

**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 21-15**

*Series of 2021*

**SUBJECT : ADDITIONAL BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS, PERSONS OR ACTIVITIES ALLOWED TO OPERATE IN AREAS PLACED UNDER MECQ**

**WHEREAS**, to restore more jobs in labor-intensive industries, ease the economic burden of displaced workers and address the growing number of joblessness, poverty, and hunger incidence, without compromising the safety and fight against COVID-19, and upon consultation with all stakeholders, IATF Resolution No. 113 dated 29 April 2021 allowed “[f]ood preparation establishments such as commissaries, restaurants, and eateries [to] resume their indoor dine-in services in areas under Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine at an initial venue or seating capacity of ten percent (10%),” while “[b]eauty salons, beauty parlors, barbershops, and nail spas may resume operations at an initial venue or seating capacity of thirty percent (30%);” and that said establishments may further operate beyond the limitation prescribed, provided that they comply with the DOLE-DOH-DILG-DOT-DTI Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) No. 21-01, Series of 2021 or the Implementing Guidelines of the Safety Seal Certification Program;

**WHEREFORE**, foregoing premises considered, the following guidelines are hereby prescribed to allow additional business establishments, persons or activities to operate, work or be undertaken in areas placed under Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) --

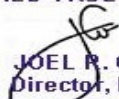
**SEC. 1. Additional Business Establishments, Persons or Activities Allowed to Operate On-site under MECQ** -- Subject to compliance with the minimum public health and safety standards and protocols and the relevant issuances, such as *DOH Administrative Order No. 2020-0015, Series of 2020 dated 27 April 2020, DTI-Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Joint Memorandum Circular No. 20-04-A, Series of 2020 on Workplace Prevention and Control of COVID-19 dated 15 August 2020*, applicable sector-relevant guidelines, and other pertinent issuances, the following business establishments, persons, or activities shall be allowed to operate on-site in areas placed under MECQ beginning **01 May 2021** --

- a. Indoor dine-in services of food preparation establishments, such as commissaries, restaurants, and eateries, at an initial venue or seating capacity of **10%** (Annex “**B**”); and
- b. Beauty salons, beauty parlors, barbershops, and nail spas, at an initial venue or seating capacity of **30%**, provided that they shall only provide services that can accommodate the wearing of face masks at all times by the patrons/clients and service providers (Annex “**C**”).

Attached as Annex “**A**” and made an integral part hereof is the revised list of business establishments, persons or activities allowed to operate, work or be undertaken under the applicable community quarantines.

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

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Director, HRAS  
Department of Trade & Industry

**SEC 2. Certification under Safety Seal Certification Program.** The initial capacity prescribed in Section 1 may be increased upon the business establishment's certification under the Safety Seal Certification Program under JMC No. 21-01, Series 2021.

**SEC 3. Compliance Monitoring and Complaints Handling.** The DTI, through the FTEB and Regional or Provincial Offices, shall continue its strict compliance monitoring through its post-audit mechanism. Inspection by the DOLE, DOH, and the LGU's Health Office may also be conducted at any time.

Violations of this Circular shall be subject to corresponding penalties under relevant rules and guidelines including the temporary suspension of business operations as may be necessary and applicable.

All feedback and complaints from the general public may be coursed through the DTI Consumer Care Hotline 1-384.

**SEC. 4. Repealing Clause.** Provisions of relevant Memorandum Circulars that are inconsistent with this Circular are hereby superseded or amended accordingly.

**SEC. 5. Effectivity.** Given the presence of a public health emergency, this Circular shall immediately take effect upon its publication and filing with the University of the Philippines Law Center.

Issued on 30 April 2021.

  
**RAMON M. LOPEZ**  
Secretary


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**JOEL R. CRUZ**  
Director, HRAS  
Department of Trade & Industry

**ANNEX "A": CATEGORY I - IV AND NEGATIVE LIST OF BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS/ACTIVITIES**

(as of 30 April 2021)

BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS/ACTIVITIES	ECQ	MECQ	GCCQ	MGCQ
<b>CATEGORY I</b>				
Public and private hospitals	100%	100%	100%	100%
Health, emergency and frontline services, including those provided by dialysis centers, chemotherapy centers, HMOs, health insurance providers, disaster risk reduction management officers, and public safety officers and the like	100%	100%	100%	100%
Manufacturers of medicines and vitamins, medical supplies, devices and equipment, including suppliers of input, packaging, and distribution	100%	100%	100%	100%
Industries involved in agriculture (crops, fruits, vegetables, livestock and poultry), forestry, fishery, and such other components of the food value chain and their workers, including farmers and fisher folks	100%	100%	100%	100%
Logistics service providers (delivery and courier services; cargo handling; warehousing; trucking; freight forwarding; shipping, port and terminal operators)	100%	100%	100%	100%
Essential and priority construction projects, whether public or private, and small scale construction projects such as those for housing or residential, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)	100%	100%	100%	100%
Manufacturing related to food and other essential goods such as but not limited to soap and detergents, diapers, personal hygiene products, toilet paper and wet wipes, and disinfectants	100%	100%	100%	100%
Companies that manufacture, distribute and/or supply equipment or products necessary to perform construction or maintenance works, such as cement and steel, or spare parts	100%	100%	100%	100%
Essential retail trade and service establishments such as public markets, supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience stores, pharmacies or drug stores, hardware, office supplies, bicycle shops, laundry shops, and water-refilling stations	100%	100%	100%	100%
Food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries				
<i>Take out and delivery</i>	100%	100%	100%	100%
<i>Outdoor dine-in services (al fresco)</i>	not allowed	50%	75%	100%
<i>Indoor dine-in services</i>	not allowed	10%	30-50%	100%
Public and private financial service providers involved in the distribution of government grants and amelioration subsidies	100%	100%	100%	100%
Business process outsourcing establishments (BPOs), and export-oriented businesses, including mining and quarrying activities	100%	100%	100%	100%
Public transport providers and operators subject to the Department of Transportation (DOTr) guidelines	100%	100%	100%	100%
Media establishments and their total permanent staff complement, inclusive of reporters and other field employees	50%	100%	100%	100%
Dental, rehabilitation, optometry and other medical clinics for the treatment of illness or injuries. Provided, that there is strict observance of infection prevention and control protocols. Provided, further, that the wearing of full Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) by dentists and attendants shall be mandatory. Provided, finally, that home service therapy for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) shall be allowed	skeleton limited to emergency cases only	100%	100%	100%
Veterinary clinics	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Banks, money transfer services, including pawnshops only insofar as performing money transfer functions, microfinance institutions, and credit cooperatives, including their armored vehicle services, if any	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Capital markets, including but not limited to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Securities and Exchange Commission, Philippine Stock Exchange, Philippine Dealing and Exchange Corporation, Philippine Securities Settlement Corporation, and Philippine Depository and Trust Corporation	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Water supply and janitorial/sanitation services and facilities, including waste disposal services, as well as property management and building utility services	skeleton	100%	100%	100%

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 Director, HRAS  
 Department of Trade & Industry

BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS/ACTIVITIES	ECQ	MECQ	GCC	MGCC
Energy sector (oil, gas, and power companies), their third-party contractors and service providers, including employees involved in electric transmission and distribution, electric power plant and line maintenance, electricity market and retail suppliers, as well as those involved in the exploration, operations, trading and delivery of coal, oil, crude or petroleum and by-products (gasoline, diesel, liquefied petroleum gas, jet oil, kerosene, lubricants), including gasoline stations, refineries and depots or any kind of fuel used to produce electricity	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Telecommunications companies, internet service providers, cable television providers, including those who perform indirect services such as the technical, sales, and other support personnel, as well as the employees of their third-party contractors doing sales, installation, maintenance and repair works	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Airline and aircraft maintenance, pilots and crew, and employees of aviation schools for purposes of the pilot's recurrent training for flight proficiency and type rating using simulator facilities; and ship captains and crew, including shipyard operations and repair	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Funeral and embalming services	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Security personnel licensed by the PNP - Supervisory Office for Security and Investigation Agencies	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Printing establishments authorized by the Bureau of Internal Revenue and other government agencies to print accountable forms and other security documents	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Establishments engaged in repair and maintenance of machinery and equipment, for households and essential permitted establishments	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Establishments engaged in repair and maintenance of motorized and non-motorized vehicles, including the sale of spare parts	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Leasing of real and personal properties	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Employment activities that involve the recruitment and placement for permitted sectors	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Teachers, professors and other staff for purposes of conducting online/offline, and flexible classes, completion of grades, and processing of student credentials, requirements and documents	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Lawyers who will provide legal representation necessary to protect rights of persons as well as legal services for permitted establishments, and law firms	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
All other establishments, to the extent necessary for the buying and selling of consumer goods or services via the internet	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
Private corporations are encouraged to process payrolls online. Payroll managers, and such other employees required for the processing of payroll, and accounting firms	skeleton	100%	100%	100%
<b>CATEGORY II</b>				
Other Manufacturing • Beverages (e.g. alcoholic drinks) • Electrical Machinery • Wood products, Furniture • Non-metallic products • Textiles / Wearing apparels • Tobacco products • Paper and Paper products • Rubber and Plastic products • Coke and Refined Petroleum products • Other non-metallic mineral products • Computer, Electronic and Optical Products • Electrical Equipment • Machinery and Equipment • Motor Vehicles, Trailers and Semi-Trailers • Other Transport Equipment • Others	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Hotels and other accomodation establishments	Allowed to operate at such capacity and protocols in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Tourism (DOT)			
Office Administrative and Office Support (such as photocopying, billing, and record keeping services)	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Other financial services (e.g., money exchange, insurance, reinsurance, lending companies, and non-compulsory pension funding)	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Management Consultancy Activities	not allowed	50%	100%	100%

BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS/ACTIVITIES	ECQ	MECQ	GCCQ	MGCQ
Architecture and Engineering Activities; Technical Testing and Analysis	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Scientific and Research Development	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Advertising and Market Research	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Computer programming (such as writing, modifying, testing and supporting software, planning and designing computer systems), information service activities (such as data processing and hosting activities) and other related activities	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Publishing and printing services (such as printing of newspapers, magazines, and other periodicals, books, brochures, manuscripts, posters, maps, atlases, advertising catalogues, prospectuses, etc; printing directly onto textiles, plastic, glass, metal wood, and ceramics)	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Film, music, and TV production	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Recruitment and placement agencies for overseas employment	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Other services such as photography; fashion, industrial, graphic, and interior design	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Wholesale and retail trade of motor vehicles, motorcycles, and bicycles, including their parts and components	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Travel agencies, tour operators, reservation service and related activities	not allowed	50%	75%	100%
Pet grooming services	not allowed	50%	75%	100%
Non-leisure whole sale and retail establishments (mall-based or otherwise) such as:				
Mall-based government frontline services	skeleton	50%	100%	100%
Clothing and accessories	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Bookstores and school and office supplies stores	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Baby or infant care supplies stores	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Pet shops, pet food and pet care supplies	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
IT, communications, and electronic equipment	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Flower, jewelry, novelty, antique, perfume shops	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Toy store (playgrounds and amusement area closed)	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Music stores	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Art galleries (selling only)	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
Firearms and ammunition trading establishment	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
			subject to strict regulation of the PNP-Firearms and Explosives Office	
Driving Schools (Subject to DOTr Guidelines)	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
			Face to face classroom-type classes shall remain prohibited	
Testing and tutorial centers	not allowed	50%	75%	100%
			Face to face classroom-type classes shall remain prohibited	
Review centers	not allowed	50%	75%	100%
			Face to face classroom-type classes shall remain prohibited only for health-related professions (i.e. physicians)	
Language, dance, acting, voice schools	not allowed	50%	50%	50%
			Face to face classroom-type classes shall remain prohibited	
Outdoor sports, courts or venues				
<i>Non-contact sports courts or venues or activities, such as, but not limited to, walking, jogging, and running; golf; tennis and badminton; equestrian; range shooting, archery, and Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) authorized venues and sanctioned activities for training purposes, including National Golf Association of the Philippines (NGAP) trainings</i>	not allowed	50%	100%	100%
<i>Contact sports, scrimmages, games, or activities</i>	not allowed	not allowed	not allowed	100%

BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS/ACTIVITIES	ECQ	MECQ	GCC	MGCQ
Indoor sports, courts or venues				
<i>Indoor non-contact sports courts or venues, fitness studios, gyms, spas or other indoor leisure centers or facilities, and swimming pools</i>	not allowed	not allowed	50%	100%
<i>Indoor sports, courts or venues for contact sports, scrimmages, games or activities</i>	not allowed	not allowed	not allowed	100%
<b>CATEGORY III</b>				
Indoor visitor or tourist attractions, libraries, archives, museums, galleries, and cultural shows and exhibits	not allowed	not allowed	50%	75%
Outdoor tourist attractions	not allowed	not allowed	50%	75%
Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions	not allowed	not allowed	50%	75%
Personal care services				
<i>Beauty salons, barbershops, beauty parlors, and nail spas. Home service for these activities shall likewise be limited to services that can accommodate wearing of face masks at all times by the patrons/clients and service providers.</i>	not allowed	30% Limited to services that can accommodate the wearing of face masks at all times by the patrons/clients and service providers	50%	100%
<i>Other personal care services which include make-up salons, medical aesthetic clinics, cosmetic or derma clinics, reflexology, aesthetics, wellness and holistic centers, and other similar establishments; acupuncture and electrocautery establishments, and massage therapy including sports therapy establishments. It also includes establishments providing tanning services, body piercings, tattooing and similar services. Home service for these activities are likewise not permitted.</i>	not allowed	not allowed	50%	100%
Limited Social Events at accredited establishments of the DOT (Subject to DOT/DTI Guidelines)	not allowed	not allowed	30%	50%
<b>CATEGORY IV</b>				
Cinemas	not allowed	not allowed	not allowed	50%
Amusement parks or theme parks	not allowed	not allowed	not allowed	75%
Casinos, horse racing, lottery and betting shops, and other gaming establishments	not allowed	not allowed except for drawing of PCSO Lotto	not allowed except as may be authorized by the IATF or the Office of the President for the purpose of raising revenue for the government	100%
Recreational venues such as internet cafes, billiard halls, amusement arcades, bowling alleys, and similar venues	not allowed	not allowed	not allowed	50%
<b>NEGATIVE LIST: BUSINESS ACTIVITIES NOT ALLOWED TO OPERATE IN AREAS DECLARED UNDER ANY FORM OF COMMUNITY QUARANTINE</b>				
Traditional cockfighting and operation of cockpits				except for the sole purpose of conducting e-sabong licensed and regulated by the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR), per IATF Omnibus Guidelines with Amendments as of 03 April 2021
Entertainment venues such as karaoke bars, bars, clubs, concert halls, and theaters.				
Fairs/peryas, kid amusement industries such as playgrounds, playroom and kiddie rides				

