



Republic of the Philippines  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
**COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**



**MEMORANDUM FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

**TO :** PRESIDENTS AND/OR OFFICERS-IN-CHARGE OF HIGHER  
EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS  
  
CHED CENTRAL AND REGIONAL DIRECTORS

**SUBJECT :** CHED COVID-19 ADVISORY NO. 2

**DATE :** 11 MARCH 2020

In response to the recent developments and directive of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte through Proclamation No. 922 series of 2020, the Commission is furnishing the CHED COVID-19 Advisory No. 2, for information and guidance of all higher education institutions (HEI) and CHED central and regional offices.

Enclosed is the CHED COVID-19 Advisory No. 2 for your reference.

Thank you.

**J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III, DPA**  
Chairman





OFFICE OF THE CHAIRPERSON  
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

**Guidelines for the Prevention, Control and Mitigation of the Spread of  
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)**

**CHED ADVISORY NO. 2  
11 March 2020**

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The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) issues the following update and addendum to our Guidelines for the Prevention, Control and Mitigation of the Spread of the Corona Virus disease in Higher Education institutions (HEIs) dated Feb 11, 2020 (CHED COVID-19 Advisory No. 1) following recent developments and in response to the directive of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, through Proclamation No. 922, series of 2020 which directs all government agencies to render assistance and cooperation and to mobilize the necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent and appropriate responses and measures in a timely manner to curtail and eliminate the COVID-19 threat.

This advisory should be read in conjunction with our Covid-19 Advisory #1 and with information from official sources via the following links:

Department of Health (DOH):

<https://www.doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/health-update/DC2020-0042-Reiteration-of-DM2020-0055-Interim-Guidelines-on-2019-nCoV-ARD-Response-in-Schools-Higher-Education-Institutions.pdf>

World Health Organization (WHO):

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

### **EMERGENCY PLAN**

All HEIs are encouraged to establish protocols based on the WHO guidelines for screening and response. HEIs should be prepared for the possibility of a community-level transmission and should have an established protocol to stop the spread of COVID-19. The screening protocol should include the following:



- Creating procedures for students, faculty, staff and administrators who are showing COVID-19 symptoms. These procedures should supplement existing medical emergency measures in the HEI;
- Ensuring these procedures are regularly updated as situations in the HEI may change. It is critical to inform the community of any changes in the procedure, including any updates or new directives from the DOH;
- Performing environmental cleaning and disinfection procedures for all buildings with emphasis on frequently touched surfaces (e.g. doorknobs, light switches, desktops or countertops, etc.);
- Preparing HEI health clinics for immediate triage and isolation of patients potentially infected with COVID-19;

### **CLASS SUSPENSIONS IN ALL LEVELS IN METRO MANILA**

Following the announcement of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on the suspension of classes in all levels in Metro Manila until 14 March 2020, on the job trainings (OJTs), internships, and/or practicum in the National Capital Region (NCR) are also suspended. HEIs are advised to coordinate with their partner Host Training Establishment (HTE) for any adjustment of training hours and/or to consider alternative modalities for the OJT, internships, and practicum of affected students.

### **STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF AND HEI ADMINISTRATORS ABROAD**

Those currently situated in countries with reported and confirmed cases of COVID-19 are advised to contact the nearest Philippine Embassy and/or Consulate to confirm their status and/or health conditions. HEIs are directed to report the status of their students, faculty, staff and HEI administrators to the International Affairs Staff (IAS) through [ias@ched.gov.ph](mailto:ias@ched.gov.ph).

### **GUIDANCE FOR HEIs WITH IDENTIFIED CASES OF COVID-19 IN THEIR COMMUNITY**

HEIs should establish plans and procedures should a case of COVID-19 transmission be identified. This should be done in collaboration with their DOH Regional Office.

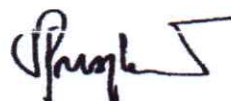
HEIs should immediately coordinate with the DOH regional office if the DOH regional office or local government office report cases of COVID-19 in the city or municipality.



Private HEIs which will undertake such measures do not need to obtain prior approval from the Commission. However, HEIs are directed to inform CHED in writing and coordinate with the CHED regional offices to monitor and provide guidance and assistance should the need arises.

State universities and colleges must discuss measures to be undertaken with their respective Boards of Regents (BOR) and inform the CHED regional office of such actions.

In addition, it has come to the attention of CHED that some hospitals with confirmed COVID-19 cases that are serving as training centers for medical and nursing students are requiring students to continue their rotation duties and are advising students that failure to comply will result in the students repeating their internship program. The Commission appeals to the officials of these hospitals to exercise leniency during this difficult time and explore alternative modes that will continue the medical training and education of their students without compromising their safety.



J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III, DPA  
Chairman

