

News Release

September 30, 2020

Cut-off date of perfected and signed employment contracts for the deployment of health care workers extended

The Philippine government has allowed all Filipino health care workers (HCWs) with perfected and signed contracts as of August 31, 2020 to leave the country for work overseas.

The cut-off date was extended from March 8 to August 31 upon the recommendation of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID).

In Advisory No. 47-B Series of 2020, the POEA said the deployment of new hire HCWs who have perfected and signed contracts as of the new date and have secured an overseas employment certificates (OECs) as their exit permits can now report to their employers overseas.

New hire health care workers refer to newly hired HCWs who are direct hires, recruitment agency hires, including POEA Government Placement Branch hires who were already accepted under the hiring program of host countries.

All Balik-Manggagawa or returning health workers with OEC exemption certificates are also allowed to leave the country, as well as the seafarers who were previously hired as doctors and nurses onboard, and will be deployed by the same licensed manning agency.

The deployment of HCWs will remain under a strict observance of prescribed quarantine protocols, social distancing measures, as well as in the departure and immigration formalities in the Philippines, in transit countries, and in countries of work destination.

The POEA, meanwhile, reiterated that outbound passengers with visas that are not documented through POEA regulations such as US J1 visa, permanent residents, immigrants or dual citizens of other countries are excluded from the temporary deployment suspension.

Also, the POEA will continue to prohibit the deployment of HCWs to countries with imposed travel restrictions. ###