

GUIDELINES ON THE NATIONWIDE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALERT LEVEL SYSTEM FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE As of December 14, 2021

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), since having been declared as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), has irreversibly affected millions of lives and families worldwide. Its unprecedented speed of transmission and infectivity has placed a huge burden on essential areas of governance, most importantly in vulnerable sectors such as the economy, education, and healthcare;

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Executive Order No. (E.O.) 112, (s. 2020) provides that provincial governors shall be authorized to impose, lift or extend the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) in component cities and municipalities upon the concurrence of the relevant regional counterpart body of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF); and, that the mayors of cities and municipalities are likewise authorized to impose, lift or extend ECQ in barangays, upon the concurrence of the relevant regional counterpart body of the IATF; *provided*, that this is without prejudice to the authority of the IATF to directly impose, lift or extend ECQ in these areas should circumstances call for it;

WHEREAS, the IATF issued the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines (IATF Omnibus Guidelines), as amended, to harmonize and codify existing guidelines of the IATF and member-agencies pertaining to community quarantine, which shall be applied to all regions, provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays placed under community quarantine;

WHEREAS, Guidelines for the Pilot Implementation of Alert Level System in the National Capital Region was adopted by the IATF and was published on 13 September 2021.

WHEREAS, the pilot area for implementation of the Alert Level System was expanded to include other provinces, highly urbanized cities, and independent component cities pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 144-D (s.2021) issued on 18 October 2021.

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 151 (s.2021) issued on 11 November 2021, approved the nationwide rollout of the Alert Level System and adopted these Guidelines as the guidelines to be implemented and enforced in all areas under the Alert Level System.

WHEREAS, Section 6 of Executive Order No. 151 (s.2021) further provides that Executive Order No. 112 (s.2020) shall be deemed repealed once all areas of the country are placed under the Alert Level System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it hereby RESOLVED, that in consideration of the premises set forth herein, the IATF issues these Guidelines to enjoin and



proactively advocate the principles of 3C's (Closed, Crowded, and Close Contact) strategy against COVID-19 to curb the further spread of infection:

For purposes of these Guidelines, the following shall be defined as follows:

- 1. Accommodation Establishments refers to establishments operating primarily for accommodation purposes including, but not limited to, hotels, resorts, apartment hotels, tourist inns, motels, pension houses, private homes used for homestay, ecolodges, serviced apartments, condotels, and bed and breakfast facilities.
- 2. COVID-19 refers to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 which is caused by the virus known as the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).
- 3. **COVID-19 Alert Level System -** refers to the new Community Quarantine Classifications for dealing with COVID-19 covering entire cities, municipalities and/or regions; aimed to manage and minimize the risk of the disease through System Indicators, Triggers and Thresholds determined by the IATF to specify the public health and social measures to be taken in relation to the COVID-19 response, as may be updated based on new scientific knowledge, information about the effectiveness of control measures in the country and overseas, and its application.
 - a. Alert Level 1 refers to areas wherein case transmission is low and decreasing, total bed utilization rate, and intensive care unit utilization rate is low.
 - b. Alert Level 2 refers to areas wherein case transmission is low and decreasing, healthcare utilization is low, or case counts are low but increasing, or case counts are low and decreasing but total bed utilization rate and intensive care unit utilization rate is increasing.
 - c. Alert Level 3 refers to areas wherein case counts are high and/or increasing, with total bed utilization rate and intensive care unit utilization rate at increasing utilization.
 - d. Alert Level 4 refers to areas wherein case counts are high and/or increasing, with total bed utilization rate and intensive care unit utilization rate at high utilization.
 - e. Alert Level 5 refers to areas wherein case counts are alarming, with total bed utilization rate and intensive care unit utilization rate at critical utilization.



