recommended strategies as cited in Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Department Order No. 224-21, titled *Guidelines on Ventilation for Workplaces and Public Transport to Prevent and Control the Spread of COVID-19*.

- 7.1.2.3.1.** In non-air-conditioned spaces, windows and doors shall be open at all times to maximize natural airflow. For air-conditioned spaces, it is recommended to frequently open windows, doors, and other openings to supplement the HVAC systems to achieve dilution.

- 7.1.2.3.2.** Regardless of the HVAC system, all classrooms shall have working electric fans except for schools with no electricity.

- 7.1.2.3.3.** In non-air-conditioned spaces, natural airflow shall be maximized.

- 7.1.2.3.4.** In air-conditioned spaces, schools may install appropriate ventilation equipment such as general and exhaust ventilation and CO2 monitoring devices, to achieve an air change rate of 6 to 12 Air Change per Hour (ACH) and maintain CO2 levels below or 1000 parts per million (ppm) at all times.

- 7.1.2.3.5.** In spaces designed to optimize the use of air-conditioning units, wherein ventilation is greatly recirculated or access to outside air is not feasible, filters such as high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filtration air purifiers shall be used to

clean recirculated air, provided that the unit is adequate for the size of the room in which it is installed. Proper maintenance shall be ensured by following manufacturer recommendations of these devices.

- 7.1.2.4.** Schools may consider providing microphones or other appropriate sound system for teachers to facilitate teaching in a physically-distanced setup.

7.1.3. Protective measures, hygiene and sanitation practices, and respiratory etiquette. To ensure the protection of personnel and learners, the following shall be implemented:

- 7.1.3.1.** The school shall set up and ensure the availability of proper sanitation and hygiene facilities following the basic requirements and standard in accordance with DepEd Department Order No. 10, s. 2016, titled *Comprehensive Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Schools (WinS) Program* such as:

7.1.3.1.1. Adequate and Safe Water Supply; and

7.1.3.1.2. Hand washing station with antibacterial soap

- 7.1.3.2.** The school shall ensure that handwashing facilities are set up in a strategic location.

- 7.1.3.3.** Teachers, school personnel and learners shall wear well-fitted masks and appropriate PPE in the school premises.

- 7.1.3.4.** The school shall ensure that each learner, teacher, and personnel have access to surgical face masks;

7.1.3.4.1. All individuals are recommended to use well-fitted surgical or medical-grade face masks. If a cloth mask shall be used as an alternative, it should be made of breathable materials with at least two layers of cotton or non-woven nylon with aluminum nose bridge. It could also be partnered with a surgical or medical-grade mask underneath.

- 7.1.3.5.** The school clinic shall ensure the availability of Emergency Health Kits that include PPEs and other needed supplies and materials. The PPEs shall be available for COVID-19 Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Team members, health personnel, maintenance, and security guards. The use of PPEs shall be guided by the existing guidelines set by DOH.

- 7.1.3.6.** Surgical masks shall be stored in the school clinic and shall be available at the school entrances. These shall be reserved for symptomatic individuals, health care providers, and learners who come to school without face masks.

- 7.1.3.7.** Individuals who will manifest symptoms recorded through the daily health checks conducted by the teachers in the classroom shall immediately be provided with a medical or surgical mask and brought to the school clinic or dedicated isolation area for medical assessment testing and referral to appropriate authorities.

- 7.1.3.8.** The school shall ensure that child-friendly Information and Education Campaign (IEC) materials on hygiene practices and respiratory etiquette are posted in common areas and are available in local languages and braille (if applicable).

Contents of the infographic materials on maintaining MPHS (#BIDASolusyonPlus) shall include, but are not limited to, hand hygiene (hand disinfection thru handwashing and/or use of 70% isopropyl alcohol), respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette (coughing or sneezing into tissues or one's elbow), protective measures (proper use of face mask, and practice of physical distancing), among others. Communication content shall be clear and credible and be disseminated in a manner aligned with local norms.

7.1.3.8.1. A compilation of management support tools and IEC materials on COVID-19 infection prevention and control for school-level implementers can be accessed at: <https://bit.ly/winsipcmaterials>.

7.1.3.9. The school shall provide a daily health monitoring tool for learners, parents, and school personnel.

7.1.3.10. The school shall mobilize the School COVID-19 DRRM Team to ensure that health and safety protocols are in place and are observed during the preparation and implementation of the face to face classes. The School DRRM Team shall also designate a Safety Officer who shall serve as the focal person for the health and safety protocols of the school.

7.1.4. School disinfection, sanitation and waste management. To mitigate the spread of COVID-19 through sanitation and disinfection, schools shall follow DOH Department Memorandum No. 2020-0157, titled *Guidelines on Cleaning and Disinfection in Various Settings as an Infection Prevention and Control Measure Against COVID-19* and *Cleaning and disinfection of environmental surfaces in the context of COVID-19* by the World Health Organization (WHO).

