



MEMORANDUM

FOR : All Quezon City Barangays
All Departments, Offices, and Task Forces of the Quezon City Government
The General Public

FROM : **MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE**
City Mayor

SUBJECT : **2nd Supplemental GCQ Guidelines**

DATE : March 24, 2021

BACKGROUND

In light of Inter-Agency Task Force Resolution No. 104 dated March 20, 2021, which imposed further restrictions to mitigate the recent surge in COVID-19 cases, the City hereby issues these 2nd Supplemental Guidelines on the implementation of General Community Quarantine. These 2nd Supplemental Guidelines shall take effect immediately and shall be effective until April 4, 2021.

GUIDELINES

1. Public Safety Hours. Public safety hours shall be from **10 pm to 5 am**, provided that essential activities such as but not limited to public transportation¹, market delivery operations or market *bagsakan*, food take-out and delivery, pharmacies, hospitals, convenience stores, and delivery of goods may operate on a 24 hour basis. Also, call centers, business process outsourcing (BPO) and other non-leisure businesses that by nature operate 24 hours may continue to do so.

During public safety hours, all persons should be at home, except for persons (i) still out for purposes of work, or on the way home from work, as shown by company ID, APOR ID, or other official ID; (ii) dealing with emergencies; or (iii) traveling for purposes of air/sea travel as shown by pre-booked tickets.

2. Limited Gatherings. Gatherings of more than 10 persons shall be prohibited, except for when indispensable for work, government or humanitarian purposes. Masses and other religious activities that would otherwise involve gatherings of more than 10 people will be conducted online instead, as per circular of the Diocese of Novaliches and the Diocese of Cubao. For clarity, weddings, baptisms, funeral services and other religious sacraments or solemnities may be conducted provided they are limited to not more than 10 persons.

¹Metro Manila Council Resolution No. 21-03, dated March 11, 2021.

3. **Age Restriction.** Persons below eighteen (18) years old and above sixty-five (65) years old, and pregnant women² must remain home, except when indispensable for obtaining essential goods and services (e.g., buying food/medicine or medical appointments), or when physical presence at work is indispensable.

On the other hand, persons above sixty-five (65) years old or persons with disabilities (PWD) may engage in outdoor non-contact sports and exercises.

4. **Additional Guidelines for Specific Businesses/Activities.** Aside from the supplemental workplace guidelines under the Memorandum of the Mayor dated March 14, 2021, the following specific guidelines shall be enforced:

a. **Indoor Dine-in.** Indoor dine-in services shall be suspended. The suspension on indoor dine-in includes tables set up in hallways, but which are still inside establishments. On the other hand, open-air or *al fresco* dining shall be allowed, provided minimum health protocols are maintained, such as by keeping patrons one seat apart and/or using acrylic dividers. However, food delivery and take-out operations may continue.

b. **Sari-sari Stores.** *Sari-sari* stores (home-based micro retail stores) should close by 10 pm.

c. **Markets, Talipapas and Temporary Vending Sites.** Retail operations of markets, *talipapas* and vending sites must close by 10 pm, provided that *bagsakan* or delivery operations may continue. In any case, social distancing of at least one meter and other minimum health standards as provided under previous Guidelines must be strictly observed, most especially the wearing of face masks and face shields. Each market, *talipapa* and temporary vending site should have separate one-way entrances and exits to reduce mingling of customers. If social distancing is difficult to enforce due to the volume of market-goers, Barangays and market administrators shall institute measures to limit their numbers, such as queuing by batches, separate market schedule for families according to family names, sitios or streets, and the like.

d. **Stall owners, Kargadors and other Workers in Markets or Talipapas.** The foregoing must ensure at least one meter distance between and among themselves and customers. Vendors, *kargadors* and other workers must wear face masks and face shields at all times, and comply with all applicable health protocols

e. **Hawkers/Ambulant Vendors.** Registered hawkers/ambulant vendors with the Market Development and Administration Department are allowed to sell/vend at duly designated vending sites from 5:00 am to 10:00 pm provided that they strictly follow health and safety protocols. A no face mask, no face shield, no selling policy shall be implemented.