- 4. Essential goods and services covers health and social services to secure the safety and well-being of persons, such as but not limited to, food, water, medicine, medical devices, public utilities, energy, and others as may be determined by the IATF.
- 5. **Granular Lockdown** refers to a micro-level quarantine for areas identified as "critical zones" by the local government unit (LGU) which may be declared regardless of Alert Level.
- 6. Health and emergency frontline services refers to services provided by public health workers [all employees of the DOH, DOH Hospitals, Hospitals of LGUs, and Provincial, City, and Rural Health Units, and Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers including those managed by other government agencies (e.g. police and military hospitals/clinics, university medical facilities), uniformed medical personnel], private health workers, such as but not limited to medical professionals, hospital and health facility administrative and maintenance staff, and aides from private health facilities, as well as their service providers, health workers and volunteers of the Philippine Red Cross and the World Health Organization, and employees of Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC), health insurance providers, disaster risk reduction management officers, and public safety officers.
- 7. **Minimum public health standards (MPHS)** refers to the national, local, and sector-specific guidelines on mitigation measures for its COVID-19 response across all settings by implementing non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs), consistent with the Department of Health (DOH) Administrative Order No. 2021-0043 or the Omnibus Guidelines on the Minimum Public Health Standards for the Safe Reopening of Institutions. This term shall also encompass specific NPIs of community mitigation strategies or public health measures that do not involve vaccines, medications, or other pharmaceutical interventions, that individuals and communities can carry out in order to reduce transmission rates, contact rates, and the duration of infectiousness of individuals in the population.
- 8. On-site capacity refers to the number of employees or workers who can be permitted or required to be physically present at their designated workplace outside of their residences.
- 9. Skeleton workforce refers to the on-site capacity which utilizes the smallest number of people needed for a business or organization to maintain its basic functions.



PART I. ALERT LEVEL SYSTEM FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE

SECTION [1] GENERAL GUIDELINES

- 1. The DOH, shall identify the Alert Level of the areas. These areas shall follow the protocols consistent with the declared Alert Level.
- 2. LGUs shall submit on a daily basis to their respective Regional Inter-Agency Task Force (RIATF) such data as determined by National Government Agencies based on the template provided for by the IATF Sub-Technical Working Group on Data Analytics.
- 3. MPHS shall be implemented at all times consistent with the DOH Administrative Order No. 2021-0043 or the Omnibus Guidelines on the Minimum Public Health Standards for the Safe Reopening of Institutions.
- 4. The benefits for hazard pay and special risk allowances for all personnel in health facilities shall be applicable under the Alert Level System for the duration of the state of Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19.
- 5. Only hotels or accommodation establishments with valid DOT Accreditation shall be allowed to accommodate guests and clients subject to guidelines issued by the Department of Tourism and the IATF.
- 6. In all areas not under Alert Level 5, establishments permitted to operate under each Alert Level may be allowed additional venue/seating capacity on top of the existing allowable venue/seating capacities, as follows:
 - a. An additional twenty percent (20%) if the area where such establishments are located has a vaccination coverage above seventy percent (70%) for both Priority Group A2 (senior citizens) and Priority Group A3 (adults with comorbidities), as determined by the Vaccine Cluster of the National Task Force Against COVID-19; and
 - b. An additional ten percent (10%) if said establishments have been awarded Safety Seal Certificates under the Safety Seal Certification Program.
- 7. LGUs are enjoined to enact the necessary ordinances to enforce protocols contained in these Guidelines and to penalize, in a fair and humane manner, violations of these protocols. Law enforcement agencies are likewise strongly enjoined to observe fair and humane treatment of violators.
- 8. All national government agencies and instrumentalities, as well as private sector establishments, shall adopt measures to strictly implement and enforce the minimum



public health standards set by DOH and other standards set by relevant government agencies.

- 9. As a national policy, all LGUs shall ensure unhampered movement by land, air, or sea of all types of goods and cargoes including their personnel and delivery vehicles to and from their destination regardless of alert level.
- 10. Notwithstanding the provisions under the different alert levels as set forth under this Guidelines, the IATF may, in exceptional circumstances, suspend the application of the rules or adopt rules applicable to a different alert level, in order to address the COVID-19 situation in a region, province, city, or municipality.
- 11. Other COVID-19 measures not specifically provided herein such as those on border control for international travel and those for the implementation of the Philippine National Deployment and Vaccination Plan for COVID-19 Vaccines shall be governed by the appropriate IATF Resolutions.
- 12. Any violation of these Guidelines may be prosecuted under the appropriate local ordinance or as non-cooperation of the person or entities punishable under Section 9 par. (d) or (e), as the case may be, of Republic Act No. 11332, otherwise known as the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.

