



Executive Order No. 21-61
Series of 2021

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER EXTENDING THE ALERT LEVEL 2 STATUS OF THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL UNTIL JANUARY 15, 2022

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2021, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 1218, series of 2021 further extending the State of Calamity throughout the Philippines due to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) until September 12, 2022;

WHEREAS, under Proclamation No. 1218, series of 2021, Local Government Units are enjoined to render full assistance and cooperation and mobilize necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent, appropriate response and measures in a timely manner to curtail and eliminate the threat of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160 also known as the Local Government Code provides that within their respective territorial jurisdictions, local government units shall ensure and promote health and safety, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants;

WHEREAS, on October 28, 2021, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) approved the recommendation to further expand the implementation of the Alert Levels System to Region VI wherein the Province of Negros Occidental was placed under Alert Level 2 until November 14, 2021;

WHEREAS, on October 29, 2021, the Province of Negros Occidental was placed under Alert Level 2 under the provisions of Executive Order No. 21-48, entitled: "An Executive Order Adopting the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) Alert Levels System for COVID-19 and Placing the Entire Province of Negros Occidental Under Alert Level 2 from November 1, 2021 to November 14, 2021", and further extended under the provisions of Executive Order 21-51 Series of 2021 entitled: "An Executive Order Extending the Alert Level 2 Status of the Province of Negros Occidental until November 30, 2021", and further extended under the provisions of Executive Order 21-55 Series of 2021 entitled: "An Executive Order Extending the Alert Level 2 Status of the Province of Negros Occidental until December 15, 2021", and further extended under the provisions of Executive Order 21-58 Series of 2021 entitled: "An Executive Order Extending the Alert Level 2 Status of the Province of Negros Occidental until December 31, 2021";

WHEREAS, on November 11, 2021, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Executive Order No. 151, series of 2021 entitled "Approving the Nationwide Implementation of the Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response" wherein the Alert Levels System shall be the new Community Quarantine Classification system for dealing with COVID-19 in managing and minimizing ;

WHEREAS, the Province of Negros Occidental has 34,880 confirmed COVID-19 positive cases as of December 30, 2021 while the entire country has 2,841,260 confirmed COVID-19 cases as of December 30, 2021. Hence, there is still a need to place the entire Province of Negros Occidental under Alert Level 2 until January 15, 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EUGENIO JOSE V. LACSON, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law as Governor of the Province of Negros Occidental, do hereby order the following:

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF ALERT LEVEL 2. The Alert Level 2 status of the Province of Negros Occidental is hereby extended until 11:59 pm of January 15, 2022.

SECTION 2. TRAVEL GUIDELINES FOR INTERZONAL AND INTRAZONAL TRAVEL. Pursuant to the IATF-EID Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for COVID-19 Response, intrazonal and interzonal travel for all ages and for any purpose, including leisure, shall be allowed. However, travel to and from areas classified under Alert Level 3 and 4 shall be restricted and discouraged. The following are the travel guidelines for the Province of Negros Occidental.

A. GUIDELINES FOR FULLY VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS. An individual shall be considered as having been fully vaccinated for COVID-19 in the following instances:

- I. More than or equal to 2 weeks after having received the second dose in a 2-dose series, or
- II. More than or equal to 2 weeks after having received a single-dose vaccine
- III. The vaccines administered to the individual are included in any of the following:
 1. Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) List or Compassionate Special Permit (CSP) issued by the Philippine Food and Drug Administration;

or

2. Emergency Use Listing of the World Health Organization.

B. DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERZONAL MOVEMENT OF FULLY VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS. Fully vaccinated individuals aged 12 years old and above shall be required to present the following documents to enter the Province of Negros Occidental:

- I. **S-PASS.** An electronic or printed copy of the Approved Travel Coordination Permit issued by the Safe, Swift, and Smart Passage (S-PASS) travel management system approved by Local Government Unit (LGU) of destination and/or the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental upon submission of vaccination card or certificate and;
- II. **Vaccination Card/Certificate:** Any of the following vaccination cards or certificates shall be honored by the Province of Negros Occidental:
 - a. A verifiable COVID-19 domestic vaccination card duly issued by a legitimate vaccinating establishment or
 - b. The Negros Occidental Provincial MIS Vaccination Card or
 - c. Official Department of Health Vaccination Certificate with Quick Response ("QR") Code

C. GUIDELINES FOR UNVACCINATED AND PARTIALLY VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS. This applies to unvaccinated and partially vaccinated individuals aged 12 years old and above. They shall present the following requirements:

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- I. **S-PASS.** An electronic or printed copy of the Approved Travel Coordination Permit issued by the Safe, Swift, and Smart Passage (S-PASS) travel management system approved by Local Government Unit (LGU) of destination and/or the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental upon presentation / submission of a negative RT-PCR test Result.
- II. **NEGATIVE RT-PCR TEST RESULT PRIOR TO TRAVEL.**
 - a. Shall be valid for 72 hours from date of swab sample extraction.
 - b. Must be conducted and issued by a Department of Health accredited Molecular Laboratory.