7.1.4.1. The school shall ensure proper disposal of infectious wastes, such as used tissue and masks, in non-contact receptacles.

7.1.4.1.1. Dispose all used PPE in a separate leak-proof yellow trash bag/container with a cover properly labeled as "USED PPE". In case a yellow trash bag/container is not available, the school shall dispose of all used PPE in a separate bag/container marked for infectious medical waste identifiable by the waste collector (e.g., yellow ribbon, yellow colored tag) and coordinate with their LGU on collection and management for all infectious wastes across healthcare provider networks.

7.1.4.1.2. Collect the leak-proof yellow trash bag/container or its alternative regularly or twice a day (after end of class and after working day) from the designated/specific area to the general collection area for treatment and disposal.

7.1.4.1.3. Require the school personnel to wear a medical-grade face mask and puncture-proof gloves when collecting/handling the

leak-proof yellow trash bag/container or its alternative.

- 7.1.4.1.4.** Disinfect or spray the collected wastes with a chlorine solution (1:10) in accordance with DOH Department Memorandum No. 2020-0157, titled *Guidelines on Cleaning and Disinfection in Various Settings as an Infection Prevention and Control Measure Against COVID-19*.
- 7.1.4.1.5.** The Philippine COVID-19 Living Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) does not recommend the use of footbaths, disinfection tents, misting chambers, and sanitation booths for preventing and controlling COVID-19 transmission.
- 7.1.4.1.6.** Dispose the disinfected PPE with general waste to the final disposal facility.
- 7.1.4.2.** The school shall ensure the routine sanitation of frequently touched surfaces (e.g., tables, doorknobs, light switches, etc.) every after end of a school shift. Other disinfection activities such as using aerosol sprays shall be encouraged to be done every after the end of a school day.
- 7.1.4.3.** The school shall place trash bins in strategic locations. Visual signages on proper waste management practices shall be encouraged to be placed near trash bins.
- 7.1.4.4.** Learners shall be responsible for disposing of their own used items (e.g., food, mask).
- 7.1.4.5.** Learners shall be assigned to their own desks/armchairs during classes. They shall disinfect their own tables before and after use. Disinfection team shall be on standby within the school premises.
- 7.1.4.6.** Learners, teachers and other school personnel shall be disallowed from sharing school items such as but not limited to textbooks and toys.
- 7.1.4.7.** School administration shall be responsible for stockpiling of disinfectants and soap, and ensuring adequate water supply and hand sanitizers in classrooms and hallways.
- 7.1.4.8.** The school shall ensure availability of hand soaps/hand sanitizers/ alcohol-based solutions/other disinfectants in restrooms, classrooms, entrances, etc. by doing routine monitoring and replacement/replenishment, if needed.
- 7.1.4.9.** The School DRRM Team shall ensure that necessary disinfection activities are conducted especially in areas of the school frequented by personnel or learners who tested positive.
- 7.1.4.10.** Disinfectants that are approved by the Philippine Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shall be used such as:
 - 7.1.4.10.1.** Sodium hypochlorite recommended ratio of 0.1% (1000 ppm) by dissolving ½ tsp of chlorine or 2 g to 2L of clean water for regular disinfection, and recommended ratio of 0.5% (5000 ppm) for body fluids

by dissolving 1 tbsp of chlorine or 10 g to 2L of clean water

7.1.4.10.2. Ethanol in all surfaces at a recommended ratio of 70-90%, or

7.1.4.10.3. Hydrogen peroxide in all surfaces at a recommended ratio of >0.5%

7.1.5. Class Suspension and Resumption

7.1.5.1. The declaration of class suspension shall be dependent on the assessment and decision of the Local Task Force against COVID-19 (LTF), with the following considerations:

7.1.5.1.1. When there is a suspect, probable, or confirmed COVID-19 case to facilitate disinfection and contact tracing;

7.1.5.1.2. Dependent on community transmission and alert level classification (or equivalent classification based on the latest national guidelines);

7.1.5.1.3. Violations or instances of not complying with minimum public health standards or Prevention, Detection, Isolation, Treatment, and Reintegration (PDITR) for review of protocols.

7.1.5.2. In the event of class suspension, all learners shall revert to distance learning. The School Head, in coordination with the SDO, shall ensure the continuity of teaching and learning in line with their contingency plan.

7.1.5.3. During the class suspension, school management shall ensure contact tracing and disinfection activities. Schools shall implement a 24-hour granular lockdown period for disinfection following identification/detection of suspect, probable, or confirmed COVID-19 case/s, only after which can be opened for use to occupants.

7.1.5.4. Classes may resume after at least 24 hours since suspension upon ensuring the following:

7.1.5.4.1. Completed contact tracing;

7.1.5.4.2. Completed disinfection activities; and

7.1.5.4.3. Area where the school is located is classified as Alert Level 1 or 2 (or equivalent classification based on the latest national guidelines)

7.1.5.5. Upon resumption, the school shall conduct re-orientation on current measures adapted to evolving situations, and Psychological First Aid to learners and personnel, as necessary, in the event of resurgence.

7.2. Well-Being and Protection

7.2.1. Strategy to Prevent COVID-19. To prevent the possible transmission of COVID-19 among the learners, personnel, and other stakeholders, the following shall be observed:

7.2.1.1. All learners, teachers, personnel, and when applicable, visitors, shall be subjected to hand hygiene and temperature checks using a thermal scanner prior to entering the school. Those who will have a reading of 37.5 ° Celsius or above shall be provided with a surgical face mask and brought to a screening area that shall be set up near the entrance of the school where they can be physically separated from other teachers, personnel, learners, and visitors. The concerned teacher, personnel, learner, or visitor shall be monitored by

the Safety Officer and further assessed by the Barangay Health-Emergency Response Team (BHERT) for appropriate management, intervention, or referral. The school shall ensure that the privacy of the concerned teacher, personnel, learner, or visitor shall be maintained while being provided with the necessary medical intervention at the private screening area.

- 7.2.1.1.1.** For schools located in areas under Alert Level 1, temperature checking prior to entering the school may be optional. However, a thermal scanner shall remain available to all learners, teachers, personnel, and when applicable, visitors who prefer to have their temperature checked. The health and safety protocols stated in 7.2.1.1 shall be applicable to those who will have a reading of 37.5° Celsius or above.
- 7.2.1.2.** Entrance to the school of visitors and other external stakeholders shall be discouraged. Non-face to face communications and coordination through available platforms (e.g., telephone, cellular network, the internet) shall be prioritized.
- 7.2.1.3.** Physical distancing shall be observed at all times.
- 7.2.1.4.** Teachers shall conduct daily rapid health checks in the classroom. Those who will show symptoms of COVID-19 shall be given a surgical face mask and further assessed in the school clinic.
- 7.2.1.5.** The school, with the support of concerned DepEd offices, shall ensure the establishment/setting-up/refurbishment of a school clinic to provide basic health services to learners, teachers and personnel, and when applicable, for visitors, such as:
 - 7.2.1.5.1.** Health assessment and physical examination, as needed;
 - 7.2.1.5.2.** Appropriate intervention, first aid, or treatment; and
 - 7.2.1.5.3.** Proper management of symptoms, including rest at home; Referral and follow-up of learners, teachers and personnel to appropriate health facilities
- 7.2.1.6.** Aside from the school clinic, the school shall also designate:
 - 7.2.1.6.1.** a private screening area near the entrance of the school where teachers, personnel, learners, and visitors who show symptoms upon screening at the entrance can be further examined, for appropriate management, intervention, or referral; and
 - 7.2.1.6.2.** separate space where sick learners, teachers and personnel who have been managed in the clinic can temporarily stay, awaiting referral to the appropriate health facility, without creating stigma.
- 7.2.1.7.** In the absence of school health personnel, the school shall designate (a) clinic teacher(s) who shall manage the clinic every school day, to provide basic health services and facilitate referral as needed, in close coordination with the school health personnel at the SDO. Clinic teachers shall be provided prior orientation by the school health personnel at the SDO for proper guidance on how to effectively run the school clinic.

- 7.2.1.8.** The school shall ensure that learners, teachers, and personnel who manifest COVID-19 symptoms shall not physically report to school and shall seek medical advice as needed.

7.2.2. Strategy to Detect COVID-19. To detect the possible transmission of the virus during the face to face classes, the following contact tracing system shall be enforced:

- 7.2.2.1.** At the onset of symptoms or upon being informed of possible exposure to COVID-19, the school shall cooperate with the local health authorities in the tracing and quarantine of close contacts of confirmed cases of COVID-19, consistent with DOH guidelines.
- 7.2.2.2.** The School DRRM Team shall ensure that contact tracing activities, as required by the local health authorities, shall be initiated and completed among the possible close contacts among DepEd personnel and learners.
- 7.2.2.3.** Close coordination with Epidemiology Surveillance Unit (ESU) officers per setting:
- 7.2.2.3.1.** DOH Regional ESU of reporting school
- 7.2.2.3.2.** LGU City ESU/ Provincial ESU/ Municipal ESU of reporting school
- 7.2.2.3.3.** DOH Regional ESU of identified case (place of residence)
- 7.2.2.3.4.** LGU City ESU/ Provincial ESU/ Municipal ESU of identified case (place of residence)
- 7.2.2.4.** Parents shall report to the school if their children are experiencing flu-like symptoms. Testing immediately shall be recommended. Support and guidance on testing shall be provided by the LGUs.
- 7.2.2.5.** Parents shall sign a health form at the beginning of each school term confirming their child and/or family members do not have COVID-19 before being permitted into school. Health forms shall be submitted to the school 24 to 72 hours prior to the start of school opening. Assessment can be done through a symptom-based approach.

