

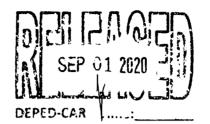
Republic of the Philippines

Department of Education

Cordillera Administrative Region

Office of the Regional Director

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM No. 263.2020



August 26, 2020

REMINDERS ON STANDARDS FOR COVID-19 MITIGATION IN THE WORKPLACE/OFFICES AND SCHOOL SETTINGS

To: OIC-Assistant Regional Director Regional Office Division/Section/Unit heads Schools Division Superintendents Division/School Administrative Officers Heads, All Public and Private Schools All Others concerned

- 1. School opening has been moved to October 5, 2020 to ensure that administrative, physical/structural and personnel preparations are compliant with set standards prior to school opening. DepED Central Office issued and prescribed standards to guide schools and workplaces/offices in planning, preparing and maintaining efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 disease.
- 2. The following documents have been the basis for issuances in relation to COVID-19 mitigation:
 - a. Department of Health Administrative Order No. 2020-015 (DOH AO 2020-0015), *Guidelines on the Risk-Based Public Health Standards for COVID-19 Mitigation* dated April 27, 2020;
 - b. Civil Service Commission Memorandum Circular No. 10, s. 2020 (CSC MC 10, s. 2020), Revised Interim Guidelines for Alternative Work Arrangements and Support Mechanisms for Workers in the Government During the Period of State of National Emergency Due to COVID-19 Pandemic dated May 7, 2020;
 - c. Department of Education Order No. 14, s. 2020 (DO 14, s.2020), Guidelines on the Required Health Standards in Basic Education Offices and Schools issued June 25, 2020.
- 3. Attached are health reminders based on the aforementioned documents to assist and guide personnel in the SDOs and schools in their transition to the new normal.
- 4. For information, guidance, and compliance.

MAY B, ECLAR PhD., CESO V
Regional Director

ESSD/ABG/afc



DepEd Order No. 14, s. 2020: Guidelines on the Required Health Standards for Basic Education Offices and Schools CHECKLIST:

			Interventions
	I. Routines an	d Pr	otocols for Health and Safety
A.	General Health	To	1. Observed proper use of face masks and other PPEs
	and Safety		o No Mask, No Entry policy
	Protocols		o All personnel are wearing face masks
			o Gloves (cloth or elastic) are worn while handling modules
			2. Practiced physical distancing.
			 Signage/nudges/floor markings/reminders are placed in heavy traffic and
			common areas:
		1	 Conference rooms, canteens, classrooms, waiting areas and other common
			spaces are set-up to comply with this standard.
			3. Observed proper hand hygiene.
		1	 Handwashing facilities are set-up in strategic areas; especially at the main
			entrance of school/ workplace and near toilets
			 May use hand sanitizers/alcohol rub as alternate
			o During handling of modules
		_	o Wash hands with soap and water if with visible dirt
			4. Practiced proper cough etiquette and proper disposal of tissue and masks after use.
			o Tissue, hand sanitizers and covered trash bins are provided for in high traffic/
			common spaces
			6. Established routine cleaning and disinfection of school/workplace.
			o Schedule/ memo/ document indicating disinfection of frequently touched
		-	surfaces and objects at least twice a day; include workspaces for processing modules
1			
			 Disinfectant solution in footbaths are relatively clean and regularly replaced Conducted orientation on COVID-19, Health Standards and metal health (PFA)
		"	o There are available platforms for posting updates on COVID-19, Health
		}	Standards and metal health (PFA)
			Bulletin boards
			Online workplace chat groups
		1	Text brigade
		1	School paper
			• Others
В.	Detection and		8. Triage area was set-up at the office/school entrance
	Referral		o Temperature checked: Those with temperature >37°C shall not be allowed to
			enter.
			o Health declaration logbook for all office/school visitors. (Symptom, exposure
			and travel history check)
l			 A holding area for those with symptoms shall be set-up near the entrance;
			pending assessment/referral/transport.
İ			 Space/area for transactions shall be determined to limit face-to-face
			interactions
l			9. Activated the Preventive Alert System in Schools (PASS)
			Logbook/documentation of referrals/ sick leaves
			o All personnel are reporting to their immediate supervisors if they are
			experiencing flu-like symptoms
			o Daily symptom check for personnel by person-in-charge
			O Daily rapid assessment of learners. Deferral of those with symptoms (to the BHEPTs after informing
			 Referral of those with symptoms (to the BHERTs after informing parent/guardian); provide surgical masks.
	School Activities		10. Restrict conduct of physical or face-to-face large gatherings and activities
· ·	and Events	_	□ Provide and maximize use of online platforms for the performance of tasks
Щ	***************************************	<u> </u>	- 1 Tovide and maximize use of online platforms for the performance of tasks