EXCEPTION. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS/PERSONNEL ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS. The provision of IATF Resolution No. 98-A, Series of 2021 shall be in full force and effect. Government officials/personnel on official business shall be allowed unimpeded travel to their place of destination, provided that they:

- a. Present valid IDs issued by their respective government agency;
- b. Present original or certified true copy of travel authority/order issued by the Department Secretary or his/her designated official;
- c. Pass symptom screening at the port upon arrival, and in case of public transport, upon boarding; and
- d. Strictly comply with the minimum public health standards.

D. GUIDELINES FOR TRAVELLING MINORS AGED 11 YEARS OLD AND BELOW ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

1. Approved S-PASS
2. RT-PCR test result not required as long as the accompanying adult has an approved S-PASS with vaccine card/certificate or valid negative RT-PCR

E. GUIDELINES FOR LOCAL / FOREIGN TOURISTS.

1. Please refer to Section 2(B) or Section 2(C) of this Executive Order whichever is applicable;
2. Coordination with Tourism Office of their destination LGU.

F. INDIVIDUALS WITH FAKE DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS.

Individuals/Travelers with fake documents shall be subjected to a fourteen (14) day quarantine and RT-PCR Test, at his expense, on the 5th day from arrival.

SECTION 3. AIRPORT OPERATIONS GUIDELINES. Air travel between the National Capital Region (NCR) and the Province of Negros Occidental may now be increased starting November 15, 2021 since both are classified under Alert Level 2 and the demand for flights is high. Airports located within the Province of Negros Occidental shall now be subject to the following guidelines:

- a. TWO (2) flights per day per Airline Company for Manila-Bacolod-Manila flights.
- b. In addition to subsection (a), Airline Companies may avail of one (1) additional inbound Manila to Bacolod cargo-only flight and one (1) additional outbound Bacolod to Manila passenger flight per day.



- c. All modes of transportation shall be allowed to bring passengers to and from the airport.
- d. Minimum public health standards prescribed by the Department of Health shall be strictly enforced.

SECTION 4. SEAPORT OPERATIONS GUIDELINES. With the Province soon attaining herd immunity, the plummeting admission of COVID-19 cases in the three designated COVID-19 provincial hospitals, and the desire to assist more Negrenses to go home and be reunited with their loved ones in the Province during the Holidays, sea travel to the Province of Negros Occidental shall now be increased starting December 16, 2021 and shall be subject to the following guidelines:

- a. Sea vessels shall be allowed to admit passengers up to 70% of its passenger capacity limit.
- b. All modes of transportation shall be allowed to bring passengers to and from the seaport.
- c. Minimum public health standards prescribed by the Department of Health shall be strictly enforced.

SECTION 5. PROVINCIAL BUS OPERATION GUIDELINES. For the same reasons stated under Section 4 hereof, interzonal travel between the Province of Negros Occidental and Province of Negros Oriental shall now be increased starting December 16, 2021 and shall be subject to the following guidelines:

- a. **VEHICLE PASSENGER CAPACITY.** All public transportation buses shall be allowed up to 70% passenger capacity.
- b. **PASSENGER MANIFEST REQUIRED FOR LGU MONITORING AND CONTACT TRACING.** All land transportation companies plying the abovementioned interzonal route shall be required to submit a passenger manifest to the Province of Negros Occidental for the purpose of LGU monitoring and contact tracing. The passenger manifest shall contain the complete names, contact numbers, and addresses of all persons with issued tickets for travel and shall be submitted on or before 12:00 noon of the day before the intended date of travel.
- c. **APPROVED ROUTES**
 - a. Bacolod to Dumaguete via Mabinay and v.v.
 - b. Bacolod to Cebu via Mabinay and v.v.
 - c. Bacolod to Cebu via Don Salvador Benedicto and v.v.
 - d. Hinoba-an to Dumaguete and v.v.
- d. **S-PASS SCANNING AND VERIFICATION.** S-PASS scanning and verification of incoming passengers shall be done at all borders and ports of entry in Negros Occidental
- e. **DOH MINIMUM PUBLIC HEALTH PROTOCOLS.** Minimum public health standards prescribed by the Department of Health shall be strictly enforced.



SECTION 6. CLOSURE OF ESTABLISHMENTS. The following establishments shall be closed during the duration of Alert Level 2 unless authorized by the IATF-EID or Office of the President:

- a. Casinos
- b. Horse Racing

SECTION 7. LIMITED OPERATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS. Pursuant to the IATF-EID Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for COVID-19 Response, the following establishments shall be allowed limited operations for the duration of Alert Level 2 in the Province, subject to the guidelines provided for under Section 6 of this Executive Order:

- a. Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE);
- b. Permitted venues for social events such as parties, wedding receptions, engagement parties, wedding anniversaries, debut and birthday parties, family reunions, and bridal or baby showers;
- c. Visitor or tourist attractions such as libraries, archives, museums, galleries, exhibits, parks, plazas, public gardens, scenic viewpoints or overlooks, and the like;
- d. Amusement parks or theme parks;
- e. Recreational venues such as internet cafes, billiard halls, amusement arcades, bowling alleys, skating rinks, archery halls, swimming pools, and similar venues;
- f. Cinemas and movie houses;
- g. Limited face-to-face or in-person classes for basic education subject to prior approval of the Office of the President;
- h. Limited face-to-face or in-person classes for higher education and for technical-vocational education and training;
- i. In-person religious gatherings; gatherings for necrological services, wakes, inurement, and funerals for those who died of causes other than COVID-19 and for the remains of the COVID-19 deceased;
- j. Licensure or entrance/qualifying examinations administered by their respective government agency, and specialty examinations authorized by the IATF subject to the health and safety guidelines as approved by the IATF;
- k. Dine-in services of food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols;
- l. Personal care establishments such as barbershops, hair spas, hair salons, and nail spas, and those offering aesthetic/cosmetic services or procedures, make-up services, salons, spas, reflexology, and other similar procedures including home service options, subject to the sector-specific protocols of the DTI, With Amendments as of October 13, 2021
- m. Fitness studios, gyms, and venues for individual non-contact exercise and sports, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols. Provided that patrons/clients and workers/employees wear face masks at all times and that no group activities are conducted;
- n. Film, music, and television production subject to the joint guidelines as may be issued by the DTI, DOLE, and the DOH;
- o. Contact sports approved by the LGU where such games shall be held;
- p. Fairs/festivals or kid amusement industries such as playgrounds, playroom, and kiddie rides;
- q. Venues with live voice or wind-instrument performers and audiences such as in karaoke bars, clubs, concert halls, and theaters, and
- r. Gatherings in residences with individuals not belonging to the same household.

SECTION 8. GUIDELINES FOR THE LIMITED OPERATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS. Pursuant to the IATF-EID Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for COVID-19 Response, these are the guidelines for the aforementioned establishments allowed limited operations during Alert Level 2:

- A. EMPLOYEES FULLY VACCINATED.** All workers/employees of the establishments listed under Section 5 of this Executive Order must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
- B. STRICT OBSERVANCE OF DOH MINIMUM PUBLIC HEALTH STANDARDS.** Department of Health Minimum Public Health Standards shall be strictly maintained at the establishment.
- C. OUTDOOR VENUE CAPACITY LIMIT.** All limited operation establishments shall be allowed up to 70% outdoor venue capacity to cater to individuals, regardless of vaccination status.
- D. INDOOR VENUE CAPACITY LIMIT TO CATER TO FULLY VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS AND MINORS.** All limited operation establishments shall be allowed up to 50% indoor venue capacity but must cater to the following individuals only:
 - 1. For 18 years old and above – Must be fully vaccinated
 - 2. For those below 18 years old – Allowed, even if unvaccinated
- E. INDOOR VENUE CAPACITY LIMIT TO CATER TO UNVACCINATED AND PARTIALLY VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS.** All limited operation establishments which cater to unvaccinated and partially vaccinated individuals shall be allowed up to 30% indoor venue capacity.
- F. NO OBJECTION FROM LGU WHERE ACTIVITIES MAY TAKE PLACE.** There must be no objection from the local government unit where the activities of these limited operation establishments will take place.

SECTION 9. CURFEW HOURS. The provisions of Executive Order No. 21-50, Series of 2021 entitled "An Executive Order Implementing the Curfew Hours to be Observed in the Province of Negros Occidental in Order to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19" shall be in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. MANDATORY REGISTRATION TO THE SAFE, SWIFT, AND SMART PASSAGE (SPaSS) AND STAYSAFE.PH APPLICATIONS. Executive Order No. 21-23, Series of 2021 entitled "An Executive Order Requiring the Mandatory Registration of All Travelers to the Province of Negros Occidental to the Safe, Swift, and Smart Passage (S-PaSS) Travel Management System, and All Individuals and Establishments to the StaySafe.ph Application as the Official Social Distancing, Health condition Reporting, and Contact Tracing Application System of the Province" shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 11. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION. For effective information dissemination, all LGUs shall serve copies and apprise all barangay officials of this Executive Order.

SECTION 12. SANCTIONS FOR NON-COMPLIANCE. All persons and/or establishments who do not comply with the provisions of this Executive Order, as well as the established health and safety protocols issued by the Department of Health, the IATF-EID, other agencies, and the Province of Negros Occidental, shall face appropriate administrative and/or criminal sanctions under existing laws and regulations.

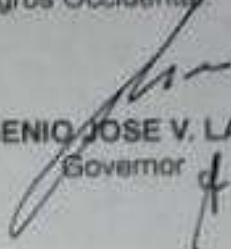
SECTION 13. REPEALING CLAUSE. All other executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended or modified accordingly.

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SECTION 14. AMENDMENTS. Any of the above provisions may be subject to amendments, pursuant to any issuances by the National IATF or as justified by other compelling circumstances.

SECTION 15. EFFECTIVITY – This Executive Order shall take effect at 12:00 am of January 1, 2022.

Issued this 31st day of December, 2021 at Bacolod City, Negros Occidental.


EUGENIO JOSE V. LACSON
Governor 