7.2.3. Strategy to Isolate and Treat COVID-19.

- 7.2.3.1.** There shall be designated rooms to isolate students and school personnel with fever and flu-like symptoms near the entrances.
- 7.2.3.2.** Transport vehicles from school to Temporary Treatment and Monitoring Facility (TTMF) shall be on standby.
- 7.2.3.3.** School representatives shall immediately notify the family member/guardian of the learner or school personnel. Furthermore, learners are to be accompanied by school representatives at all times until a legal guardian arrives.
- 7.2.3.4.** Personnel or learners who show COVID-19 symptoms shall immediately be isolated and referred based on the severity of their symptom for proper management and appropriate testing.
- 7.2.3.5.** The health personnel or the designated clinic teacher receiving guidance from health personnel, shall ensure the provision of necessary emergency care to the personnel or learner, following precautionary measures.
- 7.2.3.6.** The situation shall be referred/fully disclosed to the identified health authority (e.g., barangay health station,

rural health unit) for further evaluation or referral to a hospital if needed. The same process shall be observed for teachers or other personnel who will exhibit symptoms of the virus.

7.2.3.7. Concerned learners and personnel shall strictly observe the advice of health authorities, including the possibility of home quarantine or isolation in a quarantine facility or confinement. If not sick, learners on home quarantine shall be given alternative delivery mode of education, while personnel shall be shifted to a work-from-home arrangement.

7.2.3.8. The condition of the learner or the personnel shall be closely followed up by the attending/assigned school health personnel or the designated clinic teacher, and necessary information shall be reported to the SDO School Health and Nutrition Unit/Section, as required by existing reporting mechanisms.

7.2.3.9. The School Head shall be responsible for the monitoring of all cases (close contacts, suspect, probable, confirmed) among all learners and personnel under his/her jurisdiction, as well as the necessary coordination with DepEd school health personnel and local health authorities, and the provision of necessary support to the concerned personnel and learners, as the school may be able to provide.

7.2.3.10. The school health personnel or the designated clinic teacher shall ensure that teachers, personnel, or learners shall only be allowed to return to school upon completion of the required quarantine or isolation period, as stipulated in DOH Memorandum No. 2022-0013, titled *Updated Guidelines on Quarantine, Isolation, and Testing for COVID-19 Response and Case Management for the Omicron Variant*, or the latest national guidelines on quarantine and isolation. Upon return to school, the concerned teacher, personnel, or learner shall present a barangay clearance or a certificate issued by a healthcare professional indicating the completion of the required quarantine or isolation period.

7.2.4. Psychosocial Support. To provide psychological support to the learners, teachers, and personnel, the following measures shall be observed:

7.2.4.1. The school shall ensure availability of and maintain the provision of basic mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) as well as guidance and counseling services to learners, teachers, and personnel for the entire school year. In line with this, the school shall:

7.2.4.1.1. Have guidance advocates every school day, to assist learners and personnel in accessing basic mental health services;

7.2.4.1.2. Mobilize trained Psychological First Aid (PFA) providers to provide necessary mental health and psychosocial support to concerned personnel or learners during crisis situations (e.g., being COVID-19 positive, isolation, class suspension). The most appropriate method, which duly considers the safety of the MHPSS provider, shall be employed (e.g., provision through online platforms or hotlines);

7.2.4.1.3. Devote the first hour of the first five school days to discuss and facilitate modules related to mental health, facilitated by their respective classroom advisers or designated teachers. It is also recommended that psychosocial support activities be integrated within class activities as needed for at least two weeks or until learners are more adjusted. Designated teachers shall be trained on how to facilitate the psychosocial support activity modules. This is in addition to modules on the nature of COVID-19 and preventive measures (WASH, physical distancing, etc.), and other relevant psychosocial topics such as social stigma, prevention of Violence Against Children, etc.; and

7.2.4.1.4. Establish and contextualize inter-sectoral referral pathways to ensure that psychosocial needs of both the personnel and the learners are provided. Psychosocial concerns involving children shall be coordinated with DOH, DSWD and other key agencies and organizations as necessary to better address the concern.