f. **Sabong and E-Games.** The conduct of cockfighting (especially community cockfighting events such as *sabong* or *tupada*) as well as e-games and e-bingo activities, shall remain prohibited.

g. **Graduation/Oath-taking Ceremonies.** The conduct of physical graduation or oath-taking ceremonies involving more than ten (10) persons is hereby suspended. Virtual graduation or oath-taking ceremonies are encouraged.

h. **Swimming Pools.** The operation of swimming pools, including those in

²Sec. B.h, Inter-Agency Task Force Resolution No. 104 dated March 20, 2021

condominiums, village clubhouses or private pools used as mini-resorts, shall be suspended for leisure activities, except for exercise or training purposes in accordance with the protocols of the Games and Amusements Board or other sport governing body or authority. Coaches shall be responsible for compliance with physical distancing and other minimum health standards.

i. Sports Facilities, Gyms, Spas and Internet Cafes. The operation of gyms, spas and internet cafes shall be suspended. The suspension of gym operations includes private gyms in condominiums and subdivisions. Only full-service spas with saunas, jacuzzis, full-body massage and the like shall be covered by the temporary suspension of operations. On the other hand, nail spas, parlors, salons and the like that incidentally offer "spot "massage, reflexology and similar services may continue operations.

Sports facilities such as badminton, tennis, bowling lanes and billiard halls may operate provided that there should be no conduct of tournaments, doubles or team games.

Basketball/volleyball courts or other facilities for contact sports may be allowed to operate provided the same is duly sanctioned by the Games and Amusement Board or other national sports governing body under their prescribed health protocols.

j. Call Centers/BPOs. Ensure at least one meter distance between each workstation. Employees must use face masks at all times even while handling customer calls. Implement work from home for employees with sufficient internet connection, to the extent feasible.

k. Factories and Construction Sites. Provide sufficient space in workers' barracks to ensure that physical distancing can be maintained at all times. Prohibit different workgroups or departments from mingling with one another. Implement staggered shifts to reduce the number of workers in a single shift.

l. Manning Agencies. Strictly implement quarantine protocols for all leaving or returning overseas employees handled by the agency. In particular, returning overseas employees must complete a 14 day quarantine as provided in Sec. 8 below. If any employee or client of the agency tests positive for COVID-19, the agency must inform CESU no later than 24 hours from receipt of the test. The agency shall not allow any COVID-19 positive employee or client to take public transportation, and must coordinate with CESU for the proper isolation and/or transportation of the patient.

m. Other Special Categories. The operation of driving schools, indoor cinemas, video/interactive game arcades, libraries, archives, museums, and cultural centers, and tourist attractions shall remain suspended. Photo or event shoots will not be allowed in any park, museums and other open spaces to avoid mass gathering. As an exception, open-air tourist attractions may operate, subject to the guidelines and permission of the Department of Tourism.

5. Liquor Ban. All retail sales of alcoholic beverages are hereby suspended for the duration of these Guidelines. On the other hand, wholesale delivery of liquor may continue.

6. Responsibilities of Establishments and Building/Subdivision Management. Quezon City establishments (including condominium or building managers, subdivisions and homeowners' associations) that become aware of any confirmed positive COVID-19 cases among their employees, tenants, residents, members or clients (regardless of the place of residence) must report the same to the City

Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (CESU)³, not later than 24 hours from receipt of test results. Establishments must cooperate with CESU, allow reasonable access to City government contact tracers and avoid hindering contact tracing efforts.

Building managers must maintain a log of all building guests and visitors, including addresses and contact information, using KyusiPass as far as feasible. The managers must disclose this log to CESU when required for contact tracing efforts, provided that CESU shall maintain strict confidentiality and data privacy over such information.

