

TESDA CIRCULAR

Subject: Amended/Supplemental Guidelines for TVET under the New Normal Arrangements		Page 1 of 5 page/s Number 076, series of 2021
Date Issued: 16 September 2021	Effectivity: As Indicated	Supersedes:

Pursuant to the latest issuance of the Inter-Agency Taskforce for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) with regard to the Omnibus Guidelines on the Pilot Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response in the National Capital Region, the following additional guidelines under TESDA Circular No. 045, s. 2021 are hereby issued:

II. Definition of Terms

In order to provide a common frame of reference in understanding the key terminologies used in this circular, the following terms are hereby operationally defined and/or amended:

1. **COVID-19 Alert Levels System** – refers to the new Community Quarantine Classifications for dealing with COVID-19 covering entire cities and/or municipalities; aimed to manage and minimize the risk of the disease through System Indicators, Triggers and Thresholds determined by the IATF Sub-Technical Working Group on Data Analytics to specify the public health and social measures to be taken in relation to the COVID-19 response, as may be updated based on new scientific knowledge, information about the effectiveness of control measures in the country and overseas, and its application.
 - a. **Alert Level 1** – refers to areas wherein case transmission is low and decreasing, total bed utilization rate, and intensive care unit utilization rate is low.
 - b. **Alert Level 2** – refers to areas wherein case transmission is low and decreasing, healthcare utilization is low, or case counts are low but increasing, or case counts are low and decreasing but total bed utilization rate and intensive care unit utilization rate is increasing.
 - c. **Alert Level 3** – refers to areas wherein case counts are high and/or increasing, with total bed utilization rate and intensive care unit utilization rate at increasing utilization.
 - d. **Alert Level 4** – refers to areas wherein case counts are high and/or increasing, with total bed utilization rate and intensive care unit utilization rate at high utilization.
 - e. **Alert Level 5** – refers to areas wherein case counts are alarming, with total bed utilization rate and intensive care unit utilization rate at critical utilization.
2. **Granular Lockdown** – refers to a micro-level quarantine for areas identified as “critical zones” by the local government unit (LGU) which may be declared regardless of Alert Level.
3. **Minimum public health standards** – refers to the national, local, and sector-specific guidelines on mitigation measures for its COVID-19 response across all settings by implementing non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs), consistent with the Department of Health (DOH) Administrative Order No.



TESDA CIRCULAR

Subject: Amended/Supplemental Guidelines for TVET under the New Normal Arrangements		Page 2 of 5 page/s Number 076, series of 2021
Date Issued: 16 September 2021	Effectivity: As Indicated	Supersedes:

2021-0043 or the Omnibus Guidelines on the Minimum Public Health Standards for the Safe Reopening of Institutions. This term shall also encompass specific NPIs of community mitigation strategies or public health measures that do not involve vaccines, medications, or other pharmaceutical interventions, that individuals and communities can carry out in order to reduce transmission rates, contact rates, and the duration of infectiousness of individuals in the population.

III. Implementation Arrangements

Under the new classification framework, the community quarantine shall be reduced to either Enhanced Community Quarantine (Alert Level 5) or General Community Quarantine (Alert Level 1 to 4) for pilot areas.

The following programs and activities shall be allowed to be implemented/conducted based on the quarantine level or alert level of the area.

E. AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 5 AND/OR GRANULAR LOCKDOWNS.

E.1. Training

1. Online application through TESDA Mobile App and TESDA website;
2. Online enrolment;
3. Asynchronous eLearning programs such as TESDA Online Program or other open-source online/offline training courses
4. Full-online Learning;
5. Distance Learning;
6. On-Line component of the Blended Learning;
7. Online Processing of Program Registration application; and
8. Other TESDA services which may be delivered online, if applicable.

E.2. Assessment

1. Modes of Assessment allowed:
 - a. Virtual Assessment for qualifications covered with approved Operating Procedures (OP);
 - b. Portfolio Assessment for all qualifications pursuant to TESDA Circulars No. 047 s 2018, No. 118 s 2019 and No. 059 s. 2020;
2. Online processing of application for accreditation of Assessment Centers and Competency Assessor; and
3. Online application through the TESDA Mobile App and TESDA Website.

Accordingly, the conduct of face-to-face training and assessment shall be suspended in areas under Alert Level 5 and in areas under granular lockdown until the Alert Level 5/granular lockdown status has been lifted by the IATF-EID/DOH or the LGU.



