



Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines

Pasuguan ng Republika ng Pilipinas

WELLINGTON

ADVISORY NO. JSD-2019-03

Guidelines on Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) registration and pre-departure clearance

According to information provided to the Philippine Embassy by the CFO, all Filipinos leaving the country as emigrants or permanent residents abroad are required to register with the CFO and attend either the **Pre-departure Orientation Seminar (PDOS)** or the **Peer Counseling Program (PCP)** for emigrants 13 to 19 years old. CFO also conducts a **Guidance and Counseling Program (GCP)** in compliance with Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Order Nos. 28-94 and 11-97, as well as R.A. 10364 and R.A. 10906 otherwise known as the *Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act* and *Anti-Mail Order Spouse Act*, respectively.

Filipinos leaving the country with Work to Residence visas and their dependents; and Filipino dependents of New Zealand (NZ) permanent residents with work or student visas must also register and attend appropriate seminars at CFO. Filipino spouses and partners of foreign nationals or former Filipino citizens are required to attend GCP. Clients must secure an appointment through the *Reservation and Registration (R&R) online system* for PDOS and the *GCP Online Appointment System (GOAS)*, before going to the CFO. Please note that the CFO strictly implements a **No Walk-in Policy** (please see attached CFO press release).

The CFO has offices in Manila, Cebu City, Davao City, and Clark, Pampanga where clients can reserve and register for PDOS and PCP. The following links contain information about the reservation and registration procedures, requirements for registration, schedule of seminars and other information about the program:

- https://cfo.ph/PDOS_Reservation_Manila/
- https://cfo.ph/PDOS_Reservation_Cebu/
- https://cfo.ph/PDOS_Reservation_Clark/
- https://cfo.ph/PDOS_Reservation_Davao/

The CFO has a desk office in the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA). However, it only caters to clients who are exempted from attending the seminar, i.e., emigrants 12 years old and below, 60 years old and above, and those residents /immigrants/emigrants who were able to stay in the destination country for an aggregate of two months.

To check if you need to undergo CFO or POEA's pre-departure program, click on the following link to **ADVISORY NO. JSD-2019-22** on the *Guide on whether POEA or CFO pre-departure clearance is needed*, which provides guidance according to NZ visa categories/client profile.

Also attached is a flyer on **“Steps to secure an appointment and register online”** for reference. In addition, please contact the following CFO officials for further inquiries about CFO programs and services:

- Ms. Ivy D. Miravalles, Director, Migrant Integration and Education Division, Telephone No.: +63 2 552 4740, e-Mail: imiravalles@cfo.gov.ph
- Mr. Ariel T. Cruz, Senior Migrant Services Officer, Migrant Integration and Education Division, Telephone No.: +63 2 552 4745, e-Mail: acruz@cfo.gov.ph
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