			☐ Limit travel only to the most critical or essential official functions as
1		ĺ	determined by the Secretary or her designated officers
			☐ Devise and implement alternative mean of recording and monitoring
			attendance
D. C-L1 Cli-			Set a flexible dining policy
D. School Clin Health Ser			11. Established/Maintained school or office clinic for basic services12. Ensured availability of appropriate PPE: face mask, face shield/goggles, gloves
Health Sei	vices		12. Ensured availability of appropriate FFE. face mask, face shield/goggles, gloves
E. DepEd Hea	alth and		13. Ensured the operationalization of
Safety Poli	icies		☐ Preventive Alert System in Schools (PASS) for COVID-19 (DM 15, s. 2020)
			☐ DTFC Memo No. 25 (Minimum Standards on Social Distancing)
			DO 10, s. 2016 (Policy and Guidelines on Comprehensive WinS Program)
			DO 13, s. 2017 (Policy and Guidelines on Healthy Food and Beverage Choices
			in Schools and in DepEd Offices)
			 □ Ban on smoking and vaping (DO 48, s. 2016, DM 111, s. 2019) □ Access to Brief Tobacco Intervention
			14. Developed contingency and response plan for COVID-19
		ш	14. Developed condingency and response plan for COVID-19
II. Pi	ıysical Arı	ang	ement in School
			15. Designated functional areas for:
			o Triage at the entrance
			 Holding area for high-risk groups (w/ appropriate prevention measures)
			 Common area for accommodating visitors and clients,
			o Pick-up/ drop off area for modules
			o Processing/packing of modules
			16. Proper ventilation is observed.
			 For all enclosed spaces: open windows, preferred; electric fans to facilitate air exchange; air con not encouraged
			o For classrooms: Adhered to prescribed layout
			17. Established and maintained proper sanitation and hygiene Facilities
			o Foot baths in all entrances
			 Handwashing stations
			 Toilets with adequate water and soap
		_	o Trash bins
			18. Bulletin boards: Display and/or distribute IEC materials on health, safety
			19. Ensured set up of Materials Recovery Facilities
III. Su	ipport Me	e hor	20. Ensured availability of ICT infrastructure and facilities
A. Physic			21. Established daily physical activity
Menta			o At least 60 minutes of daily physical activities for learners
Resilie	ence	_	o At least 30 minutes of daily physical activities for adults
			22. Mental Health and PsychoSocial Services (MHPSS) Activities conducted in
			coordination with YFC, GC, School Health personnel and/or local partners in the community.
B. Admir	nistrative		
Suppo			23. Complied with CSC MC 10, s. 2020 and related DepEd issuances o Provided alternative arrangements to members of the most at risk population
Бирро	1.		o Provided appropriate compensation and benefits to those involved in COVID
			19 response (if applicable)
		}	o Provided necessary assistance to personnel required to physically report to
			work (accommodations, travel passes, communication allowance,
			transportation, vitamins), if necessary and practicable
	•		Provided logistical support for personnel on work from home
IV. Sc	reening of		urning Personnel and Learners and Testing Protocol
			24. Observe the proper protocol on screening returning personnel and learners
			 All returning personnel and learners physically reporting to the school shall be screened for symptoms of COVID-19:
1		I	solution symptoms of CO 110-17.





 ✓ fever,
✓ cough,✓ colds, and other respiratory symptoms,
✓ and/or relevant history of travel or
✓ exposure within the last 14 days. **
**The following should have happened two (2) days before or within 14 days from onset of symptoms of a confirmed or probable case:
Face-to-face contact with a confirmed or probable case within 1 meter and for more than 15 minutes
 Direct physical contact with a confirmed case
➤ Direct care for a patient with a probable or confirmed COVID-19 disease without using proper PPE
☐ 25. Refer to the protocol on Alternative Work Arrangements, Leaves and Return to
Work