TESDA CIRCULAR

Subject: Amended/Supplemental Guidelines for TVET under the New Normal Arrangements		Page 3 of 5 page/s Number <u>076</u> , series of 2021
Date Issued: 16 September 2021	Effectivity: As Indicated	Supersedes:

F. AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVELS 2,3, and 4

Except for those located in areas under granular lockdowns, the following activities shall be allowed:

F.1. Training

1. All training programs, except those qualifications that need human contact like the Massage Therapy, Hilot and other Beauty Care-related qualifications, will be allowed.
2. All training providers are strongly encouraged to adopt any of the flexible learning delivery modalities (e.g. blended learning, distance learning) in delivering the knowledge content of the training program.
3. Enterprise-Based Training, In-Plant or in-company part of the Dual Training System, OJT or Supervised Industry Learning with partner companies/establishments belonging to industry sectors which are allowed to operate based on the latest issuances of the IATF-EID and the DTI.
4. Face-to-face training may be conducted for up to 50% training site capacity. If the space and facilities shall allow, the standard maximum number of learners/candidates per training/assessment shall still apply as long as the physical distancing requirements are in place.

F.2. Assessment

1. Virtual Assessment for qualifications covered with approved Operating Procedures (OP).
2. Portfolio Assessment for all qualifications pursuant to TESDA Circulars No. 047 s 2018, No. 118 s 2019 and No. 059 s. 2020. All TESDA field units shall promote these modes of assessment to qualified individuals, Overseas Filipino Workers, industry associations and companies, in their respective areas. Applications for portfolio assessment can be submitted directly to the Certification Office or to the nearest TESDA field Offices.
3. Face-to-face competency assessment for programs related to the agriculture/fishery qualifications for food production and processing, health, construction, logistics, and all other critical TVET qualifications to support the government's response to the pandemic and those needed by OFWs (e.g. Domestic Work NC II, Housekeeping NC II to NC IV, Caregiving NC II, Ships Catering NC I & NC III) for up to 100% assessment site capacity.

TESDA CIRCULAR

Subject: Amended/Supplemental Guidelines for TVET under the New Normal Arrangements		Page 4 of 5 page/s Number 076, series of 2021
Date Issued: 16 September 2021	Effectivity: As Indicated	Supersedes:

4. Face-to-face competency assessment for all other TVET Qualifications shall be allowed for up to 50% assessment site capacity.
5. Qualifications that require team assessment without close body contact shall be allowed to be conducted through face-to-face assessment.
6. Qualifications that require close body such as Massage Therapy, Hilot Massage, and Beauty Care shall not be allowed.

G. AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 1:

Except for those located in areas under granular lockdowns, the following activities shall be allowed:

G.1. Training

1. All training programs, except those qualifications that need human contact like the Massage Therapy, Hilot and other Beauty Care-related qualifications, will be allowed.
2. All training providers are strongly encouraged to adopt any of the flexible learning delivery modalities (e.g. blended learning, distance learning) in delivering the knowledge content of the training program.
3. Enterprise-Based Training, In-Plant or in-company part of the Dual Training System, OJT or Supervised Industry Learning with partner companies/establishments belonging to industry sectors which are allowed to operate based on the latest issuances of the IATF-EID and the DTI.
4. Face-to-face training may be conducted for up to 100% training site capacity as long as the space and facilities shall allow and the physical distancing requirements are in place.

G.2. Assessment

1. Virtual assessment for qualifications covered with approved Operating Procedures (OP).
2. Portfolio Assessment for all qualifications pursuant to TESDA Circulars No. 047 s 2018, No. 118 s 2019 and No. 059 s 2020. All TESDA field units shall promote these modes of assessment to qualified individuals, Overseas Filipino Workers, industry associations and companies, in their respective areas. Applications



TESDA CIRCULAR

Subject: Amended/Supplemental Guidelines for TVET under the New Normal Arrangements		Page 5 of 5 page/s Number <u>076</u> , series of 2021
Date Issued: 16 September 2021	Effectivity: As Indicated	Supersedes:

for portfolio assessment can be submitted directly to the Certification Office or to the nearest TESDA Field Offices.

3. Face-to-face competency assessment for all TVET Qualifications shall be allowed for up to 100% assessment site capacity.
4. Qualifications that require close body contact such as the Massage Therapy, Hilot Massage, and Beauty Care shall not be allowed.

This Circular shall take effect immediately and shall amend any other issuances inconsistent therewith.


SEC. ISIDRO S. LAPEÑA, Ph.D., CSEE
Director General 