SECTION [2] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 5. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 5, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

- 1. Intrazonal and interzonal 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. Any person below eighteen (18) years old, those who are over sixty-five (65) years of age, those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, or other health risks, and pregnant women shall be required to remain in their residences at all times, except for obtaining essential goods and services, or for work in industries and offices or such other activities permitted in this Section.
- 2. Only the following establishments, persons, or activities are allowed to operate, work, or be undertaken for the duration of the Alert Level 5:
 - a. With full on-site capacity:
 - i. Public and private hospitals;
 - ii. Health, emergency, and frontline services, including those provided by dialysis centers, chemotherapy centers, HMOs, health insurance



providers, disaster risk reduction management officers, and public safety officers, and the like;

- iii. Manufacturers of medicines and vitamins, medical supplies, devices, and equipment, including suppliers of input, packaging, and distribution;
- iv. Industries involved in agriculture (crops, fruits, vegetables, livestock, and poultry), forestry, fishery, and such other components of the food value chain and their workers, including farmers and fisherfolks;
- v. Logistics service providers (delivery and courier services; cargo handling; warehousing; trucking; freight forwarding; shipping, port and terminal operators and contractors and ancillary services (i.e. drivers, conductors, terminal workers);
- vi. Essential and priority construction projects, whether public or private, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) including contractors, subcontractors, and consultants of the Department of Transportation for the construction of Build Build Build flagship infrastructure projects;
- vii. Manufacturing related to food and other essential goods such as but not limited to soap and detergents, diapers, personal hygiene products, toilet paper, and wet wipes, and disinfectants;
- viii. Companies that manufacture, distribute, and/or supply equipment or products necessary to perform construction or maintenance works, such as cement and steel, or spare parts;
- ix. Essential retail trade and service establishments such as public markets, supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience stores, pharmacies or drug stores, hardware, office supplies, bicycle shops, laundry shops, and water-refilling stations;
- x. Food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries, but limited to take-out and delivery;
- xi. Public and private financial service providers involved in the distribution of government grants and amelioration subsidies;
- xii. Business process outsourcing establishments (BPOs), and export-oriented businesses, including mining and quarrying activities; and
- xiii. Public transport providers and operators;
- b. At a maximum of fifty percent (50%) on-site capacity:
 - i. Media establishments and their total permanent staff complement, inclusive of reporters and other field employees.
- c. With an on-site skeleton workforce:



- i. Dental, rehabilitation, optometry, and other medical clinics for the treatment of illness or injuries. Provided, that there is strict observance of infection prevention and control protocols. Provided, further, that dental procedures shall be limited to emergency cases only and that the wearing of full Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) by dentists and attendants shall be mandatory. Provided, finally, that home service therapy for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) shall be allowed;
- ii. Veterinary clinics;
- iii. Banks, money transfer services, including pawnshops only insofar as performing money transfer functions, microfinance institutions, and credit cooperatives, including their armored vehicle services, if any;
- Capital markets, including but not limited to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Securities and Exchange Commission, Philippine Stock Exchange, Philippine Dealing and Exchange Corporation, Philippine Securities Settlement Corporation, and Philippine Depository and Trust Corporation;
- v. Water supply and janitorial/sanitation services and facilities, including waste disposal services, as well as property management and building utility services;
- vi. The energy sector (oil, gas, and power companies), their third-party contractors and service providers, including employees involved in electric transmission and distribution, electric power plant and line maintenance, electricity market and retail suppliers, as well as those involved in the exploration, operations, trading and delivery of coal, oil, crude or petroleum and by-products (gasoline, diesel, liquefied petroleum gas or LPG, jet oil, kerosene, lubricants), including gasoline stations, refineries, LPG stations, and depots or any kind of fuel used to produce power;
- vii. Telecommunications companies, internet service providers, cable television providers, including those who perform indirect services such as the technical, sales, and other support personnel, as well as the employees of their third-party contractors doing sales, installation, maintenance, and repair works;
- viii. Airline and aircraft maintenance, pilots and crew, and employees of aviation schools for purposes of the pilot's recurrent training for flight proficiency and type rating using simulator facilities; and ship captains and crew, including shipyard operations and repair;
- ix. Funeral and embalming services;
- x. Security personnel licensed by the PNP Supervisory Office for Security and Investigation Agencies;
- xi. Printing establishments authorized by the Bureau of Internal Revenue and those contracted by other government agencies;



