

COVID-19 Special Coverage

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DILG: LGUs to take lead in protecting their communities under GCQ

The DILG asked local officials to step up their efforts and take the lead in the campaign against the spread of COVID-19 in their communities as the government prepares to shift

to General Community Quarantine (GCQ) in the National Capital Region, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) said today.

DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año said that LGUs should strictly implement the minimum health standards in their communities such as the use of face masks in public places, curfew implementation, the maintenance of physical distancing in markets and other public places, one-passenger rule in tricycles, among others.

Transitioning to general community quarantine (GCQ) means relaxing the movement of people and local officials must make sure the freer movement of people won't result in bigger numbers of COVID-19 infection in their communities, Año said.

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"The National Government will provide all your needs but you will have to give more energy and dedication in these times when we make our people survive and emerge resilient from this crisis."

-DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año



From Inquirer news

DILG to LGUs: Establish bike lanes, motor taxis still prohibited

As the country transitions to a new normal, the DILG is urging all local government units (LGUs) to establish bicycle lanes in all local roads to support those who will bike to their work destination due to the reduced capacity of public transportation under the General Community Quarantine.

In an Advisory, DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año directed provincial governors, city and municipal mayors to coordinate with neighboring LGUs to connect bicycle lanes and establish a bicycle road network.

"Because of limited mass transportation, most people will resort to biking as a means of going to and from work. LGUs, therefore, have to be ready with the bike lanes in their areas to ensure the safety of the cyclists," he said.



From Bangkok post

DILG: Travel authority is for stranded individuals and returning overseas Filipinos only, not for employees reporting to work

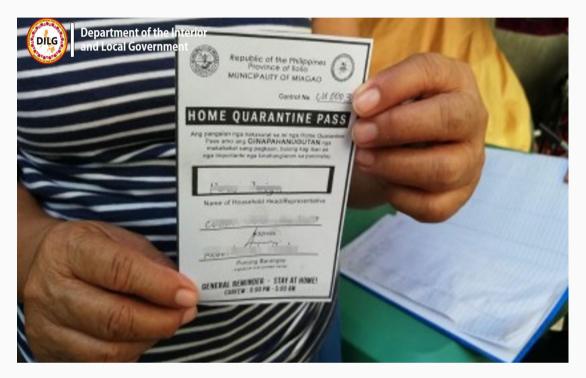
As more industries were given the green light to open for business, the DILG today reiterated that only locally-stranded individuals (LSIs) and returning Overseas Filipinos (ROFs) are required to get a travel authority from the Philippine National Police (PNP) while employees reporting back to work need only to show their company IDs.

DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año said that workers in essential industries that are allowed to operate should only show their Company IDs or other certificates at PNP quarantine control points (QCPs) and they will be allowed to pass.

"Hindi na nila (employees returning to work) kailangan ng travel authority. Sapat na na ipakita nila ang kanilang company ID o certificate of employment sa mga QCPs bilang patunay na sila ay Authorized Person Outside of Residence (APOR)," Año said. "Ang

requirement na ito ay para lang sa mga stranded individuals o returning overseas Filipinos," he added.

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From PNA images

DILG: Quarantine passes no longer needed by June 1 unless required by LGUs in specific locations; travel pass to provinces and curfews remains

Starting on June 1, 2020, the public will no longer need quarantine passes when leaving their residences under the general community quarantine (GCQ) unless the Local Government Units require it in critical and buffer zones or when required by local conditions. Those who need to cross to another province are also required to secure a travel pass except for work-related undertakings, according to the DILG.

"Hindi na po natin kailangan ng quarantine pass para payagang makalabas sa ating bahay pero hindi po ito 'unli' na kahit anong oras ay puwede. Patuloy pa rin po ang pagpapatupad ng curfew hours ng ating mga local government units (LGUs) at puwede rin pong i-require ang quarantine pass ng mga LGUs sa piling lugar sa kanilang nasasakupan," said DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año.

Año said that the purpose of lifting the requirement for quarantine passes and easing restrictions is to be able to slowly restart our economy from the more than two-month enhanced community quarantine imposed in many areas of the country without compromising health protocols.

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REGIONAL NEWS



Covid-19 testing machines near accreditation in Region 12

This development came during the most recent visit to General Santos City of Secretary Carlito P. Galvez, Jr, Chief Implementer of the National Task Force against Covid-19, together with Undersecretary Vince Dizon, Deputy Chief Implementer, in a meeting with the Regional Inter-Agency Task Force on May 26.

USec. Dizon of Basis Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) pledged to help hasten the accreditation of the lab for Region XII. During the brief waiting time, lab technicians from Dr. Arturo P. Pingoy Medical Center (DAPPMC), an accredited biosafety level 2 laboratory, will undergo proficiency training at Cotabato Regional Medical Center (CRMC).

DILG 12 Director Josephine Cabrido-Leysa, CESO III expressed elation with the establishment of additional testing labs, which will soon total 5 for the whole Region XII, to include containerized units to be set up at the airport, seaport and the Dr. Jorge P. Royeca Hospital in General Santos City, the Region's most important economic corridor.

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DILG6 supports investigation of SAP-related complaints

The DILG Region 6 expressed its commitment to support the investigation of reports and complaints relative to the implementation and distribution of grants under the Social Amelioration Program (SAP) of the national government in Western Visayas.

In a meeting with the Police Regional Office (PRO) 6, its arm Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) Regional Field Unit 6, and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Region 6, DILG Regional Director Ariel O. Iglesia said that while the Department is not an investigating body, it is committed to provide any support that may be requested by the DSWD and the CIDG-PNP as they investigate complaints and cases relative to SAP.

The PNP, DSWD and DILG also agreed to hold weekly meetings to discuss important updates on the investigation of SAP-related cases, address lingering concerns and avoid

NEWS FROM ATTACHED AGENCIES



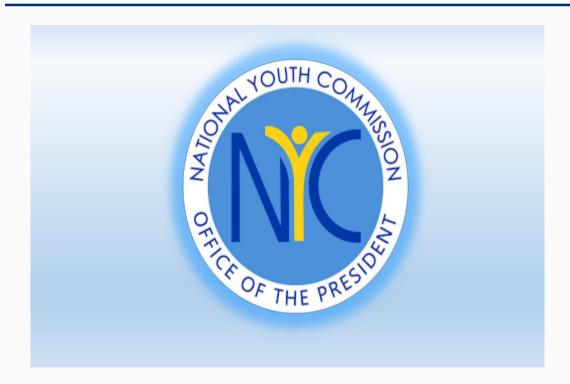
Gamboa: PNP ready for GCQ

Philippine National Police (PNP) Chief, Police General Archie Francisco Gamboa assures the public that the 205,000-strong police force remains on a high state of readiness as the country transitions into General Community Quarantine (GCQ), including the National Capital Region (NCR) which has the most numbers of COVID-19 cases.

"Our police units are under orders to extend maximum assistance to provide safety and security to all workers who will report back to work tomorrow," Gamboa said.

Gamboa also emphasized that checkpoints, curfew, travel restrictions, strict enforcement of physical distancing, and minimum health standards will still be implemented across the country in accordance with the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) Guidelines on General Community Quarantine.

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NYC Chair Enriquez to youth groups: Do not fall victims to communist groups

The National Youth Commission Chairperson Ryan R. Enriquez supports the call of DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año to free the youth from the influences of communist groups who go against the government

In a message to Sangguniang Kabataan officials and other youth organizations, Enriquez called for the social and online distancing from communists and antigovernment groups in disguise.

"They want to deceive you, to change your mindsets, and eventually, separate you from your families. Do not fall as victims," Enriquez said.

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