



Republika ng Pilipinas  
**Kagawaran ng Edukasyon**  
Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

**DepEd Task Force COVID-19**  
**MEMORANDUM No. 328**  
03 February 2021



**For: Secretary LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES**  
**Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries**  
**Concerned Bureau and Service Directors**  
**Regional Directors and the BARMM Minister of Education**

**Subject: REITERATING THE PROTOCOLS FOR AREAS**  
**UNDER GCQ AND MGCQ**

As some areas of the country have moved from the Modified General Quarantine (MGCQ) to the stricter General Community Quarantine (GCQ), the DepEd Task Force COVID-19, reminds all the units at the Central Office, the regional offices, the schools division offices, and schools to ensure the strict observance of the protocols depending on the community quarantine classification of their respective province, city, or municipality.

All concerned are invited to refer to the attached summary of the key protocols per community quarantine, based on the **Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, with Amendments as of January 21, 2021**, issued by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases.

It is noted that some provisions of the IATF Omnibus Guidelines need to be updated to align with the most recent issuances of the Department and/or the pronouncements of the President, particularly:

- Section 4(11)a**, which provides that "opening of classes for the basic education shall be on 24 August 2020 and shall end on 30 April 2021," whereas DO 30, s. 2020 or the Amendment to DepEd Order No. 007, s. 2020 provides that "for SY 2020-2021, schools shall formally start the conduct of teaching activities on October 5, 2020 and shall end June 11, 2021;" and
- Section 5(6)**, which provides that the Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP) shall be adopted, whereas the BE-LCP provides



**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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that, "in areas with low-risk severity, schools will be permitted to hold classes through the face-to-face modality. Class size shall be reduced to 15 to 20 learners in a classroom," while the latest pronouncement of the President has been to suspend the resumption of face-to-face classes.

It is therefore clarified that in this case, the most recent issuances of the Department or pronouncements of the President shall prevail. The DTFC shall issue a separate memorandum to suggest DepEd's recommendations to the IATF on the necessary updates in the future amendments of the IATF Omnibus Guidelines.

For the working arrangement in the Department, all are advised to adhere to the latest issuance of the Department on alternative working arrangements in DepEd offices and schools, unless new guidelines are issued. To date, this is the DepEd Order No. 11, s. 2020, or the Revised Guidelines on Alternative Work Arrangements in the Department of Education During the Period of State of National Emergency Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, issued 15 June 2020, which provides that:

1. Under GCQ, in order to limit exposure and ensure physical distancing, the number of personnel physically reporting to work shall not exceed 50% of the total workforce of the office/school/CLC.
2. Under MGCQ and post-community quarantine scenario, DepEd may operate at the full operational capacity as may be allowed by required health standards, including physical distancing protocols and adoption of appropriate work arrangements.

Furthermore, in compliance with Civil Service Commission (CSC) Memorandum Circular No. 18 s. 2020 on the Amendments 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, each office/school shall ensure that at least one staff is physically present during the core working hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) of each workday in order not to prejudice public service delivery.

For future queries regarding this concern, please contact **Maria Corazon C. Dumlao, MD, MPH, DBHI**, Chief, Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division, DTFC Secretariat, at (+632) 8632-9935 and email at [maria.dumlao@deped.gov.ph](mailto:maria.dumlao@deped.gov.ph).

For dissemination.



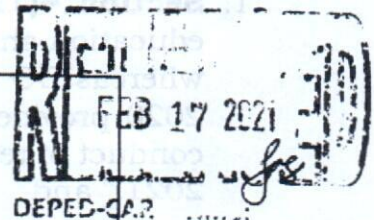
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**ALAIN DELA ROSA PASCUAL**  
Undersecretary  
Chairperson, DepEd Task Force COVID-19



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Education  
Division Office - Cebu

**ENDORSEMENT**



February 16, 2021

To: Schools Division Superintendents  
All Divisions

For information, guidance and appropriate action.

**ESTELA L. CARIÑO EdD, CESO III**  
Director IV/Regional Director

ESSD/ehm/afc

**Relevant Protocols for Areas under the stricter General Community Quarantine (GCQ) and the Modified General Quarantine (MGCQ)<sup>1</sup>**

<b>GCQ</b>	<b>MGCQ</b>
<b>Section 4(1).</b> Minimum public health standards shall be complied with at all times for the duration of the GCQ.	<b>Section 5(1).</b> Minimum public health standards shall be complied with at all times for the duration of the MGCQ.
<b>Section 4(2).</b> The movement of all persons in areas placed under GCQ shall be limited to accessing essential goods and services, and for work in the offices or industries permitted to operate hereunder. Provided, that movement for leisure purposes shall not be allowed.	<b>Section 5(2).</b> The movement of all persons in areas placed under MGCQ shall be limited to accessing essential goods and services, for work in the offices or industries permitted to operate hereunder, and for other activities permitted [under MGCQ]. <i>(As amended by Paragraph A(4)(a) of IATF Resolution No. 43, June 03, 2020)</i>
<b>Section 4(3).</b> Any person below fifteen (15) years old, those who are sixty-five (65) years old and above, those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, or other health risks, and pregnant women, including any person who resides with the aforementioned, shall be required to remain in their residences at all times, except when indispensable under the circumstances for obtaining essential goods and services or for work in permitted industries and offices. <i>(As amended by Paragraph A of IATF Resolution No. 79, October 15, 2020)</i>	<b>Section 5(3).</b> Any person below ten (10) years old, those who are over sixty-five (65) years of age and above, those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, or other health risks, and pregnant women shall be required to remain in their residences at all times; Provided that all activities and movements allowed [for GCQ] for the foregoing persons shall continue to be permitted under MGCQ. <i>(As amended by Paragraph A(4)(b) of IATF Resolution No. 43, June 03, 2020, Paragraph A of IATF Resolution No. 79, October 15, 2020, Paragraph B(8) of IATF Resolution No. 84, November 19, 2020, and by Paragraph B of IATF Resolution No. 95, January 21, 2021)</i>
<b>Section 4(4).</b> Work in all government offices may be at full operational capacity or under such alternative work arrangements as agencies may deem proper in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). <sup>2</sup> Provided that for offices requiring	---