- xii. Establishments engaged in repair and maintenance of machinery and equipment, for households and essential permitted establishments;
- xiii. Establishments engaged in repair and maintenance of motorized and non-motorized vehicles, including the sale of spare parts;
- xiv. Leasing of real and personal properties;
- xv. Employment activities that involve the recruitment and placement for permitted sectors;
- xvi. Teachers, professors and other staff for purposes of conducting online/offline, and flexible classes, completion of grades, and processing of student credentials, requirements and documents;
- xvii. Lawyers only when required to provide on-site legal representation necessary to protect rights of persons, whether natural or juridical; and
- xviii. All other establishments, to the extent necessary for the buying and selling of consumer goods or services via the internet.

All other businesses, persons, or activities, shall not be allowed to operate, work, or be undertaken on-site during Alert Level 5.

- 3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is hereby authorized to issue a negative list of other industries that shall remain prohibited in areas under Alert Level 5.
- 4. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall be fully operational, with a skeleton workforce on-site and the remainder under alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency unless a greater on-site capacity is required in agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services, in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC).
- 5. The co-equal or independent authority of the legislature (Senate and the House of Representatives), the judiciary (the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Court of Tax Appeals, Sandiganbayan, and the lower courts), the Office of the Ombudsman, and the Constitutional Commissions, to implement any alternative work arrangements, is recognized.
- 6. Officials and employees of foreign diplomatic missions and international organizations accredited by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), whenever performing diplomatic functions and subject to the guidelines issued by the DFA, may operate with an on-site skeleton workforce.
- 7. 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.

Pastors, priests, rabbis, imams, or other religious ministers and their assistants may conduct religious services performed through online video recording and transmission, necrological services, wakes, inurnment, and funerals, and they shall be allowed to move for such purposes. Corollary, immediate family members of the deceased who died of causes other than COVID-19 and for the cremains of COVID-19 shall be allowed to move from their residences to attend the wake or interment of the deceased upon satisfactory proof of their relationship with the latter, fully complying with the prescribed minimum public health standards for the duration of the activity.

- 8. Face-to-face or in-person classes at all levels shall be suspended. The education sector shall operate in accordance with the guidelines of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) for higher education, Technical Educational and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) for technical vocational education and training, and Department of Education (DepEd) for basic education.
- 9. The road, rail, maritime, and aviation sectors of public transportation shall be allowed to operate at such capacity and protocols in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Transportation (DOTr).
- 10. Law enforcement agencies shall recognize any of the following IDs: (i) IATF IDs issued by the regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over permitted establishments or persons, (ii) valid IDs or other pertinent documentation issued by accrediting organizations or establishments allowed under Alert Level 5, and, (iii) if required by the LGU, local IDs for availing of essential goods and services. No other IDs or passes specifically exempting persons from alert level shall be required of workers of permitted establishments and/or offices without prejudice to requiring the presentation of other documents establishing the nature of their work.
- 11. The movement of cargo/delivery vehicles, as well as vehicles used by public utility companies, shall be unhampered. Shuttle services of permitted establishments shall not be subject to an ID system but shall maintain compliance with minimum public health standards.
- 12. Private corporations are encouraged to process payrolls online. Payroll managers and such other employees required for the processing of payroll shall be allowed to travel to their respective offices during Alert Level 5.
- 13. Uniform curfew hours may be imposed by LGUs, subject to the guidelines issued by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). Workers, cargo vehicles, public transportation, and operating hours of permitted establishments, however, shall not be restricted by such curfew.



