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Republika ng Pilipinas
Kagawaran ng Edukasyon
Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

DepEd Task Force COVID-19
AIDE MEMOIRE
09 March 2020

**SUMMARY OF THE POLICY DIRECTIVES ISSUED
BY THE DEPED TASK FORCE COVID-19**

1. FIFTH Set of Policy Directives (DM 034, s. 2020, March 9, 2020)

Monitoring of Close Contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HOME QUARANTINE for personnel and learners who are known close contacts of confirmed cases • CLOSE MONITORING for personnel and learners who are close contacts of “[patients] under investigation”
Reiteration of Guidelines on Suspension of Classes (DM 021, s. 2020) (Based on DOH Circular No. 0042)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SUSPENSION OF CLASSES by the school head if one school has confirmed one positive case • SUSPENSION OF CLASSES by the SDS in the affected schools and adjacent areas or, depending on the local situation, in the entire city or municipality, if two or more schools in one city or municipality have confirmed a positive case • SUSPENSION OF CLASSES by the SDS in the affected cities/municipalities or, depending on the local situation, in the entire province, if there is community-level transmission in a city or municipality or several cities or municipalities • SUSPENSION OF CLASSES by the RD in the affected provinces or, depending on the local situation, in the entire region, if there is a community-level transmission in two or more provinces • Confirmation of cases and community-level transmission to come only from DOH
Suspension of Activities (effective upon the issuance of DM and until further notice)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SUSPENSION of all national activities involving learners and/or teachers requiring travel and congregation of various schools, divisions, and/or regions, EXCEPT the National Schools Press Conference (NSPC) and the National Festival of Talents (NFOT) which will proceed but with heightened precautionary measures • SUSPENSION of all regional activities involving learners and/or teachers requiring travel and congregation of various schools and/or divisions, including Regional Palaro



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Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)

[Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (BLSS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers' Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO)]

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SUSPENSION of all division and district activities that involve the gathering/congregation of various schools in cities and municipalities where there have been DOH-confirmed local cases (Taguig City, San Juan City) • HIGHLY DISCOURAGING all division and district activities that involve the gathering/congregation of various schools in all other cities and municipalities (Organizers are advised to seek the recommendation of local health authorities, and to strictly observe heightened precautionary measures) • SUSPENSION of all off-campus activities • PRECLUDING ATTENDANCE to school-based activities of all personnel and learners exhibiting respiratory infections, while strictly observing heightened precautionary measures
<p>Reiteration of Travel Restrictions (for March 2020) (DM 031, s. 2020)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEMPORARY BAN on OFFICIAL and PERSONAL travels to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ People’s Republic of China and its Special Administrative Regions ○ North Gyeongsang Province of South Korea, including Daegu City and Cheongdo County • TEMPORARY BAN on OFFICIAL travels to countries identified to have confirmed cases [or] [patients] under investigation (PUIs), as reported by the WHO • MANDATORY 14-DAY SELF QUARANTINE for personnel and learners who decide to proceed with their PERSONAL travels to countries identified to have confirmed cases [or] PUIs, as reported by the WHO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Report to appropriate local health authorities upon return ○ Strictly observe quarantine guidelines on room isolation and contacts of persons undergoing quarantine, use of disposable surgical mask, proper hand hygiene practice, respiratory hygiene and standard precaution, food handling of persons undergoing home quarantine, disposal of used gloves, tissues, and masks, cleaning and disinfection, and reporting ○ Secure necessary medical certificate before reporting back to school or work • Learners on quarantine shall not be marked absent and shall be provided with alternative delivery modes of education • All personnel are warned against travelling abroad without approved travel authority
<p>Regular School Cleaning</p>	<p>CONTINUED Weekend school-wide general cleaning and intensified disinfection efforts, on top of regular cleaning efforts during school days, shall continue.</p>
<p>Use of MOOE for Emergency Purchases</p>	<p>AUTHORIZED USE OF MOOE FUNDS by all DepEd offices and schools, for emergency purchase of critical logistics and supplies (thermal scanners, hand sanitizers, alcohol, hand soap, disinfectants, and facial masks), upon the declaration by the President of state of public health emergency</p>

Other policy directives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only verified and up-to-date information from reliable and official sources (WHO, the DOH, DepEd, other concerned government agencies) to be used and shared • Specific members of the Regional and Division Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Teams (health personnel, DRRM coordinators, and Information Officers) to report directly to the DepEd [Central Office] Quick Response and Recovery on COVID-19 (QRRT-COVID-19) on relevant and urgent incidents for appropriate and quick response, guidance, or direction • Weekly health situation reports from schools through the SDOs to BLSS-SHD to continue • Private schools are highly encouraged to adopt the precautionary measures contained in the DM
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2. FOURTH Set of Policy Directives (DM 031, s. 2020, March 5, 2020)

- Extended previously imposed travel measures and restrictions for March
- **Corrected that** the 14 days of self-quarantine of DepEd personnel is **NOT** deductible from earned leave credits (CSC MC No. 05, s. 2020)
- Instructed **personnel and learners on quarantine to adhere to guidelines** issued by the CSC (MC 05, s. 2020) and the DOH (Memo No. 2020-0090)
- **Warned personnel against traveling abroad without approved travel authority**, citing Memorandum from the Executive Secretary (dated January 3, 2020) (DM 008, s. 2018)
- Instructed all offices to **strictly monitor adherence** to these measures (securing travel authority, submitting to quarantine), as refusal may result in filing of administrative actions

3. THIRD Set of Policy Directives (DM 023, s. 2020, February 19, 2020)

- Retained previously imposed travel measures and restrictions for February
- **Clarified that learners on quarantine**, and learners exhibiting respiratory infections and are excused from school-based activities **shall not be marked** absent but shall be given alternative delivery modes of education
- **Allowed the resumption** of the conduct of national, regional, and/or off-campus **activities starting February 24**, in accordance with the joint statement of the DOH, DILG, and DOT on public gatherings
- Instructed the conduct of **school-wide general cleaning and intensified disinfections on weekends**, on top of daily regular cleaning efforts during school days
- Allowed use of MOOE to effectively execute protective measures

4. SECOND Set of Policy Directives (DM 021, s. 2020, February 12, 2020)

- **Imposed mandatory 14-day self-quarantine** for personnel and learners who decide to proceed with their personal travels to countries identified to have confirmed cases (14 days to be charged to the leave credits of the personnel; learners to be provided with alternative modes of education)
- **Retained suspension** of all national, regional, and off-campus activities for February, sharing the DOH Advisory on Public Events and Gatherings

- **Provided guidelines** for regional directors, SDSs, and/or school heads **on class suspensions**, guided by the DOH Interim Guidelines on 2019-nCoV ARD Response in Schools and Higher Education Institutions

5. FIRST Set of Policy Directives (DM 015, s. 2020, February 4, 2020)

- Provided a background and situationer on 2019-nCoV ARD
- Disseminated measures for the prevention and control of 2019-nCoV ARD (travel restrictions, suspension of activities, intensified information and awareness campaigns, close monitoring of health status of personnel and learners, institutionalized monitoring and reporting)
- Ordered the formation/activation of regional, division, and school DRRM Teams, led by School Health Personnel and supported by DRRM coordinators
- Ordered operationalizing the Preventive Alert System in Schools (PASS), systematic relay of information on school personnel or learners' health to appropriate local health authorities
- Disseminated information on safety precautions and protocols (hand and respiratory hygiene, safe food practices, wearing of masks)
- Disseminated guidance for school administrators to help reduce spread of seasonal influenza

For information and guidance.




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