<sup>1</sup> From the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, with Amendments as of January 21, 2021, <http://bit.ly/iatfOGICQP20210121>

<sup>2</sup> For the working arrangement in the Department, all are advised to adhere to the latest issuance of the Department on alternative working arrangements in DepEd offices and schools. To date, this is the DepEd



GCQ	MGCQ
employees to report physically, commissioned shuttle services as well as point-to-point transport services may be provided.	
<b>Section 4(8).</b> All public and private construction projects shall be allowed, but with strict compliance to the construction safety guidelines issued by the DPWH for the implementation of infrastructure projects during the COVID-19 pandemic.	---
<b>Section 4(11).</b> Face-to-face or in-person classes shall be suspended.  Conduct of curricular and co-curricular activities involving gatherings such as science fairs, showcase of portfolios, trade fairs, school sports, campus journalism, festival of talents, job fairs, and other similar activities is cancelled, except those conducted online.	<b>Section 5(6).</b> For K-12 Basic Education, the Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan of the DepEd shall be adopted.
<b>Section 4(12).</b> Mass gatherings such as but not limited to, movie screenings, concerts, sporting events, and other entertainment activities, community assemblies, and non-essential work gatherings shall be prohibited. Gatherings that are for the provision of critical government services and authorized humanitarian activities while adhering to the prescribed minimum health standards shall be allowed. Religious gatherings in areas under General Community Quarantine shall be allowed up to thirty percent (30%) of the seating capacity. Provided that, religious gathering shall be limited to the conduct of religious worship and/or service; Provided further,	<b>Section 5(5).</b> Mass gatherings such as but not limited to, movie screenings, concerts, sporting events, and other entertainment activities, religious services, and work conferences shall be allowed provided that participants shall be limited to fifty percent (50%) of the seating or venue capacity. <i>(As amended by Paragraph A(4)(d) of IATF Resolution No. 43, June 03, 2020)</i>

Order No. 11, s. 2020, or the Revised Guidelines on Alternative Work Arrangements in the Department of Education During the Period of State of National Emergency Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, issued 15 June 2020, which provides that:

1. Under GCQ, in order to limit exposure and ensure physical distancing, the number of personnel physically reporting to work shall not exceed 50% of the total workforce of the office/school/CLC.
2. Under MGCQ and post-community quarantine scenario, DepEd may operate at the full operational capacity as may be allowed by required health standards, including physical distancing protocols and adoption of appropriate work arrangements.



GCQ	MGCQ
<p>that there is no objection from the local government unit where the religious gathering may take place. The religious denominations should strictly observe their submitted protocols and the minimum public health standards, particularly the social distancing measures and non-pharmaceutical interventions such as the obligatory wearing of face masks and immediate availability of hand hygiene necessities in the premises. <i>(As amended by Paragraph B of IATF Resolution No. 80, October 22, 2020)</i></p>	
<p><b>Section 4(13).</b> Outdoor non-contact sports and other forms of exercise such as but not limited to walking, jogging, running, biking, golf, swimming, tennis, badminton, equestrian, range shooting, diving, and skateboarding are allowed. Provided, that the minimum public health standards such as the wearing of masks and the maintenance of social distancing protocols, and no sharing of equipment where applicable, are observed. Provided, further, that operations of the relevant clubhouses or similar establishments, if any, shall be limited to basic operations and restaurants and cafés therein are hereby allowed to operate at thirty percent (30%) venue capacity provided that it allows for social distancing protocols and that such establishments are compliant with the proper protocols prescribed by the DTI. In this regard, the operation of these dine-in establishments is hereby allowed up to 9:00 PM. For this purpose, the prohibition in Section 4(3) does not apply. Spectators in all non-contact sports and exercises shall be prohibited. <i>(As amended by Paragraph A(3)(a) of IATF Resolution No. 43, June 03, 2020 and further amended by Paragraph D of IATF Resolution No. 48, June 22, 2020, Paragraph B(3) of IATF Resolution No. 49, June 25, 2020, and Paragraph B of IATF Resolution No. 56, July 16, 2020.)</i></p>	<p><b>Section 5(4).</b> Indoor and outdoor non-contact sports and other forms of exercise such as but not limited to walking, jogging, running, biking, golf, swimming, tennis, badminton, equestrian, range shooting, and skateboarding are allowed. Provided, that the minimum public health standards such as the wearing of masks and the maintenance of social distancing protocols, and no sharing of equipment where applicable, are observed. For this purpose, the prohibition in Section 5(3) does not apply. Spectators in all non-contact sports and exercises shall be prohibited. <i>(As amended by Paragraph A(4)(c) of IATF Resolution No. 43, June 03, 2020, and Paragraph B of IATF Resolution No. 56, July 16, 2020)</i></p>

