



Republic of the Philippines
Professional Regulation Commission
Manila



RESOLUTION NO. 1421
Series of 2021

**CANCELLING THE SEPTEMBER 2021 PHYSICIANS LICENSURE EXAMINATION
AND QUALIFYING ASSESSMENT FOR FOREIGN MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS IN
THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION**

WHEREAS, Section 7 (d) of Republic Act No. 8981 or the “PRC Modernization Act of 2000” empowers the Professional Regulation Commission (Commission) to administer and conduct the licensure examinations of the various regulatory boards in accordance with the rules and regulations it may promulgate and to determine and fix the places and dates of examinations;

WHEREAS, the Commission issued Resolution No. 1283 (s. 2020) scheduling the Physicians Licensure Examination (PLE) on September 11, 12, 18 & 19, 2021 in the National Capital Region (NCR), Baguio, Cagayan de Oro, Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, Legazpi, Lucena, Tacloban, Tuguegarao, and Zamboanga;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the same Resolution, the Qualifying Assessment for Foreign Medical Professionals (QAFMP) is scheduled on September 13 & 20, 2021 to be held in the NCR only;

WHEREAS, Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) Resolution No. 119 (s. 2021) provisionally approved the Commission to conduct the July to September 2021 licensure examinations, subject to the strict monitoring and observance of minimum public health standards and health and safety protocols of the Commission, the issuance of the PRC-DOH-PNP Joint Guidelines, and the community quarantine classification as the IATF may implement on certain provinces, highly urbanized cities, and independent component cities;

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2021, the IATF issued Resolution No. 137 (s. 2021) declaring the deferment of the pilot implementation of the General Community Quarantine with Alert Levels System (GCQ with Alert Level System) in the NCR and extending the Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) classification of the NCR until September 15, 2021 or until the pilot GCQ with Alert Level System is implemented, whichever comes first;

WHEREAS, per record of processed and approved licensure examination applications, a total of 4,583 examinees will take the PLE nationwide, 2,687 of which are from the NCR, while only one (1) examinee will take the QAFMP;

WHEREAS, under the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines (as of August 19, 2021), areas placed under MECQ shall observe the following protocols, among others:

1. The movement of all persons shall be limited to accessing goods and services from permitted establishments, for work in such establishments, or for such other activities allowed in this section. (As amended by Paragraph C of IATF Resolution No. 110, April 15, 2021);
2. Gatherings outside of residences shall be prohibited. Gatherings at residences with any person outside of one’s immediate household shall likewise be prohibited. However, gatherings that are essential for the provision of health services, government services, or humanitarian activities authorized by the appropriate government agency or instrumentality shall be allowed; and
3. The following establishments, persons, or activities shall not be permitted to operate, work, or be undertaken during MECQ: Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions;

WHEREAS, upon recommendation stated per Memorandum dated August 31, 2021 of OIC-Undersecretary of Health Maria Rosario S. Vergeire to postpone large capacity board examinations especially held in closed or crowded setting and promoting close contact situations for areas with increasing cases and high risk health care utilization, the Commission’s appeal to the Regional IATF-NCR for the conduct of PLE and QAFMP in the NCR was denied;

WHEREAS, considering the above reason, the Professional Regulatory Board of Medicine and the Licensure Office recommend to the Commission the cancellation of the conduct of the September 2021 PLE and QAFMP in the NCR;

WHEREFORE, premises considered, the Commission **RESOLVES**, as it hereby **RESOLVED**, to **CANCEL** the conduct of the September 11, 12, 18 & 19, 2021 Physicians Licensure Examination in the NCR and the September 13 & 20, 2021 Qualifying Assessment for Foreign Medical Professionals.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the September 2021 PLE shall proceed in Baguio, Cagayan de Oro, Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, Legazpi, Lucena, Tacloban, Tuguegarao, and Zamboanga;

Let a copy of this Resolution be posted at the PRC Official website and social media pages for information.

Done in the City of Manila this 9th day of September 2021.


TEOFILO S. PILANDO, JR.
Chairman


YOLANDA D. REYES
Commissioner


JOSE Y. CUETO, JR.
Commissioner