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 JOEL R. CRUZ  
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**ANNEX "B": MANDATORY HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR  
INDOOR DINE-IN SERVICES OF FOOD PREPARATION ESTABLISHMENTS,  
SUCH AS COMMISSARIES, RESTAURANTS, AND EATERIES**

1. Face masks and face shields shall be worn at all times within the premises of the establishment.
2. Employees and customers are required to scan the StaySafe PH QR Code posted at the entrance for contact tracing purposes
  - a. In the absence of smartphones, they shall fill out an employee health declaration form or customer contact tracing form upon entry.
3. Thermal scanning of all employees, suppliers, customers prior to entry -- persons with a temperature higher than 37.5 degrees centigrade shall not be allowed entry.
4. No employee with COVID-19 symptoms or with exposure to COVID-19 patients shall be allowed to report for work.
5. Rubbing alcohol/sanitizers, which can be easily sprayed on the hands of employees, suppliers and customers prior to entry, must be provided. Hands of workers and customers must be sanitized at regular intervals.
6. Physical distancing measures shall be strictly observed in all parts of the establishment, including the queuing areas, cashier counter, beverage bar, kitchen, and back areas.
7. Chairs and tables must be rearranged to conform with the allowed on-site capacity.
8. Ventilation of establishments shall be in accordance with Department Order No. 224, series of 2021, of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), otherwise known as the Guidelines on Ventilation for Workplaces and Public Transport to Prevent and Control the Spread of COVID-19.
9. Buffet service shall be allowed only when --
  - a. Food servers are provided; and
  - b. All food trays are with food covers.
10. Ambient music in restaurants and fastfood chains shall be kept to a minimum to discourage loud talking, which increases the likelihood of droplet transmission.
11. Equipment in kitchen, food preparation, and serving areas shall be frequently sanitized.
12. Restrooms shall be properly sanitized and free of accumulation of trash.
13. Play areas shall be closed.


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Department of Trade & Industry

**ANNEX “C”: MANDATORY HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR BEAUTY SALONS, BEAUTY PARLORS, BARBERSHOPS, AND NAIL SPAS**

1. Services shall be limited to those that can accommodate the wearing of face masks at all times by the patrons/clients and service providers.
2. Employees, suppliers, and customers are required to scan the StaySafe PH QR Code posted at the entrance for contact tracing purposes
  - a. In the absence of smartphones, they shall fill out an employee health declaration form or customer contact tracing form upon entry.
3. Thermal scanning on all employees, suppliers, and customers prior to entry -- persons with a temperature higher than 37.5 degrees centigrade shall not be allowed entry.
4. No employee with COVID-19 symptoms or exposure to COVID-19 patients shall be allowed to report for work.
5. Provision for rubbing alcohol/sanitizer, which can be easily sprayed on the hands of employees, suppliers, and customers prior to entry, and regular interval of sanitation of hands of employees and customers.
6. Physical distancing measures shall be observed in all parts of the establishment, including the reception, cashier, styling area, shampoo area, and nail care area.
7. Chairs must be arranged with at least one (1) meter distance on all sides, while complying with the maximum allowable operational capacity.
8. Ventilation of establishments shall be in accordance with Department Order No. 224, series of 2021, of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), otherwise known as the Guidelines on Ventilation for Workplaces and Public Transport to Prevent and Control the Spread of COVID-19.
9. Restrooms shall be properly sanitized and free of accumulation of trash.
10. Equipment, tools, and workstation shall be sterilized before and after each service.
11. Companions shall not be allowed entry, unless absolutely necessary.

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JOEL P. CRUZ  
Director, HRAS  
Department of Trade & Industry