7.2.4.2. The school shall ensure the use of appropriate materials and references in its MHPSS activities and provisions. The DRMS MHPSS reference materials are provided in this link: <https://bit.ly/MHPSSPublicResources>. Supplemental guidelines and materials shall be provided throughout the expansion of the face to face learning modality.

7.2.4.3. The school shall engage parents, guardians, or any care providers of learners on taking care of mental health and creating a positive environment.

7.2.4.4. The school shall coordinate mechanisms to ensure that the mental health and the basic needs of learners and personnel with pre-existing mental health conditions and special needs including neurologic and substance abuse disorders such as medications and other key services are provided.

7.2.4.5. The school shall promote “school-life balance” through proper scheduling of schoolwork that will allow learners to enjoy quality time at home.

7.2.4.6. The school shall ensure strict adherence to Republic Act No. 11036 or the Philippine Mental Health Act, and Republic Act No. 10173 or the Data Privacy Act of 2012 in the provision of mental health services and referral.

7.2.5. Immunization and Other School-Health Services. Schools shall coordinate with their respective LGU with the implementation of routine school-based immunization (SBI) and other school health-related services such as but not limited to deworming and weekly iron-folate acid supplementation (WIFA).

7.2.5.1. The SBI together with other school health services shall be routinely implemented among target learners as per existing DOH-DepEd implementing guidelines (i.e. DOH Department Memorandum No. 2015-0146 *Guidelines on the Implementation of School-Based Immunization*).

7.2.5.2. To prevent further transmission of vaccine-preventable diseases, schools, through their school nurse or the

designated clinic teachers, shall include the routine immunization card check to ensure that children entering Elementary and Secondary schools have completed their routine immunization (e.g., one dose of BCG, three doses of Polio and DPT-HepB-Hib vaccines, and two doses Measles-containing vaccines).

- 7.2.5.3.** In cases where learners have not completed their routine infant vaccines, they shall be referred to the nearest LGU/private pediatrician for catch-up vaccination in order to complete the primary series. Schools shall ensure that these defaulted children should complete the missed vaccines during the academic year.
- 7.2.5.4.** The school shall ensure that the consent of the learners' parents shall be secured in services where they are required (e.g., deworming, immunization).
- 7.2.5.5.** Intensive health promotion campaign activities/supportive-policies shall likewise be instituted by schools in collaboration with their local health offices to maintain optimal health-seeking behaviors of learners and other community members.

7.2.6. Strategy to Reintegrate

- 7.2.6.1.** Continued access to outpatient health services for physical and mental health resilience including mental health, immunization and other school-based health services shall be provided.
- 7.2.6.2.** School nurses, nutritionists, social workers, dentists, physicians and other allied health workers shall assist in the provision of these services.
- 7.2.6.3.** Return to School/Work Policies implemented shall be consistent with the latest national guidelines on quarantine and isolation for close contacts, and suspect, probable or confirmed COVID-19 cases.

8. Roles and Responsibilities

8.1. Department of Health (DOH)

DOH shall provide technical assistance to other National Government Agencies (NGAs), LGUs, institutions, and other stakeholders through its Centers for Health Development (CHDs) for the updating of localized guidelines consistent with this issuance. DOH shall continuously update the set minimum public health standards based on the most recent evidence available.

8.2. Department of Education (DepEd)

For the DepEd, all levels of governance shall prepare an implementation plan or strategy that is well-coordinated, synchronized and with clarity in terms of coordination lines. Specific guidance will be issued through a separate Department Order.

8.3. LGU and Community

- 8.3.1.** LGU shall formulate local policies/ordinances of managing traffic during school days. LGU shall enforce rerouting when necessary.
- 8.3.2.** LGU shall ensure availability of medical personnel and standby vehicle/s for use when need or emergency arises.

8.3.3. LGU shall ensure that school premises are secured and shall be free from bystanders, transient vendors of foods, tricycle drivers and other non-essential presence of individuals.

8.3.4. LGU and the community shall observe measures to ensure safety of learners and other school personnel. This shall include access to COVID-19 testing kits and medical facilities.

8.3.5. LGU and the community shall establish an information dissemination system that updates learners, parents, and school personnel about the evolving situation and measures taken in the event of COVID-19.

9. Easing or Restricting of Protocols

Subject to the analysis of the public health situation, DepEd and DOH may ease/relax or restrict the health and safety protocols articulated in these guidelines as necessary.

10. Monitoring and Evaluation

The respective agencies shall develop and implement their respective M&E plans to assess the progress and outcomes of the face to face classes.

11. Transitory Provision

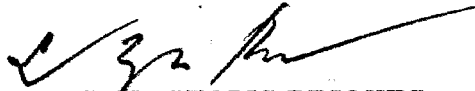
The issued guidelines shall be used for the ongoing preparation and validation of schools which signified to participate. These will not affect currently implementing schools. However, they may opt to adjust based on the updated standards and protocols.

