

Republic of the Philippines Department of Finance INSURANCE COMMISSION 1071 United Nations Avenue Manila



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IATF OKS RESUMPTION OF INSURANCE AGENTS' QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS

On 14 December 2020, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases ("IATF") issued Resolution No. 88, Series of 2020, approving the resumption of the Insurance Agents' Qualifying Examinations administered by the Insurance Commission.

It will be recalled that on 16 March 2020, Insurance Commissioner Dennis Funa issued Circular Letter No. 2020-12 on the "Guidelines Governing the Conduct of Business in the Insurance Commission During the Community Quarantine Period", pursuant to which Circular Letter "all agents' qualifying examinations, whether conducted within the premises of the Insurance Commission main/district offices (e.g., Agents' Computerized Examinations) or otherwise (e.g., Regular and Special Offsite Examinations) [was] suspended during the Community Quarantine Period x x x".

Circular Letter No. 2020-12 was issued in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") pandemic and in accordance with Enhanced Community Quarantine ("ECQ") measures imposed by the National Government at the time.

Following the placement of various areas in the Philippines, including Metro Manila, under General Community Quarantine ("GCQ") beginning 1 May 2020, various stakeholders of the Insurance Commission clamored for the resumption of the Insurance Agents' Qualifying Examinations.

This prompted the Insurance Commission to seek guidance from the IATF as regards the possibility of the resumption of the Insurance Agents' Qualifying Examinations on a "face-to-face" basis, subject to health and safety protocols that the IATF may prescribe.

In IATF Resolution No. 88, Series of 2020, the IATF approved the resumption of said Examinations thus, to wit:

"Recognizing that the conduct and administration of insurance agents' qualifying examinations is a critical government service, the face-to-face Insurance Agents' Qualifying Examinations shall be allowed to resume in areas under General Community

Quarantine following the health and safety protocols as may be prescribed by the Insurance Commission and approved by the IATF."

"With the IATF's approval of the resumption of the conduct and administration of face-to-face Insurance Agents' Qualifying Examinations, this Commission will be issuing guidelines in the following days to implement such approval. The IATF can rest assured that this Commission will strictly abide by national and local health and safety protocols in the conduct and administration of said examinations for the benefit of our stakeholders," Commissioner Funa emphasized.

ATTY ALWYN FRANZ P. VILLARUEL

Media Relations Officer

afp.villaruel@insurance.gov.ph