14. (a) The movement of the following authorized persons outside their residences (APOR), by land, sea, or air, within and across areas placed under Alert Level 5 shall be allowed: (1) health and emergency frontline services and uniformed personnel, (2) government officials and employees on official travel, (3) duly-authorized humanitarian assistance actors (HAAs), especially those transporting medical supplies and laboratory specimens related to COVID-19, and other relief and humanitarian assistance, (4) persons traveling for medical or humanitarian reasons, and those leaving their residence to be vaccinated (with proof of schedule), and persons availing of DFA consular services (with confirmed appointments), (5) persons going to and from the airport including Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) carrying Overseas Employment Certificates, (6) any person whose purpose of travel is for a work, business, or activity that is also permitted in areas under Alert Level 5, and (7) public utility vehicle operators. The PNP shall be authorized to promulgate and regularly update the list of APORs. Authorized shuttle services shall be allowed to travel within and across areas placed under Alert Level 5, with priority given to persons rendering health and emergency frontline services.

SECTION [3] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 4. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 4, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

- 1. Intrazonal and interzonal travel shall be allowed subject to the reasonable regulations of the LGU of destination, except for those (i) below eighteen (18) years of age, and (ii) belonging to the vulnerable population, namely, those who are over sixty-five (65) years of age, those with immunodeficiencies, comorbidities, or other health risks, and pregnant women, provided that:
 - a. Those below eighteen (18) years of age, and those belonging to the vulnerable population, shall be allowed access to obtain essential goods and services, or for work in permitted industries and offices in accordance with existing labor laws, rules, and regulations.
 - b. Fully vaccinated individuals belonging to the vulnerable population and those below eighteen (18) years of age shall be allowed to participate in the following activities:
 - i. Specialized markets of the Department of Tourism such as Point-to-Point Travel subject to the reasonable regulations of the LGU of destination, and *Staycations*; and
 - ii. Individual outdoor exercises even beyond the general area of their respective residences. Provided that, the minimum public health standards and precautions such as the wearing of face masks and the maintenance of social distancing protocols are observed.



- 2. Fully vaccinated individuals, including those belonging to the vulnerable population, may participate in the permitted activities under this Section.
- 3. The following establishments and/or activities characterized as high-risk for transmission **shall not be allowed to operate**, **or be undertaken** in areas classified under Alert Level 4:
 - a. Face to face or in-person classes for basic education, except those approved by the IATF and/or the Office of the President;
 - b. Face-to-face or in-person classes for higher education or for technical, vocational education and training, except those approved by the IATF and/or the Office of the President;
 - c. All contact sports, whether indoor or outdoor;
 - d. Cinemas and movie houses;
 - e. Funfairs/*peryas* and kid amusement industries such as playgrounds, playroom, and kiddie rides;
 - f. Venues with live voice or wind-instrument performers and audiences such as in karaoke bars, bars, clubs, concert halls, and theaters;
 - g. Casinos, horse racing, cockfighting and operation of cockpits, lottery and betting shops, and other gaming establishments except as may be authorized by the IATF or the Office of the President; and
 - h. Gatherings in residences with individuals not belonging to the same household.
- 4. The following establishments, or activities, shall be allowed to operate, or be undertaken at a maximum of 10% indoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated individuals only and 30% outdoor venue capacity provided that they have been issued a Safety Seal Certification. Provided further, that all on-site workers/employees of these establishments, or organizers of activities are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and minimum public health standards shall be strictly maintained. Provided further still, that there is no objection from the LGU where these activities may take place:
 - a. Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE);
 - b. Permitted venues for social events such as parties, wedding receptions, engagement parties, wedding anniversaries, debut and birthday parties, family reunions, and bridal or baby showers;
 - c. Visitor or tourist attractions such as libraries, archives, museums, galleries, exhibits, parks, plazas, public gardens, scenic viewpoints or overlooks, and the like;
 - d. Amusement parks and theme parks; and



