



Republic of the Philippines
Bureau of Quarantine
Department of Health



MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
No. 2022-10-A

TO: ALL BOQ STATIONS
ALL OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFW)
ALL RETURNING OVERSEAS FILIPINOS (ROF)
ALL CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
ALL AIRLINE OPERATORS AND HANDLERS
REGIONAL TASK FORCES OF THE NTF COVID-19

FROM: FERDINAND S. SALCEDO, MD, MPH, CESO IV
Director IV

DATE: 27 July 2022

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO BUREAU MEMORANDUM
CIRCULAR NO. 2022-10 DATED 20 JUNE 2022
"SPECIFIC GUIDELINES FOR UNACCOMPANIED
FILIPINO MINORS"

This Memorandum Circular is issued to amend Bureau Memorandum Circular No. 2022-10 dated 20 June 2022 "Specific Guidelines for Unaccompanied Filipino Minors" to address the letter issued by the DSWD dated 13 July 2022 on their notification of pull-out of their daily presence at OSS airport and non-accommodation of non-repatriated unaccompanied minors.

For all non-repatriated unaccompanied minors allowed by airline to board a flight, the airline representative shall be in-charge in processing, coordination and assisting the unaccompanied minor from the time of arrival until finishing the required protocol for the minor. Prior coordination by the airline to BOQ is needed for all incoming unaccompanied Filipino minors.

Implementing Guidelines

I. FOR MINORS WITH AGES 12-17

- a) Fully vaccinated (completed primary dose) and has booster will not require quarantine and testing upon arrival.
- b) Fully vaccinated (completed primary dose) and presenting a negative RT-PC test taken within forty-eight (48) hours, or remotely supervised, or a laboratory-based rapid antigen negative test result administered and certified by a healthcare professional in a healthcare facility, laboratory, clinic, pharmacy, or other similar establishment taken within twenty-four

- (24) hours, prior to the date and time of departure from the country of origin, will not require quarantine and testing upon arrival.
- c) Fully vaccinated with or without booster and with prior coordination by the airline with BOQ will not require quarantine and testing upon arrival.
 - d) Partially vaccinated and unvaccinated will require quarantine and testing upon arrival. Airline representative shall coordinate the unaccompanied minor's quarantine facility, conveyances, testing laboratory and local companion.

2. FOR MINORS WITH AGES 4-11

- a) Fully vaccinated with prior coordination by the airline will not require quarantine and testing upon arrival.
- b) Partially vaccinated and unvaccinated and/or presenting a negative RT-PCR test taken within forty-eight (48) hours, or remotely supervised, or a laboratory-based rapid antigen negative test result administered and certified by a healthcare professional in a healthcare facility, laboratory, clinic, pharmacy, or other similar establishment taken within twenty-four (24) hours, prior to the date and time of departure from the country of origin, will not require quarantine and testing upon arrival if they have prior coordination by the airline with BOQ.

3. Minors with ages 3 years old and below must have prior coordination by the airline with BOQ prior entry.

4. In case of non-compliance of the above requirements, an accompanying adult/guardian from LGU should accompany the child or children during their facility-based quarantine. The accompanying adult/guardian must present the following requirements:

- a) A negative RT-PCR test taken within 48 hours or antigen test taken within 24 hours' prior to check in at the quarantine facility.
- b) A signed waiver indicating the awareness of the risk of exposure and willingness to accompany an unaccompanied minor/s to undergo complete mandatory facility-based quarantine.

5. **DSWD coordination.** For unaccompanied minors included in a government-initiated repatriation of Overseas Filipinos not covered by the POLO/OWWA, prior coordination by the airline with BOQ and DSWD endorsement are required.

For Strict Compliance.

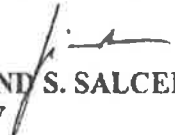


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MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR: No. 2022-11-A

TO: All BOQ Stations
All Airline Operators
All Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)
All Returning Overseas Filipinos (ROF)
All Concerned Government Agencies
Regional Task Forces of the NTF COVID-19

FROM:  **FERDINAND S. SALCEDO, MD, MPH, CESO IV**
Director IV

SUBJECT: **SPECIFIC GUIDELINES FOR UNACCOMPANIED FOREIGN MINORS**

DATE: July 27, 2022

Background and Rationale

During pandemic, non-essential travel is highly discouraged but with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions in the country, we have encountered cases of arriving unaccompanied foreign minors in the airport.

In lieu of this and with the ambiguity of protocols in addressing the cases of arriving unaccompanied foreign minors in the airport, the Bureau hereby institutes an entry requirement protocol specifically for foreign unaccompanied minors to facilitate their safety and welfare.

Implementing Guidelines

A. Unaccompanied foreign minors aged 15-17

1. The following unaccompanied foreign minors aged 15-17 shall *not* undergo quarantine and testing upon arrival:

- a) Who have received primary series COVID-19 vaccine, and at least one (1) COVID-19 booster shot.
- b) Who have received primary series COVID-19 vaccine and presenting a negative RT-PCR test taken within forty-eight (48) hours, or remotely supervised, or a laboratory-based rapid antigen negative test result administered and certified by a healthcare professional in a healthcare facility, laboratory, clinic, pharmacy, or other similar establishment taken within twenty-four (24) hours, prior to the date and time of departure from the country of origin.

2. The following unaccompanied foreign minors aged 15-17 shall undergo mandatory quarantine and testing:

- a) Who have received primary series COVID-19 vaccine but with no COVID-19 booster shot or with no negative RT-PCR test taken within forty-eight (48) hours, or remotely supervised, or a laboratory-based rapid antigen negative test result administered and certified by a healthcare professional in a healthcare facility, laboratory, clinic, pharmacy, or other similar establishment taken within twenty-four (24) hours, prior to the date and time of departure from the country of origin.
- b) Partially vaccinated and unvaccinated.