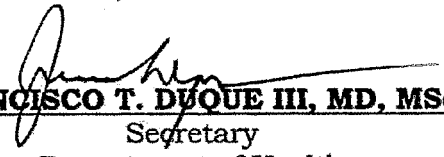
12. Effectivity

This JMC shall take effect immediately upon publication in the Official Gazette or in any national newspaper of general circulation, and upon filing with the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR) of the UP Law Center and govern the implementation of face to face classes.

13. Repealing Clause

All administrative issuances inconsistent with this JMC are hereby repealed.


LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary
Department of Education


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc
Secretary
Department of Health



To authenticate this document,
please scan the QR code.



DEPED-OSEC-455379



Enclosure to DepEd-DOH Joint Memorandum Circular on the Revised Operational Guidelines on the Implementation of Face-to-face Learning Modality

ANNEX A: References

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- Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases. (2021b). Resolution No. 148-B, s. 2021, November 11, 2021.
- Philippine Mental Health Act, Rep. Act No. 11036 (Phil.).
- UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank, World Food Programme, and UNHCR. (2020). Framework for Reopening Schools.
- World Health Organization (WHO). (2020). Cleaning and disinfection of environmental surfaces in the context of COVID-19.

Enclosure 5



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

06 APR 2022

DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **029**, s. 2022

**WORK ARRANGEMENTS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION DURING
THE IMPOSITION OF ALERT LEVEL 1 SYSTEM
FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE**

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. This Memorandum provides for the work arrangements in the Department of Education (DepEd) in compliance with Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 96 dated February 28, 2022 on the **Required On-Site Workforce in Government Agencies and Instrumentalities Under the Alert Level System**, issued by the Office of the President.
2. The Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) Resolution No. 163-A dated February 27, 2022 titled **Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response** as of February 27, 2022 provides that agencies and instrumentalities of the government located in areas placed under Alert Level 1 shall adhere to the 100% onsite workforce, while off-site work shall be subject to relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and the Office of the President.
3. In light of this, **all DepEd offices, schools, and community learning centers (CLCs) are hereby directed to adhere to the 100% onsite reporting capacity.**
4. This shall cover **all teaching and nonteaching personnel, including contracts of service and job orders**, in all DepEd offices, schools, and CLCs, both adopting face to face classes and distance learning delivery modalities. The Department views the imposition of 100% onsite reporting under Alert Level 1 as an opportunity to improve the implementation of multiple learning delivery modalities, through a more efficient supervision and monitoring of the proper use of learning modules and online platform, thereby promoting uniformity in the delivery of curriculum and instruction. This shall likewise facilitate the conduct of other school-level activities such as learning action cells, coaching and mentoring, remedial classes, and parent-teacher conferences, among others.
5. School heads shall determine and guide all teaching and nonteaching personnel under their jurisdiction on the work assignment and tasks to be accomplished while reporting onsite using the **Office/School/CLC Workweek Plan** and/or other workload distribution mechanisms.

6. Personnel who are infected or identified as close contacts of suspect, probable and/or confirmed case of COVID-19 or asymptomatic who underwent the required quarantine while waiting for the result of swab test administered upon them or completing the required quarantine period as prescribed in IATF Resolution No. 163-A dated February 27, 2022 and CSC MC 2, s. 2022 shall not be required to report to work and may avail of the excused absence or adopt a Work-From-Home (WFH) arrangement.
7. Absences rendered due to non-COVID-19 related reasons shall be governed by the existing policies on leaves and vacation service credits.
8. The submission of the **Individual Daily Log and Accomplishment Report (IDLAR)**, for attendance monitoring purposes, shall be suspended for all personnel reporting onsite. Daily time logs shall be reported through Daily Time Record (DTR) through biometric machines and logbooks.
9. Nevertheless, the Department encourages all heads of offices/schools/CLCs to continue the use of IDLAR for performance monitoring purposes.
10. Heads of offices/schools/CLCs shall ensure the provision of necessary support and resources to all personnel reporting onsite to avoid delay and disruption in the delivery of basic education services and ensure compliance with minimum health and safety protocols, such as but not limited to adequate bandwidth and internet connectivity, safe and conducive workspaces, provision of hygiene supplies, among others.
11. Remote and flexible work arrangements as prescribed in CSC MC 18, s. 2020, **Amendment to the Revised Interim Guidelines for Alternative Work Arrangements and Support Mechanisms for Workers in the Government during the Period of State of Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19 Pandemic** and DepEd Order (DO) No. 011, s. 2020 titled **Revised Guidelines on Alternative Work Arrangements in the Department of Education During the Period of State of National Emergency Due to COVID-19 Pandemic** may be adopted, as deemed appropriate and insofar as practicable, in accordance with the required onsite capacity depending on the prevailing COVID-19 alert level in the locality where the office/school/CLC is located.
12. Heads of offices/schools/CLCs in all governance levels are instructed to demonstrate leadership and decisiveness when confronted with concerns taking into consideration the welfare of employees while ensuring productivity, and compliance to existing and subsequent issuances.
13. This Memorandum takes effect immediately upon issuance unless modified or repealed by subsequent issuance/s from DepEd, CSC, IATF, Department of Health, or the Office of the President.
14. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.




LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

Reference:

DepEd Order No.: (011, s. 2020)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

ATTENDANCE
BUREAUS AND OFFICES
EMPLOYEES
OFFICIALS

SCHOOLS
TEACHERS
UNITS
WORK HOURS

SMMA, MPC DM Work Arrangements
TN 0096 – April 1, 2022

Enclosure 6



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Cebu
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 16
Series of 2022

RATIONALIZING THE WEARING OF FACE MASKS WITHIN CEBU

WHEREAS, on 16 March 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Presidential Proclamation No. 929 placing the entire Philippines under a State of Calamity due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, on 25 November 2021, the IATF-MEID issued Resolution No. 50, mandating the strict observance and compliance of minimum public health standards, such as the proper wearing of face masks;

WHEREAS, in the same resolution, public and private establishments were directed by the IATF-MEID to exclude all persons who cannot comply with the said minimum public health standards, such as the proper wearing of face masks;

WHEREAS, Section 8, paragraph 5 of the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines issued by the IATF required all persons to wear face masks or such other protective equipment which can effectively lessen the transmission of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on 26 May 2022, the Inter Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-MEID) issued Resolution No. 168-A, Series of 2022, de-escalating the Province of Cebu's Alert Level classification to Alert Level 2;

WHEREAS, other countries, including Singapore, have already directed the wearing of masks and other personal protective equipment be *optional* in outdoor settings due to the global improvement of the COVID-19 situation;

WHEREAS, as a necessary step towards the new normal, there is a need to rationalize the requirement on wearing of masks;

WHEREAS, under Section 16 of the Local Government Code, every local government unit shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare;

WHEREAS, Section 465 of the same code empowers the Provincial Governor to carry out such emergency measures as may be necessary during and in the aftermath of a man-made and natural disaster or calamity;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GWENDOLYN F. GARCIA, Governor of Cebu, in consideration of the preambulatory clauses set forth above, do hereby order that the wearing of face masks shall be *required* only in closed and/or air-conditioned spaces.

On the other hand, the use of face masks shall be *optional* in well-ventilated and open spaces. However, persons are highly encouraged to continue wearing their masks especially in crowded outdoor areas.

Persons who are unwell with symptoms of the COVID-19 such as cough, or runny nose, are required to wear a mask at all times when they are outside their homes.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon its issuance.

Done on 8 June 2022, at the Cebu Provincial Capitol, City of Cebu.

BY:

GWENDOLYN F. GARCIA
Governor

Enclosure 7



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

10 MAY 2022

DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **043**, s. 2022

**CONDUCT OF THE K TO 12 BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM END-OF-SCHOOL YEAR
RITES FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2021-2022 IN LIGHT OF THE COVID-19
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Minister, Basic, Higher and Technical Education, BARMM
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads
ALS Community Learning Centers
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) announces the conduct of the School Year (SY) 2021-2022 End-of-School Year (EOSY) Rites for Kindergarten, Grade 6, Grade 10, and Grade 12 learners who shall satisfactorily meet the curriculum requirements at the end of SY 2021-2022, including the learners who passed the portfolio assessment in the Alternative Learning System (ALS) Elementary and Junior High School levels, by virtue of the Joint Memorandum DM-OUCI-2021-049, and ALS Senior High School (SHS) learners who shall meet the curriculum requirements.

2. The theme of the SY 2021-2022 EOSY rites shall be *Gradweyt ng K to 12: Masigasig sa mga Pangarap at Matatag sa mga Pagsubok* (K to 12 Graduates: Pursuing Dreams and Fostering Resilience in the Face of Adversity), which emphasizes that despite the risks and uncertainty brought by COVID-19 Pandemic, as well as the challenges it has posed to education, Filipino learners remain resolute in their desire to build a better future anchored on a clear vision.

3. With reference to DepEd Order (DO) No. 029, s. 2021, also known as **School Calendar and Activities for School Year 2021-2022**, Quarter 4 shall end on June 24, 2022. For schools that did not suspend classes, the EOSY rites shall be any of the dates from **June 27 to July 2, 2022**. Private schools may implement the schedule as reflected in their respective School Calendars.