- e. Recreational venues such as internet cafes, billiard halls, amusement arcades, bowling alleys, skating rinks, archery halls, swimming pools, and similar venues.
- 5. The following establishments, or activities, shall be allowed to operate, or be undertaken at a **maximum of 10% indoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated individuals only and 30% outdoor venue capacity**. Provided that all on-site workers/employees of these establishments, or organizers of activities are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and minimum public health standards shall be strictly maintained. Provided further, that there is no objection from the LGU where these activities may take place:
 - a. In-person religious gatherings. Provided that gatherings shall be limited to the conduct of religious worship and/or service, and processions and other similar mobile religious gatherings shall not be allowed. Provided further, that pastors, priests, rabbis, imams, or other religious ministers and the assistants of these religious congregations have been fully vaccinated;
 - b. Licensure or entrance/qualifying examinations administered by their respective government agency, and specialty examinations authorized by the IATF subject to the health and safety guidelines as approved by the IATF;
 - c. Dine-in services in food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols;
 - d. Personal care establishments such as barbershops, hair spas, hair salons, and nail spas, and those offering aesthetic/cosmetic services or procedures, make-up services, salons, spas, reflexology, and other similar procedures including home service options, subject to the sector-specific protocols of the DTI;
 - e. Fitness studios, gyms, and venues for non-contact exercise and sports, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols. Provided that patrons/clients and workers/employees wear face masks at all times and that no group activities are conducted; and,
 - f. Film, music, and television production, subject to the joint guidelines as may be issued by the DTI, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), and the DOH.
- 6. Gatherings for necrological services, wakes, inurnment, funerals for those who died of causes other than COVID-19, and for the cremains of the COVID-19 deceased, shall be allowed, provided that the same shall be limited to immediate family members, upon satisfactory proof of their relationship with the deceased and with full compliance with the prescribed minimum public health standards.



7. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least a 40% on-site workforce. Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). Heads of agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services shall operate at a workforce beyond the minimum as may be necessary to deliver their mandates.

SECTION [4] **GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 3**. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 3, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

- 1. Intrazonal and interzonal movement shall be allowed. However, reasonable restrictions may be imposed by the LGUs, which should not be stricter as those prescribed under higher alert levels and subject to the oversight, monitoring, and evaluation of their respective RIATF. Provided, that those below eighteen (18) years of age, and those belonging to the vulnerable population, shall be allowed access to obtain essential goods and services, or for work in permitted industries and offices in accordance with existing labor laws, rules, and regulations. Individual outdoor exercises shall also be allowed for all ages regardless of comorbidities or vaccination status.
- 2. The following establishments and/or activities characterized as high-risk for transmission shall **not be allowed to operate**, **or be undertaken** in areas classified under Alert Level 3:
 - a. Face to face or in-person classes for basic education, except those previously approved by the IATF and/or the Office of the President;
 - b. Contact sports, except those conducted under a bubble-type setup as provided for under relevant guidelines adopted by the IATF, Games and Amusement Board, and Philippine Sports Commission, and approved by the LGU where such games shall be held;
 - c. Funfairs/*peryas* and kid amusement industries such as playgrounds, playroom, and kiddie rides;
 - d. Venues with live voice or wind-instrument performers and audiences such as in karaoke bars, clubs, concert halls, and theaters;
 - e. Casinos, horse racing, cockfighting and operation of cockpits, lottery and betting shops, and other gaming establishments except as may be authorized by the IATF or the Office of the President; and
 - f. Gatherings in residences with individuals not belonging to the same household.



