



MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

03 August 2020

MARINA Advisory 2020- 57

Series of 2020

TO: **ALL MANNING/SHIPPING COMPANIES, OWNERS AND OPERATORS, GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE STAKEHOLDERS, SEAFARERS AND ALL CONCERNED**

SUBJECT: **SEAFARER-RELATED GUIDELINES IN VIEW OF THE DECLARATION OF MECQ IN METRO MANILA, CAVITE, LAGUNA, RIZAL AND BULACAN**

In view of the directive of the President to revert **Metro Manila, Cavite, Laguna, Rizal and Bulacan to Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) from 04 to 18 August 2020** due to the surge in the number of COVID-19 cases and taking into consideration the *Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines* prescribed by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-MEID), the following guidelines are hereby issued:

I. ISSUANCE OF STCW CERTIFICATES

1. The filing of applications of Certificates of Proficiency, Competency and Endorsement (COP, COC, COE) shall still be accepted via the MARINA Integrated Seafarers Management Online (MISMO) System following the no-contact processing of applications.
2. The processing center for STCW Certificates at the Parañaque Integrated Terminal Exchange (PITX) shall be closed throughout the duration of the MECQ. Seafarers with confirmed appointments at the PITX from 04 to 18 August shall be accommodated from 19 August 2020 or upon the lifting of the MECQ. A new schedule shall be posted in the MARINA website and other official social media platforms, once available.
3. Seafarers and manning/shipping companies may opt to book their appointments for issuance of STCW Certificates in other MARINA Regional Offices not covered by the ECQ.

4. Expedite applications may be accepted for processing at the MARINA Central Office provided that it is filed within 5 working days before the departure of the seafarer. Such applications shall be filed only by the manning/shipping company's authorized Liaison Officer and supported by pertinent documents showing that the seafarer is scheduled for deployment.
5. The extension of validity of expiring STCW Certificates, as deemed necessary, shall be covered by a separate Advisory.

II. ISSUANCE OF SEAFARERS RECORD BOOK AND OTHER MDS RELATED ISSUANCE

1. Filing of applications before the Manpower Development Service (MDS) through Online Appointment System (OAS) shall still be accepted and the new schedule of appointments will be posted.
2. Seafarers with confirmed appointments affected during the duration of the declared Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) at the Central Office, POEA and PITX shall be rescheduled and will be accommodated starting 19 August 2020 or upon the resumption of operation or lifting of the MECQ.
3. Processing Center at SM Manila shall remain operational and will accept seafarers with confirmed appointments and **expedite application** for the issuance of SID/SRB, provided the following requirements are complied with:
 - a. *Notarized Company Employment Contract;*
 - b. *Letter Request from Company for Expedited Processing;*
 - c. *Confirmed Travel Ticket should be at least three (3) days prior departure date;*
4. The extension of validity of expiring SIRB, as deemed necessary, is covered by a separate Advisory.
5. Issuance of DCOC, CMP and ID shall be accommodated at the MDS Office 2nd Floor MARINA Main Building. While application for processing may be filed through email address torresrolliejames@yahoo.com or erwin.lanestosa@yahoo.com.

III. CONDUCT OF TRAINING, EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT

1. Pursuant to Section 2(4)(c)(viii) of the above-mentioned IATF-MEID Resolution, the conduct of all MARINA-accredited maritime training courses, as well practical assessments, in the areas under the MECQ may continue subject to compliance with MARINA Advisory No. 2020-36, Series of 2020 and its subsequent amendments.
2. The final evaluation for the theoretical examination scheduled from 04 to 18 August 2020 at Manila is suspended. Seafarers with scheduled appointment for final evaluation on the said dates shall be rescheduled to later date.
3. All seafarers affected by the suspension of the conduct of theoretical examination shall be rescheduled without forfeiture of payment.
4. The new schedule of theoretical examination and final evaluation shall be provided by the Examination and Assessment Division (EAD) to respective seafarers through text message and E-mail. On the other hand, the rescheduling of practical assessment shall be coordinated with the concerned Assessment Center.

IV. APPROVAL OF COURSE PROGRAMS AND ACCREDITATION OF ASSESSMENT CENTERS

The provision of MARINA Advisory 2020-36 is hereby amended to state that *“The training course approval of Maritime Training Institutions (MTIs) and the accreditation of Assessment Centers (ACs) that expired or are expiring between the period of 01 March to 31 December 2020 are hereby provisionally extended for six (6) months from the date of their expiry, subject to the submission of the filled-up pro-forma application and subject to the monitoring and surveillance activities by MARINA.”*

All are advised to regularly check the MARINA website and its official social media accounts for announcements and updates. Inquiries and concerns can likewise be lodged via contactcenter@marina.gov.ph.

For information and guidance of all concerned.


VADM ROBERT A EMPEDRAD AFP (Ret)
Administrator