4. Schools that declared suspension of classes in response to DM-CI-2022-009, **Reiterating the Policy on Academic Ease and Allowing the Suspension of Classes and Other Teaching-Related Activities in the Midst of the Surge in COVID-19 Cases**, shall make the necessary adjustments to the school calendar to ensure that the number of days in the current school year remains consistent with Republic Act (RA) No. 11480 (An Act Amending Section 3 of RA 7797, Otherwise Known as "An Act to Lengthen the School Calendar from Two Hundred (200) Days to Not More than Two Hundred Twenty (220) Class Days"). If classes were suspended for one week, then the EOSY rites may be on any of the dates from July 4 to 9, 2022.

5. In assessing the viability of conducting SY 2021–2022 EOSY rites, public health and safety are still deemed the topmost concern amidst the ongoing progress in COVID-19 testing and vaccination. Hence, the scenarios projected by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID), complemented by other credible sources and DepEd risk assessment, shall be considered. Should the public health situation prevent the conduct of this year's EOSY rites within the said week, schools, in consultation with the Parents-Teachers Association (PTA), may choose to reschedule or forego the activity. Private schools shall be guided by their approved or revised school calendar.

6. To ensure the protection of the health, safety, and well-being of learners, teachers, personnel, as well as parents, and other stakeholders, the face to face conduct of the EOSY rites is highly discouraged. However, schools and Community Learning Centers (CLCs) in Alert Levels 1 and 2 and in consultation with the local government unit as well as parents/guardians may opt to hold a limited face to face or hybrid ceremony with strict compliance to the IATF protocols to give learners a sense of normalcy without risking their health and safety. Schools must obtain parental consent for learners to attend the face to face ceremony. When applicable, schools in Alert levels 3, 4, and 5 shall hold their virtual EOSY rites, and with the consent of the parents, they may livestream the EOSY rites via appropriate online platforms.

7. The following measures must be strictly observed at all times:

- a. Face masks must be worn throughout the entire event,
- b. At least a one-meter safe distance must be observed between individuals,
- c. Participants must be seated at their assigned seats only,
- d. Handshake or any other forms of physical contact is discouraged, and
- e. Only the parents or one designated guardian shall be permitted to accompany a mover or candidate for graduation.

8. The virtual conduct of the EOSY rites may be an option for schools and CLCs, whenever feasible. Schools and CLCs may prepare a short program that will run in not more than two hours in consideration of the internet connectivity required. Only the completers/candidates for graduation, together with their parents/guardians, teachers, school officials, and invited guests shall be present during the virtual rites. Schools, with the consent of parents, have the option to livestream the virtual EOSY rites via appropriate online platforms.

9. The recognition rites for other grade levels may also be conducted virtually or on a limited face to face setup. However, if done on a limited face to face set up, it must be conducted separately from the graduation rites or moving up/completion ceremony to ensure physical distancing and adherence to IATF health protocols.

10. Schools shall ensure that the EOSY rites are conducted in a solemn and dignified manner and **shall not be used as a political forum.**

- a. DepEd reiterates the strict compliance with DO 48, s. 2018 titled **Prohibition of Electioneering and Partisan Political Activity.**
- b. Invited guest speakers must focus their messages on the theme of this year's EOSY rites. They must be advised not to campaign for anyone or any political party.
- c. Schools shall ensure that no election-related paraphernalia, such as streamers, posters, stickers, or other election-related items are distributed or displayed within the school premises or online.

11. For the public schools, expenses to be incurred relative to the conduct of the activity shall be charged to the Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) of the school. No DepEd official or personnel shall be allowed to collect graduation fees or any kind of contribution for moving up/completion ceremony, or recognition rites.

12. The **Multi-Year Implementing Guidelines on the Conduct of the K to 12 Basic Education Program End-of-School-Year Rites** enclosed in DO 002, s. 2020 remains in force and in effect, except for the grant of academic awards and Performance Awards for Kindergarten. Separate guidelines amending certain provisions in DO 018, s. 2021 titled **Interim Guidelines on Giving of Awards and Recognition in Light of the Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan for School Year 2020-2021** shall be issued.

13. For queries or clarifications, please contact the **Bureau of Learning Delivery**, 4th Floor, Bonifacio Building, Department of Education Central Office, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City through email at bld.od@deped.gov.ph or at telephone numbers (02) 8637-4346 and (02) 8537-4347.

14. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.




LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

References:

DepEd Order: (Nos. 029 and 018, s. 2021 and 002, s. 2020)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM
BASIC EDUCATION
CERTIFICATE
DIPLOMA
GRADUATION
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION
LEARNERS
POLICY
SCHOOLS
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL