



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 REGION VIII - EASTERN VISAYAS

August 18, 2022

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. **922**, s. 2022

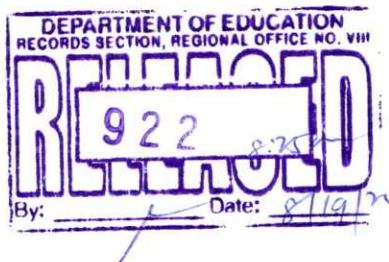
**CONCERNS ON COVID-19 VACCINATION AND TESTING OF
 PERSONNEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
 All Others Concerned

1. Attached is a Memorandum from the Office of the Undersecretary and Chief of Staff, dated June 28, 2022, re: concerns on covid-19 vaccination and testing of Personnel of the department of education.
2. All schools and division offices are advised to refer to the attached memorandum for all concerns relating to vaccination and Covid-19.
3. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum is desired.

EVELYN R. FETALVERO, CESO IV
 Regional Director

Enclosures: Memorandum
 IATF Resolution 169
 Office Order
 OO-OSEC-2022-003



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

COVID-19

VACCINATION

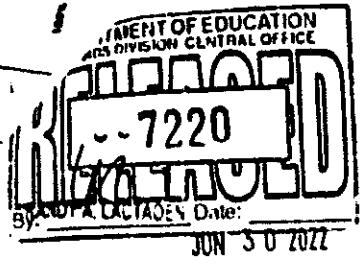
FACE-TO-FACE

IATF

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO : Regional Directors
 All others concerned

FROM : *[Signature]*
 ATTY. NEPOMUCENO A. MALALUAN
 Undersecretary
 Officer-in-Charge

SUBJECT : Concerns on COVID-19 vaccination and testing of personnel
 of the Department of Education

DATE : June 28, 2022

Various concerns raised by some personnel regarding the COVID-19 vaccination and testing requirements in relation to onsite work under IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149, issued in November 2021, have been brought to the attention of the Central Office.

Acting on these concerns, the Department of Education (DepEd) wrote to the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF), referring these concerns emanating from implementation of its Resolutions.

In response, the IATF issued the attached Resolution No. 169, dated June 27, 2022, which was uploaded to the online Official Gazette on June 28, 2022. Other concerns which had been raised by DepEd, but may not be addressed by IATF Resolution No. 169, are recommended for future consideration of the IATF.

Given this development, the Regional Directors are directed to implement IATF Resolution No. 169 as the latest directive of the IATF on the matter, and accordingly address letters and correspondences pertaining to concerns on COVID-19 vaccination and testing relative to onsite work, with consideration of said Resolution. For this purpose, all such letters and correspondences forwarded to the Central Office shall be returned to the respective Regional

Directors for proper action. The Office of the Director, Legal Service, through Atty. Rhoan G.L. Orebia, Director IV, shall facilitate the prompt return of such letters, assisted by the Legal Division, through Atty. Rodel James R. Pulma, Chief.

With respect to face-to-face classes and vaccination, however, Office Order 00-OSEC-2022-003, dated February 2, 2022, entitled "Interim Guidelines on the Expansion of Limited Face-to-Face Classes" remains in force.

For guidance and compliance.



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

RESOLUTION NO. 169

Series of 2022

June 27, 2022

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);

WHEREAS, according to the National COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard of the Department of Health, as of 26 June 2022, 153,196,264 COVID-19 vaccine doses have already



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

been administered, broken down as follows: 68,057,339 first dose administered, 70,277,898 complete dose administered, 14,861,027 booster doses administered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, upon the recommendation of the IATF Technical Advisory Group and the IATF Technical Working Group, the IATF hereby approves the following:

1. Paragraph A of IATF Resolution No. 148-B s. 2021 dated 11 November 2021 is hereby amended as follows:

"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 once every two (2) weeks, or weekly antigen tests for purposes of on-site work.

However, for public sector employees, government agencies, instrumentalities, including local government units may cover the costs of the RT-PCR or antigen tests to be administered, subject to availability of funds, and civil service, accounting and auditing rules and regulations."

2. Employees with recent COVID-19 infection within ninety (90) days, and those with alternative working arrangements that do not require on-site reporting may be exempted from the testing requirements under Section 1.
3. The testing requirements under Section 1 shall be waived for areas under Alert Level 1 classification, subject to the implementation of clinical-based management, including symptomatic testing. However, the testing requirements under Section 1 shall be reinstated in areas under Alert Level 2 classification or higher.


RESOLVED FURTHER, that the provisions of IATF Resolution No. 149 in relation to IATF Resolution No. 148-B, and all other Resolutions inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby modified accordingly.




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

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 169th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this June 27, 2022, at Diamond Hotel Philippines, Malate, Manila.


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


DELFIN N. LORENZANA
Secretary, Department of National Defense
NTF Chairperson
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 OIC-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. IATF Resolution No. **169** was unanimously approved and adopted;
6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and/or Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana 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 **27th** day of June 2022, Manila.


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



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

FEB 2022

02 FEB 2022

OFFICE ORDER
OO-OSEC-2022-003

INTERIM GUIDELINES ON THE EXPANSION OF LIMITED FACE-TO-FACE CLASSES

To: Regional Directors
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to the approval of the recommendation for progressive expansion by the President last January 17, 2022, all Regional Directors are authorized to continue the implementation of limited face-to-face classes of the original pilot schools, and the commencement of the progressive expansion phase for both public and private schools, under the following parameters:

- a. Expansion schools have been validated as compliant with the standards of School Safety Assessment Tool (SSAT);
- b. Schools must be in areas under Alert Levels 1 and 2 based on the periodic risk assessment by the Department of Health (DOH);
- c. Schools may already include other grade levels based on the capacity of schools;
- d. Schools or division must have secured the concurrence of the Local Chief Executive in the City or municipality where the expansion school is located, and the schools must also have taken the proper coordination with their respective barangay officials;
- e. Students participating in the face-to-face classes must have the written consent of their parents;
- f. Schools are given flexibility in contact time for teaching and learning, provided that meals are not taken in school except during managed recess; and
- g. Only vaccinated teachers may participate, and vaccinated learners shall be preferred.

2. The main protocols and standards in the DepEd-DOH Joint Memorandum Circular 001, s. 2021 shall remain applicable as appropriate, until a Revised Joint Memorandum along with the DepEd Implementation Guidelines are issued, containing the details of implementation of the expansion phase. Regional Directors are directed to ensure that all schools are assessed for readiness using SSAT and shall take appropriate steps to address the challenges encountered by schools in complying with SSAT standards.

3. Immediate dissemination of this Order is directed.


LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

JDMC/SMMA/APA. OO Interim Guidelines on the Expansion of Limited F2F Classes
0017 - February 2, 2022