- 3. The following establishments, or activities, shall be allowed to operate or be undertaken at a **maximum of 30% indoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated individuals only and 50% outdoor venue capacity**. Provided that all on-site workers/employees of these establishments, and organizers of activities are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and MPHS shall be strictly maintained. Provided further, that there is no objection from the LGU where these activities may take place.
 - a. Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE);
 - b. Permitted venues for social events such as parties, wedding receptions, engagement parties, wedding anniversaries, debut and birthday parties, family reunions, and bridal or baby showers;
 - c. Visitor or tourist attractions such as libraries, archives, museums, galleries, exhibits, parks, plazas, public gardens, scenic viewpoints or overlooks, and the like;
 - d. Amusement parks or theme parks;
 - e. Recreational venues such as internet cafes, billiard halls, amusement arcades, bowling alleys, skating rinks, archery halls, swimming pools, and similar venues;
 - f. Cinemas and movie houses;
 - g. Limited face-to-face or in-person classes for higher education and for technical-vocational education and training;
 - h. In-person religious gatherings; gatherings for necrological services, wakes, inurnment, and funerals for those who died of causes other than COVID-19 and for the cremains of the COVID-19 deceased;
 - i. Licensure or entrance/qualifying examinations administered by their respective government agency, and specialty examinations authorized by the IATF subject to the health and safety guidelines as approved by the IATF;
 - j. Dine-in services in food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols;
 - k. Personal care establishments such as barbershops, hair spas, hair salons, and nail spas, and those offering aesthetic/cosmetic services or procedures, make-up services, salons, spas, reflexology, and other similar procedures including home service options, subject to the sector-specific protocols of the DTI;
 - 1. Fitness studios, gyms, and venues for non-contact exercise and sports, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols. Provided that patrons/clients and workers/employees wear face masks at all times and that no group activities are conducted; and
 - m. Film, music, and television production, subject to the joint guidelines as may be issued by the DTI, DOLE, and the DOH.



4. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least a 60% on-site workforce. Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). Heads of agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services shall operate at a workforce beyond the minimum as may be necessary to deliver their mandates.

SECTION [5] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 2. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 2, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

- 1. Intrazonal and interzonal movement shall be allowed. However, reasonable restrictions may be imposed by the LGUs, which should not be stricter as those prescribed under higher alert levels and subject to the oversight, monitoring, and evaluation of their respective RIATF.
- 2. Casinos, horse racing, cockfighting and operation of cockpits, lottery and betting shops, and other gaming establishments shall **not be allowed to operate, or be undertaken** in areas classified under Alert Level 2 except as may be authorized by the IATF or the Office of the President.
- 3. The following establishments, or activities, shall be allowed to operate, or be undertaken at a maximum of 50% indoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated individuals and those below 18 years of age, even if unvaccinated, and 70% outdoor venue capacity. Provided, that all on-site workers/employees of these establishments, or organizers of activities are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and MPHS shall be strictly maintained. Provided further, that there is no objection from the LGU where these activities may take place.
 - a. Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE);
 - b. Permitted venues for social events such as parties, wedding receptions, engagement parties, wedding anniversaries, debut and birthday parties, family reunions, and bridal or baby showers;
 - c. Visitor or tourist attractions such as libraries, archives, museums, galleries, exhibits, parks, plazas, public gardens, scenic viewpoints or overlooks, and the like;
 - d. Amusement parks or theme parks;
 - e. Recreational venues such as internet cafes, billiard halls, amusement arcades, bowling alleys, skating rinks, archery halls, swimming pools, and similar venues;
 - f. Cinemas and movie houses;



- g. Limited face-to-face or in-person classes for basic education subject to prior approval of the Office of the President;
- h. Limited face-to-face or in-person classes for higher education and for technical-vocational education and training;
- i. In-person religious gatherings; gatherings for necrological services, wakes, inurnment, and funerals for those who died of causes other than COVID-19 and for the cremains of the COVID-19 deceased;
- j. Licensure or entrance/qualifying examinations administered by their respective government agency, and specialty examinations authorized by the IATF subject to the health and safety guidelines as approved by the IATF;
- k. Dine-in services of food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols;
- 1. Personal care establishments such as barbershops, hair spas, hair salons, and nail spas, and those offering aesthetic/cosmetic services or procedures, make-up services, salons, spas, reflexology, and other similar procedures including home service options, subject to the sector-specific protocols of the DTI;
- m. Fitness studios, gyms, and venues for individual non-contact exercise and sports; Provided that patrons/clients and workers/employees wear face masks at all times and subject to DTI sector-specific protocols.
- n. Film, music, and television production subject to the joint guidelines as may be issued by the DTI, DOLE, and the DOH;
- o. Contact sports approved by the LGU where such games shall be held;
- p. Funfairs/*peryas* or kid amusement industries such as playgrounds, playroom, and kiddie rides;
- q. Venues with live voice or wind-instrument performers and audiences such as in karaoke bars, clubs, concert halls, and theaters; and
- r. Gatherings in residences with individuals not belonging to the same household.
- 4. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least a 80% on-site workforce. Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). Heads of agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services shall operate at a workforce beyond the minimum as may be necessary to deliver their mandates.



SECTION [6] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 1. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 1, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

- 1. Intrazonal and interzonal movement shall be allowed without regard to age and comorbidities.
- 2. All establishments, persons, or activities, are allowed to operate, work, or be undertaken at full on-site or venue/seating capacity provided it is consistent with minimum public health standards; provided further, that face to face classes for basic education shall be subject to prior approval of the Office of the President.



PART II

GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GRANULAR LOCKDOWNS

Section [1] AUTHORITY TO DECLARE. The authority to impose granular lockdown shall be given to the city and municipal mayors with respect to their component barangays subject to the concurrence of the Regional Inter-Agency Task Force (RIATF), and individual houses where one household member has been confirmed, residential buildings, streets, blocks, *puroks*, subdivisions, and/or villages within their jurisdiction.

SECTION [2] PARAMETERS FOR DECLARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION. The epidemiological parameters in the declaration of a granular lockdown, including specific interventions and activities to be conducted in such areas, shall comply with the National Task Force COVID-19 Memorandum Circular No. 2 dated 15 June 2020 or the Operational Guidelines on the Application of the Zoning Containment Strategy in the Localization of the National Action Plan Against COVID-19 Response.

SECTION [3] **DURATION.** Granular lockdowns shall be for a period of not less than fourteen (14) days.

SECTION [4] EFFECTIVITY.

- 1. Declaration of granular lockdowns by local chief executives shall be provisionally effective immediately and shall include due notice to the RIATF. The RIATF shall immediately act on the said declaration.
- 2. The IATF retains its mandate to impose and/or lift lockdowns on highly urbanized cities and independent component cities.

SECTION [5] **SECURITY.** The Philippine National Police (PNP) shall ensure peace and order at all times. They shall make sure that security protocols are maintained in lockdown areas.

SECTION [6] MOVEMENT. The privilege to enter and exit areas under Alert Level 5, granted to Authorized Persons Outside Residences as provided under Par. 14 Part I Section of these Guidelines, shall not apply in areas under granular lockdowns. Only health care workers (HCWs) and non-health personnel working in hospitals, laboratories, dialysis facilities, and community healthcare workers if their institutions are unable to provide accommodation for their personnel, and uniformed personnel tasked to enforce the granular lockdown, shall be allowed to move within, into, and out of the area under granular lockdown.

The following shall be allowed to enter and/or exit granular lockdown areas for specific purposes:



- 1. Overseas Filipino Workers bound for international travel, and those returning to their respective residences after having completed facility-based quarantine upon arrival;
- 2. Individuals whose home or residence are located within an area under granular lockdown may enter the said area for the sole purpose of returning to their respective homes or residences but must thereafter remain therein for the duration of the granular lockdown;
- 3. Individuals under exceptional circumstances such as, but not limited to, those seeking urgent medical attention as validated by the municipal/city health officer; and
- 4. Food and essential items provided that they can only be picked up and/or unloaded at border collection points designated by the LGU.

SECTION [7] **ASSISTANCE TO AFFECTED INDIVIDUALS.** Households within areas under granular lockdown shall be provided assistance by their respective LGUs and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), in accordance with their relevant guidelines.

SECTION [8] REPORTING.

- 1. LGUs shall report details of their granular lockdowns to the Department of the Interior and Local Government following a prescribed format which shall thereafter be submitted to their respective NTF Regional Task Force.
- 2. RTFs shall monitor all areas under granular lockdowns in the region, and shall provide monitoring reports to the National Task Force Against COVID-19.

SECTION [9] INCORPORATION. Succeeding issuances of the Department of the Interior and Local Government relative to the imposition of granular lockdowns, if any, shall form an integral part of these Guidelines.