



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

December 16, 2016

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2016- 0357

FOR: ALL DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOSPITALS, DOH REGIONAL OFFICE DIRECTORS, CHIEFS OF THE REGULATION, LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION (RLED) AND OTHER CONCERNED STAKEHOLDERS

SUBJECT: Extension of Moratorium Period for Compliance for All Ambulance and Ambulance Service Providers

Administrative Order No. 2016-0029: Rules and Regulations Governing the Licensure of Ambulance and Ambulance Service Providers, signed on June 29, 2016 and published on July 12, 2016, took effect on July 28, 2016. The said Administrative Order (A.O.) mandates that all ambulance service providers, whether institution-based or free-standing, must be licensed by the DOH – Health Facilities and Services Regulatory Bureau (HFSRB).


A rapid survey was done by the Health Facilities and Services Regulatory Bureau to determine the ability of ambulance service providers to comply with the standards and requirements set forth in the said Administrative Order. The survey included questions on ownership of the ambulance and capacity to comply with resource requirements such as Personnel complement, equipment, medicine and supplies based on the list of requirements in the Assessment Tool for Licensing an Ambulance and Ambulance Service Provider.

The results of the survey are found in the table below:

Level of General Hospital	Ownership		Ability to comply	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
1	74.1%	25.9%	35.5%	64.5%
2	83.3%	16.7%	39.3%	60.7%
3	100%	0%	12.5%	87.5%

The results also showed that all hospitals responded to having minor to major difficulties in complying with the requirements specifically on personnel complement and on required equipment, medicines and supplies.

In view of the obtained results from the survey and heeding the clamor of the stakeholders, the Moratorium period of one year from the approval of the said Order to free-standing Ambulance Service Provider is hereby revised to *include the Institution-based Ambulance Service Provider, and is extended from July 28, 2016 to December 31, 2017.*


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Secretary of Health