HEALTH PROTOCOLS FOR DEPED SCHOOLS/WORKPLACES

L HANDLE	NG MODULES
A. Preparation/	A.1. Designate an area for packing of modules
packing	☐ Wooden table tops covered with glass or plastic for easier disinfection
	☐ Science laboratory tables if available
	☐ If multiple personnel will be working in an enclosed space:
	o Traffic flow: separate ENTRANCE from EXIT
	 Signages or floor markings for Physical distancing and routing traffic
	A.2. Personnel handling materials should wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while handling the materials
	Explanation: Human skin contain normal flora (bacteria) and exhaled air during coughing/sneezing/talking have droplets with bacteria. The objective is to make sure the person handling the material does not transfer any
	microorganism (bacteria, virus, fungi) to the materials being packed
	☐ Face mask, elastic (rubber) gloves ○ For enclosed workspaces with multiple personnel, include face shield
	A.3. Disinfection
	Practice hand hygiene prior to putting on PPE
	Disinfect workspace prior and after using the area o Refer/review sanitation procedures: reference and link below
	Disinfect received package of modules prior to opening
	A.4. Reminders:
	☐ Do not touch your skin with your gloved hand.
	☐ Make sure that the hands are dry (after hand hygiene) before touching
	anything ☐ It is best that the packet for the modules are plastic for easier disinfection
	it is best that the packet for the modules are plastic for easier disinfection
B. Distribution	B.1. Designate an area for picking up modules
	☐ If in school:
	o Area should preferably near the school entrance
	o Traffic flow: separate ENTRANCE from EXIT
	o Signages to guide parents/guardian: Grade/section
	o Facilitated distribution: school personnel to hand off the modules to
	the parents/guardian o Visitor/Receiving logbook for monitoring and contact tracing
	☐ If at a drop-off point:
	o Enclosed water-proof container for modules at drop-off points
	o Sheltered from the rain
	o Packets are visibly marked for easy distribution
	B.2. Personnel handling materials should wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while handling the materials
	Explanation: Human skin contain normal flora (bacteria) and exhaled air during coughing/sneezing/talking have droplets with bacteria. The objective





	is to make sure the person handling the material does not transfer any microorganism (bacteria, virus, fungi) to the materials being handled Face mask, elastic gloves
	Direct Physical Contact should be limited as much as possible B.3. Disinfection
	☐ Practice hand hygiene prior to handling modules
	 ☐ Hand hygiene should be practiced by both giver and receiver of modules ☐ Disinfect workspace prior and after using the area
	☐ Disinfect received package of modules prior to opening
	B.4. Reminders: Orient/Instruct personnel in-charge of drop-off/pick up areas outside the
	school on proper handling of modules
	☐ Hand sanitizers/ handwashing facilities should be available at or near the distribution areas
	o Provide PPE and sanitizers for off-school areas ☐ Do not touch your skin with your gloved hand.
	☐ Make sure that after hand hygiene, the hands are dry before touching anything
	It is best that the packet for the modules are plastic for easier disinfection
C. Retrieval	C.1. Designate an area for dropping off modules
	o Area should preferably near the school entrance; separate from the
	module pick-up area o Traffic flow: separate ENTRANCE from EXIT
	 Signages to guide parents/guardian: Drop-off modules here It can be a common area for all grades; to be sorted by school
	personnel after disinfection ☐ If at a drop-off point:
	o Enclosed water-proof container for modules at drop-off points
;	o Sheltered from the rain
	C.2. Personnel handling materials should wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while handling the materials
	Explanation: Human skin contain normal flora (bacteria) and exhaled air during coughing/sneezing/talking have droplets with bacteria. The objective is to make sure the person handling the material does not transfer any
	microorganism (bacteria, virus, fungi) to the materials being handled Face mask, elastic gloves
	☐ Direct Physical Contact should be limited as much as possible
	C.3. Disinfection □ Practice hand hygiene prior to and after handling modules
	☐ Hand hygiene should be practiced by both giver and receiver of modules
	 Disinfect workspace prior and after using the area Disinfect received package of modules prior to opening
	C.4. Reminders:
	Orient/Instruct personnel in-charge of drop-off/pick up areas outside the school on proper handling of modules
	 Hand sanitizers/ handwashing facilities should be available at or near the distribution areas





	o Provide PPE and sanitizers for off-school areas
	☐ Do not touch your skin with your gloved hand.
	☐ Make sure that after hand hygiene, the hands are dry before touching
	anything
	☐ It is best that the packet for the modules is plastic; for easier disinfection
II. CONDUC	T OF LIMITED FACE TO FACE ACTIVITIES
A. In school	A.1. Designate an area for limited face-to-face; should be compliant with the health
ii. m sensor	standards
	☐ Open space is preferred
	☐ If enclosed space,
	o Proper ventilation should be ensured: open windows, exhaust fans,
	electric fans
	o Physical distancing, 1-2 meters apart
	✓ Even during meals
	☐ If multiple personnel will be working in an enclosed space:
	o Traffic flow: separate ENTRANCE from EXIT
	o Signages or floor markings for Physical distancing and routing
	traffic
	A.2. Wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) throughout the activity
	Explanation: Human skin contain normal flora (bacteria) and exhaled air
	during coughing/sneezing/talking have droplets with bacteria. The objective
	is to make sure that there is no transfer any microorganism (bacteria, virus,
	fungi) from speaker to listener.
	☐ Face mask, face shield, gloves
	☐ Direct Physical Contact should be limited as much as possible
	A.3. Disinfection
	Practice hand hygiene as often as necessary before and after handling/
	touching commonly touched surfaces/ articles (door knobs, light switch, ball
	pens, microphones, etc.)
	☐ Disinfect workspace and commonly touched surfaces/ articles prior and after
	using the area A.4. Reminders:
	Orient/Remind participants of the health practices prior to start of the activity.
	☐ Visitor logbooks properly filled up for monitoring and contact tracing
	Hand sanitizers/ handwashing facilities should be available at or near the
	activity area
	☐ During meals:
	o Packed meals are preferred
	o If buffet, it should be facilitated; this means that the serving
	utensils are handled by a server
	o Physical distancing should still be observed.
	o Avoid speaking while eating to prevent generation of saliva
	droplets which contains microorganisms. Remember that masks are
	removed while eating. The risk of inhaling droplets sprayed
	through talking/sneezing/coughing is higher.
	į
	Marks should be maintained while specking to analyze decolor amount
	☐ Masks should be maintained while speaking to prevent droplet sprays





	o If there is hearing impairment among participants and lip reading is necessary to understand speaker, the mask may be removed but ensure the following: ✓ Proper air ventilation is warranted ✓ Speaker maintains at least 2 meters distance from participants ✓ Proper cough etiquette is observed ✓ Face shield should at least be used by the speaker ✓ All listeners should be wearing their masks properly
B. Home visits	B.1. Designate an area for limited face-to-face; should be compliant with the health standards Open space is preferred o Front/back yard of house being visited B.2. Wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) throughout the activity Explanation: Human skin contain normal flora (bacteria) and exhaled air during coughing/sneezing/talking have droplets with bacteria. The objective is to make sure that there is no transfer any microorganism (bacteria, virus, fungi) from speaker to listener. For visitor: Face mask, face shield, gloves For learner/parent: at least clean face mask Direct Physical Contact should be limited as much as possible B.3. Disinfection Practice hand hygiene as often as necessary before and after handling/ touching commonly touched surfaces/ articles (door knobs, light switch, ball pens, microphones, etc.) Disinfect workspace and commonly touched surfaces/ articles prior and after using the area Visitor should carry with him/her disinfecting solution, clean towel, hand sanitizer and plastic bag for used towel B.4. Reminders: Orient/Remind participants of the health practices prior to start of the activity. O Do not start until health standards are met Face mask Hand sanitation/ disinfection Physical distancing Hand sanitizers/ handwashing facilities should be available at or near the activity area Duration of visit should be less than 45 minutes; less than 15 minutes if the area has poor ventilation Sharing meals during visits is discouraged.
	☐ Masks should be maintained while speaking to prevent droplet sprays ○ If there is hearing impairment among participants and lip reading is necessary to understand speaker, the mask may be removed but ensure the following: ✓ Proper air ventilation is warranted ✓ Speaker maintains at least 2 meters distance from participants ✓ Proper cough etiquette is observed ✓ Face shield should at least be used by the speaker ○ All listeners should be wearing their masks properly





III. ALTERN	ATIVE WORK ARRANGEMENTS, LEAVES AND RETURN TO WORK			
A. Alternative	A.1. Workplace personnel profile is conducted to determine at risk population			
Work	☐ High risk to COVID-19 disease			
Arrangement	o Senior citizens			
	o Persons with co-morbid or immunodeficiency diseases such as but			
	not limited to diabetes, hypertension, kidney failure, cancer,			
	HIV/AIDS, etc.			
	o Pregnant and lactating mothers			
	Caregivers to identified high risk groups			
	☐ If enclosed space,			
	o Proper ventilation should be ensured: open windows, exhaust fans,			
	electric fans			
	o Physical distancing, 1-2 meters apart			
	✓ Even during meals			
	☐ If multiple personnel will be working in an enclosed space:			
	o Traffic flow: separate ENTRANCE from EXIT			
	 Signage or floor markings for Physical distancing and routing traffic 			
	A.2. Determine appropriate strategy for workplace/school while considering the following:			
	Maximum capacity of the workplace where the physical distancing of at least 1 meter is observed.			
	☐ Capacity of the administration/management to provide support to workers:			
	✓ Equipment/supply for Work from Home(WFH) arrangement			
	 Laptops, printers, communication allowances 			
	 Online platforms for constant communication, etc 			
	✓ Transportation from home to workplace for on-site workers			
	✓ Temporary housing/ accommodations for on-site workers, especially			
	those crossing quarantine borders regularly			
	☐ Health profile of workers			
	☐ Consultation with the personnel on preferred work arrangement			
	A.3. Issue an office policy adopting/contextualizing CSC MC 10, s. 2020			





B. Leaves and Return to Work

- All personnel returning to the workplace from quarantine or from travel to places with different quarantine status should undergo quick triage before entering the facility.

 Refer to the following decision tables:

Triage Indicators	No travel history/ No exposure Suspect/Possible	With Travel History (past 14 days) Suspect/Probable	With Exposure History (past 14 days Suspect/Probable
Actions to be taken	Inform workplace supervisor/ HR/ BHERTs;	Inform workplace supervisor/ HR/ BHERTs;	Inform workplace supervisor/ HR/ BHERTs;
	For medical consultation/triage; optional: RT-PCR	For medical consultation/triage;	For medical consultation/triage;
	self-quarantine for 14 days; with at least 3 days asymptomatic/resolution of symptoms	Self-quarantine for 14 days with at least 3 days of no symptoms; or until RT-PCR tested negative and asymptomatic for at least 3 days, whichever comes first	Self-quarantine for 14 days with at least 3 days of no symptoms or until RT-PCR tested negative and asymptomatic for at least 3 days, whichever comes firs
	**May shift AWA to WFH if medical consultation led to home quarantine Attach request letter to shift AWA to WFH	**May shift AWA to WFH if medical consultation led to home quarantine Attach request letter to shift AWA to WFH	**File for sick leave; most likely, medical consultation led to admission in an isolation/quarantine facility or hospital File Form 6 Attach Form 41
	**File for sick leave if medical consultation led to admission in an isolation/quarantine facility or hospital File Form 6 Attach Form 41	**File for sick leave if medical consultation led to admission in an isolation/quarantine facility or hospital File Form 6 Attach Form 41	
Clearance needed	Medical certificate/ clearance	Medical certificate/ clearance from LGU; Certificate of quarantine completion	Medical certificates clearance from LGU; Certificate of quarantine completion





Triage Indicators	No travel history/ No exposure	With Travel History (past 14 days)	With Exposure History (past 14 days)
PASSEMENT OF A THE PASSE		Other PUM	Close Contact
Actions to be taken	May enter the workplace	Inform workplace supervisor/ HR/ BHERTs;	Inform workplace supervisor/ HR/ BHERTs;
		For triage;	For triage;
		Self-quarantine for 14 days or until RT-PCR tested negative, whichever comes first **Shift AWA to WFH while on home quarantine Attach request letter to shift AWA to WFH	Self-quarantine for 14 days or until RT-PCR tested negative, whichever comes first **Shift AWA to WFH while on home quarantine Attach request letter to shift AWA to WFH
Clearance needed	None	Medical certificate/ clearance from LGU; Certificate of quarantine completion	Medical certificate clearance from LGU; Certificate of quarantine completion

IV. SANITATION

Reference

RM NO. 147, S. 2020 - DISSEMINATION OF GUIDELINES ON ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING IN WORKPLACE AND SCHOOLS

Link: https://www.depedcar.ph/regional-memoranda/rm-no-147-s-2019-0

ESSD/afc/8.26.2020