B. Unaccompanied foreign minors aged 5-14

1. The following unaccompanied foreign minors aged 5-14 shall *not* undergo quarantine and testing upon arrival:

- a) Who have received primary series COVID-19 vaccine and with prior coordination with endorsement letter from their respective foreign service office and airline.
- b) Who have received primary series COVID-19 vaccine, and at least one (1) COVID-19 booster shot regardless of the status of coordination from their respective foreign service office and airline.
- c) Who have received primary series COVID-19 vaccine and presenting a negative RT-PCR test taken within forty-eight (48) hours, or remotely supervised, or a laboratory-based rapid antigen negative test result administered and certified by a healthcare professional in a healthcare facility, laboratory, clinic, pharmacy, or other similar establishment taken within twenty-four (24) hours, prior to the date and time of departure from the country of origin, regardless of the status of coordination from their respective foreign service office and airline.

2. The following unaccompanied foreign minors aged 5-14 shall undergo quarantine and testing upon arrival:

- a) Who have received primary series COVID-19 vaccine but without prior coordination and endorsement letter from their respective foreign service office and airline; and no COVID-19 booster shot or with no negative RT-PCR test taken within forty-eight (48) hours, or remotely supervised, or a laboratory-based rapid antigen negative test result administered and certified by a healthcare professional in a healthcare facility, laboratory, clinic, pharmacy, or other similar establishment taken within twenty-four (24) hours, prior to the date and time of departure from the country of origin.
- b) Partially vaccinated and unvaccinated.

C. Unaccompanied foreign minors aged 4 years old and below shall have prior coordination with endorsement letter from designated foreign service office and airline prior departure from port of origin. Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) endorsement letter can be an alternative acceptable requirement.

Failure to present the necessary documents upon arrival will require the said minors to undergo mandatory quarantine. In the absence of foreign embassy representation, the

Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) shall stand-in for the needed coordination. The Airline shall designate a guardian who will accompany the minor during quarantine period.

D. Airlines shall thoroughly check the required documents for unaccompanied foreign minors upon check-in, which includes the following:

15-17 years old

- One Health Pass (OHP)
- Proof of vaccination
- Covid-19 booster shot or valid negative RT-PCR result or negative rapid antigen result
- **Authorization Letter** from the parent/s or guardian indicating the name and address of the guardian in the Philippines who can accompany the minor in the quarantine facility and that the parent/s or guardian are allowing the minor to undergo mandatory quarantine and RT-PCR testing.

5-14 years old

- One Health Pass (OHP)
- Proof of vaccination
- **Authorization Letter** from the parent/s or guardian indicating the name and address of the guardian in the Philippines who can accompany the minor in the quarantine facility and that the parent/s or guardian are allowing the minor to undergo mandatory quarantine and RT-PCR testing.
- Covid-19 booster shot or valid negative RT-PCR result; or negative rapid antigen result
- **Endorsement letter** from designated foreign service office and airline, or Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).

4 years old and below

- One Health Pass (OHP)
- **Authorization Letter** from the parent/s or guardian indicating the name and address of the guardian in the Philippines who can accompany the minor in the quarantine facility and that the parent/s or guardian are allowing the minor to undergo mandatory quarantine and RT-PCR testing.
- **Endorsement letter** from designated foreign service office and airline, or Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).

E. In case of non-compliance of the above requirements, an accompanying adult/ guardian designated by parent/s or airline should accompany the child or children during their facility-based quarantine. The accompanying adult/guardian should present the following requirements:

- a. A negative RT-PCR test taken within 48 hours or antigen test taken within 24 hours prior to check in at the quarantine facility.
- b. A signed waiver indicating the awareness of the risk of exposure and willingness to accompany an unaccompanied minor/s to undergo complete mandatory facility-based quarantine.

For Strict Compliance.

Annex A

Roles of Airline Companies on Unaccompanied Foreign Minors

- A. Coordination with Bureau of Quarantine, Bureau of immigration, Department of Foreign Affairs, designated foreign service office and quarantine facility if the unaccompanied minor shall undergo mandatory quarantine and testing.

Submit the following required documents to BOQ:

1. **Authorization Letter** from the parent/s or guardian indicating the name and address of the guardian in the Philippines who can accompany the minor in the quarantine facility and that the parent/s or guardian are allowing the minor to undergo mandatory quarantine and RT-PCR testing.
 2. **Signed waiver** from a person/agency authorized and responsible to facilitate the necessary coordination process needed for the minor with regards to his/her quarantine or isolation process.
 3. **Signed waiver and valid negative RT-PCR result** of the guardian who will accompany the minor in the quarantine facility.
- B. Facilitation and coordination of conveyance of the passenger to and from the quarantine/ isolation facility or hospital.

Annex B

Waiver Form

Date

To Whom It May Concern,

I, _____,
of _____
(name) *(designation)*

_____ is authorized and responsible to facilitate the
necessary
(agency)

coordination needed for _____ with
regards
(name of unaccompanied foreign minor)

to his/her quarantine or isolation process including the provision of conveyances needed while
following quarantine protocols implemented by IATF.

On behalf of _____, I acknowledge and fully aware that I can be held
liable
(agency)

for any untoward incident that may occur or any failure on my part to properly facilitate the
necessary coordination for the mandatory quarantine and RT-PCR testing requirements for the
unaccompanied foreign minor, pursuant to the provisions of Section 9 (b), (d), and (e) of the
Republic Act No. 11332 or the "Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events
of Public Health Concern Act" and other applicable laws and regulations.

Name and Signature