



Republic of the Philippines
Professional Regulation Commission
Manila



RESOLUTION NO. 1256
Series of 2020

**INTERIM GUIDELINES IN THE CONDUCT OF THE REMAINING
2020 LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS**

WHEREAS, Section 7 (d) of Republic Act (R.A.) 8981 empowers the Commission to administer and conduct the licensure examinations of the various professional regulatory boards (PRBs) in accordance with the rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the Commission;

WHEREAS, the Commission is likewise mandated in Section 7(d) R.A. No. 8981 to determine and fix the places and dates of examinations;

WHEREAS, the PRBs are mandated to regulate the practice of the professions in accordance with the provision of their respective professional regulatory laws, including the conduct of licensure examination(s) within the calendar year as the case may be;

WHEREAS, the Commission, in Resolution No. 1210 (s. 2019) approved the schedule of the professional licensure examinations for Calendar Year 2020;

WHEREAS, Presidential Proclamation No. 922 (s. 2020) was issued declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and enjoined all government agencies and local government units to adopt appropriate responses and measures to eliminate the threat of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Presidential Proclamation No. 929 (s. 2020) declared a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines for a period of six (6) months, unless earlier lifted or extended as circumstances may warrant;

WHEREAS, the Commission as a consequence, through its Resolution Nos. 1230, 1235, 1241, 1243, 1245 and 1252 (s. 2020), cancelled/postponed licensure examinations from March to September 2020, and likewise adhered to government rules, such as on physical distancing, mass gathering and travel, to contain the spread of the COVID-19 Pandemic;

WHEREAS, while the Commission and the PRBs are committed to conduct credible licensure examinations they are legally mandated to deliver, current government rules and restrictions resulting from measures to respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic, limited resources, and health considerations for examinees and examination personnel, constrain the Commission and the PRBs to review and revise the scheduled conduct of remaining 2020 licensure examinations.

IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, in order to provide a systematic procedure in the assessment and conduct of the **remaining 2020 licensure examinations from September to December 2020** during this present public health emergency arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Commission hereby **RESOLVES** to direct and prescribe the following guidelines:

I. DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. Small-scale licensure examinations – licensure examinations with prospective¹ number of examinees of 1,000 or less;
2. Medium-scale licensure examinations – licensure examinations with prospective number of examinees from 1,001 – 5,000;
3. Large-scale licensure examinations – licensure examinations with prospective number of examinees of more than 5,000.

II. GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Small scale licensure examination shall be conducted unless the profession's stakeholders, such as Accredited Professional Organization (APO)/ Accredited Integrated Professional Organization (AIPO), Academe, and/or Sector, recommend its cancellation as endorsed by the concerned PRB;

¹ Based on PRC historical data of examinees and/or CHED enrollment

2. Medium and large-scale licensure examinations shall not be administered this year unless the profession's stakeholders, such as APO/ AIPO, Academe, and/or Sector, recommend its conduct as endorsed by the concerned PRB, subject to relevant rules and regulations existing, as well as to available resources for a credible and safe licensure examinations;
3. Medium and large-scale examinations in professions which are urgently needed by the government in the COVID 19 response duly endorsed by a government agency like the DOH, shall only be administered subject to strict safety and health measures, and the availability of resources (e.g. Medicine);
4. Only licensure examinations which are approved by the Inter Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) can be conducted should there be exemptions from IATF-EID rules/guidelines and/or special assistance sought from the IATF-EID for said examinations;
5. Licensure Examinations shall only be conducted under a Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ) classification or better as currently defined by the IATF-EID unless an exemption from the rules or special consideration is granted by the IATF-EID;
6. The preparation and conduct of licensure examinations hereunder shall be in accordance with PRC Memorandum Order Nos. 24² and 28³ (s. 2020);

III. SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

1. The PRBs concerned shall consult and coordinate with their respective AIPO/ APO, Academe and Sector or Industry, as to the conduct of their respective licensure examinations;
2. The PRBs shall submit their respective recommendations endorsing the request letters/resolutions from the AIPO/ APO, Academe and/or Sector/Industry to the Commission through the Licensure Office;
3. The Licensure Office shall consolidate all relevant information and, with the Secretary to the PRBs, submit the appropriate recommendation to the Commission;
4. If approved by the Commission, the relevant resolution shall be prepared for the information and guidance of all concerned.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila this 5th day of August, 2020.



TEOFILO S. PILANDO, JR.
Chairman



YOLANDA D. REYES
Commissioner



JOSE Y. CUETO, JR.
Commissioner

² Post Enhance/Local Community Quarantine Interim Guidelines

³ Guidelines on COVID-19 Prevention and Control in the Conduct of Licensure Examinations