REITERATION ON THE REQUESTS/APPLICATIONS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL AUTHORITY

To: All Schools Division Superintendents

1. Pursuant to the attached Memorandum dated August 26, 2020 from Atty. Nepomuceno A. Malaluan, Undersecretary and Chief of Staff, Department of Education, this Office reiterates that requests for foreign travel abroad shall be forwarded based on the following conditions:

“Students enrolled abroad and participants accepted in exchange visitor programs …, may leave for abroad through any of the airports or seaports in the country. Essential travel of Filipinos leaving for abroad for business and work, medical, emergency and other humanitarian reasons, and which cannot be postponed, may also be allowed subject to presentation of sufficient supporting documents including the execution of Declaration acknowledging the risks involved in travelling, including risk of delay in their return trip, to be provided for in the check-in counters by the airlines. Provided that this provision shall not be interpreted to allow outbound travel by Filipinos to countries where travel restrictions are in place…, Provided, finally, upon return, they shall follow the Guidelines of Returning Overseas Filipinos of the National Task Force”.

2. Thus, all requests for foreign travel must sufficiently comply with the conditions set, otherwise, the request shall be returned without action.

3. For information, guidance and strict compliance.

TOLENTINO G. AQUINO
Director IV

Encl.: As stated
Reference: Memorandum dated August 26, 2020
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
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AD/hfa/RM
May 24, 2021
MEMORANDUM

To: Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Bureau/Service Directors
All Others Concerned

From: Atty. NEPOMUCENO A. MALALUAN
Undersecretary and Chief of Staff

Subject: REQUESTS/APPLICATIONS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL AUTHORITY

Date: 26 August 2020

The President issued Proclamation No. 922 dated 08 March 2020, Declaring a State of Public Health Emergency Throughout the Philippines, in view of the COVID-19 public health situation.

Attention is invited to the provisions stipulated in Item B (1) of Resolution No. 13 by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Disease (IATF-MEID) dated 17 March 2020 titled Recommendations for the Management of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation, which states that “non-essential travel by Filipinos from any port of Luzon shall be suspended”. Further, a Travel Advisory was issued on 19 March 2020 by the Department of Foreign Affairs titled Outbound Travel Restrictions by Philippine Government on Filipino Travelers, which provides that “no Filipino Tourist shall be allowed to fly out of the country at any time”.

Since then, all requests/applications for foreign travel were put on hold pending further issuance on the matter from concerned government agencies. Recently, the IATF-MEID issued Resolution No. 57 dated 21 July 2020, amending the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, specifically Item A (2) for essential outbound travel for abroad, which states that:

"Students enrolled abroad and participants accepted in exchange visitor programs…, may leave for abroad through any of the airports or seaports in the country. Essential travel of Filipinos leaving for abroad for business and work, medical, emergency and other humanitarian reasons, and which cannot be postponed, may also be allowed subject to presentation of sufficient supporting documents including the execution of Declaration acknowledging the risks involved in travelling, including risk of delay in their return trip, to be provided for in the check-in counters by the airlines. Provided that this
provision shall not be interpreted to allow outbound travel by Filipinos to countries where travel restrictions are in place... Provided finally, upon return, they shall follow the Guidelines of Returning Overseas Filipinos of the National Task Force.

In this light, we are returning all applications and requests for foreign travel authority, not covered by the above policy for outbound travel abroad. Attached is the list of officials and/or employees whose applications are being returned, per region, for ready reference.

Future requests and applications for foreign travel authority will only be processed for those that comply with the above provision and other subsequent travel advisories that may be released by DepEd and/or authorized agencies.

For questions or clarifications, please contact the Bureau of Human Resource and Organizational Development-Personnel Division (BHROD-PD) through email at bhrod.pd@deped.gov.ph.

Please be guided accordingly.

Thank you.

Noted by:

LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary