



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ADVISORY NO. 35

REITERATING EXISTING GUIDELINES AND ENCOURAGING THE ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL RESPONSE MEASURES IN RELATION TO RECENT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF COVID-19 POSITIVE CASES IN THE PROVINCE OF LA UNION

The continued implementation of proactive measures is necessary to ensure the utmost protection of the health of the constituents of the province of La Union;

As of March 29, 2021, the Philippines recorded a total of One Hundred Fifteen Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Five (115,495) active CoViD-19 cases. The Provincial Core Team Against CoViD-19 (PCTAC) also reported the following for the period March 16 to 31, 2021: (a) a significant drop in Public Health Standard compliance (30.76%); (b) increase in critical care occupancy rate (88%); and (c) 495.83% Growth rate of CoVid-19 Cases;

Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, or the Local Government Code of 1991, provides in part: "Every Local Government Unit shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied there from, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare. Within their respective territorial jurisdictions, Local Government Units shall x x x promote health and safety of x x x their residents, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants";

There is a need to reiterate existing guidelines and issue additional ones to address the rising cases of CoViD-19 in the Province of La Union, as follows.

1. Pursuant to the General Provision of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) with amendments as of March 28, 2021, **movement of persons shall be limited to accessing essential goods and services, for work in the offices or industries permitted** to operate and other activities permitted during the current quarantine classification of the Province.
2. **Any person below fifteen (15) years old and those who are over sixty-five (65) years of age and above, those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, or other health risks, and pregnant women, shall be required to remain in their residences at all times,** except when indispensable under the circumstances for obtaining essential goods and services, or for work in their respective industries and offices.



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3. The **GENERAL PUBLIC** shall observe the following **MINIMUM HEALTH STANDARDS** at all times:
 - 3.1. The **use of face masks**, ear loop masks, indigenous, reusable, do-it-yourself masks, or face shields, handkerchiefs, or such other protective equipment or any combination thereof, which can effectively lessen the transmission of COVID-19, by all authorized persons whenever they go out of their residences, pursuant to Sangguniang Panlalawigan Ordinance No. 215 -2020, shall be strictly implemented.
 - 3.2. The **use of full face shield** at workplaces, inside private and government buildings and offices, supermarkets, public markets, malls, business establishments, in venues where government-initiated and critical services are conducted, and public transport vehicles, pursuant to Sangguniang Panlalawigan Ordinance No. 248-2020, shall be mandatory.
 - 3.3. **Practice of strict physical distancing** in public places, workplaces and establishments pursuant to Sangguniang Panlalawigan Ordinance No. 215 -2020, shall be strictly enforced.
 - 3.4. Pursuant to Sangguniang Panlalawigan Ordinance 249-2020 of the Provincial Government of La Union, the following shall also be observed:
 - 3.4.1. **Practice respiratory etiquette at all times.** Use tissue or the inner portion of the elbow to cover the nose and mouth when sneezing/ coughing. Practice proper disposal of tissue after use.
 - 3.4.2. **Proper washing of hands with soap and water regularly or use hand disinfectants.**
4. **ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE WORKPLACES AND ESTABLISHMENT** shall observe the following:
 - 4.1. Ensure **compliance to prescribed operational capacity** in the IATF Omnibus Guidelines, subject to community quarantine classification of place of business, adherence to safety protocols and guidelines on minimum public health standards. Private sector is **enjoined to adopt similar alternative working arrangements** as those already in place in the executive branch of government, i.e. thirty percent (30%) to fifty percent (50%) operational or on-site capacity, where applicable.



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- 4.2. Discourage eating in communal areas and practice of proper disposal of wastes** pursuant to DTI-DOLE interim Guidelines on Workplace Prevention and Control of COVID-19.
- 4.3. Implement engineering and administrative controls** not limited to the following pursuant to Sangguniang Panlalawigan Ordinance 249-2020:
- 4.3.1. Establishment of handwashing facilities, hand sanitizers, and/or dispensers with an alcohol-based solution in all entrances, exits and facilities** with high foot traffic.
 - 4.3.2. Disinfection of frequently touched surfaces and objects** such as but not limited to, tables, switches, door knobs and workstations using 0.5% bleach solution or other disinfecting solutions at least once a day or as may be necessary and **placement of footbaths in all entrances** in public places, workplaces and food or other establishments.
 - 4.3.3. Placement of standard symptom and temperature checks in strategically located areas in public places** and proper referral of all individuals with symptoms, including the provision of alcohols, disinfectants and footbath in all establishments.
 - 4.3.4. Placement of acrylic or DIY barriers on desk areas** or where face-to-face contact with clients or customers are usually made.
 - 4.3.5. Conduct of weekly disinfection activities** by all government offices and facilities and private commercial establishments.
- 5. ALL COMPONENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS** in partnership with their respective barangays and local police station are encouraged to implement the following:
- 5.1. Strict Enforcement of Curfew.** Curfew hours from 11:00 pm to 5:00 am pursuant to Sangguniang Panlalawigan No. 251-2020 of the Provincial Government of La Union shall be strictly enforced. This shall be applicable to non-workers only.
 - 5.2. Regulate Operations of Wet Markets.** Pursuant to General Provision of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) with amendments as of March 28, 2021, LGUs are encouraged to adopt reasonable schemes to ensure compliance with strict social distancing measures, such as, but not limited to, providing for specific daily schedules per sector, barangay, or purok, as the case may be.

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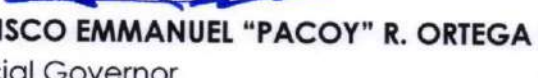


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To monitor entry in wet markets, LGUs are also encouraged to install NAPANAM QR Scanning Points in all entrances.

- 5.3. Strict Monitoring of Mass Gatherings in LGUs.** Pursuant to the IATF Omnibus Guidelines, mass gatherings shall be allowed provided that participants shall be limited to venue or seating capacity depending on the community quarantine imposed. Hence, LGUs shall strictly monitor conduct of mass gatherings in their localities. Likewise, government agencies are also encouraged to suspend face-to-face gatherings (ceremonies, caravans, trainings, etc.).
- 5.4. Establish Local Border Checkpoints.** Pursuant to Memorandum Circular No. 2, s.2020 of the National Task Force CoViD-19 Local Government Units shall establish and impose screening procedures at all points of entry of identified Critical Zones. Hence, LGUs under Critical Risk Level shall establish border control checkpoints to monitor entry of persons accessing essential goods and services and reporting for work permitted in the area. Local Government Units not under Critical Risk Level but have barangays under Critical Zone shall ensure establishment of barangay checkpoints in concerned areas for the same purpose.
- 5.5. Strengthen Implementation and Monitoring of Existing COVID-19 Ordinances.** All existing ordinances against COVID-19 shall remain in full force and in effect and shall be strictly implemented and monitored.

This advisory shall take effect immediately.


FRANCISCO EMMANUEL "PACOY" R. ORTEGA III
Provincial Governor
April 6, 2021