Building managers must disclose to their tenants and association members whether any COVID-19 cases have been confirmed in the building (without specifying the identities or unit locations of the cases).

Building managers, and in particular the building health and safety officer shall be responsible and accountable to monitor and help enforce health protocols. This includes preventing gatherings in common areas, and monitoring any persons quarantined in the concerned building. If any quarantined person breaks quarantine, the building manager must immediately notify and coordinate with CESU and the Barangay. Also, if building management observes mass gatherings inside any unit, management must immediately request the concerned tenant to desist from such gatherings. If the tenant refuses, management must immediately notify the Barangay and CESU.

Building managers shall also facilitate the supply of necessities to quarantined persons within their respective buildings. They shall also ensure regular disinfection of common areas and high-touch objects (e.g, elevator buttons, railings, etc.).

7. KyusiPass Contact Tracing. The City reminds all business establishments in Quezon City that they are mandated to use the Kyusi Pass digital contact tracing method for their employees and customers, as far as feasible. Business owners should secure a dedicated QR Code (location monitoring site) per establishment from the Business Permits and Licensing Department via kyusipass.bpld@quezoncity.gov.ph. For clarity, a lessee inside a larger establishment (such as individual stores inside malls) should also have its own KyusiPass contact tracing log, insofar as practicable. The KyusiPass will link to other contact tracing apps currently in use elsewhere.

8. Protocols for Returning Overseas Filipinos (OFs). Hotels and other accommodation establishments in Quezon City receiving returning OFs, whether organized by a national government agency or private entity, shall report to the Office of the City Administrator for documentation and monitoring, and for guidance on health, security, and logistics protocols. It is noted that due to the highly contagious nature of the new COVID-19 variants, all returning OFs must complete a mandatory quarantine period of at least 14 days, regardless of a negative RT-PCR test result. Hence, they may stay in a hotel for at least 14 days, or if this is not possible, they must continue their quarantine in an appropriate Quarantine facility.

For returning OFs who are residents of Quezon City, they shall be picked-up at the hotel by the Barangay Health Emergency Response Team (BHERT) of their home Barangay and continue their quarantine at their Barangay quarantine facility or other facility approved by the CESU. If their ultimate destination is outside of Quezon City, they must be picked-up by their Local Government Unit, the national government agency that organized their stay, or their private company as the case may be, for

³CESU phone: 02-8703-2759 or 02-8703-4398; or email at QCSurveillance@quezoncity.gov.ph

immediate transport to a quarantine facility outside Quezon City. In no instance shall a returning OF be allowed to take public transportation, unless the mandatory 14-day quarantine period has been completed.

All returning OFs from January 1, 2021, who were not quarantined in any hotel or accommodation establishment for whatever reason, and are currently staying either in any residence, facility or establishment within Quezon City, must report to the Barangay and the CESU regardless of present health condition. The Barangays, the CESU and the QCPD Police Stations shall actively seek-out any of the said returning OFs within their respective jurisdictions and areas of responsibility.

9. **Compliance and Enforcement.** The member offices of the City's Law and Order Cluster, regulatory departments, the Barangays, and the QCPD and its Police Stations shall continue enforcing the protocols contained in these Guidelines, consistent with the Memoranda from the Mayor on Warrantless Arrests dated 13 July 2020, and on Implementation of Existing Quezon City Ordinances to Combat COVID-19 dated March 8, 2021, including the use of Ordinance Violation Receipts (OVR). Violators may be penalized under any applicable law, ordinance or regulation.

10. **Duration.** These 2nd Supplemental Guidelines prevail over any previous guidelines and shall take effect immediately and remain in force until April 4, 2021, unless extended. However, even after expiration of these Guidelines, Sec. 8 above (Protocols for Returning Overseas Filipinos) shall continue to remain in force.



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City Mayor