



Client Bulletin No. 29 (Updates on COVID-19 related PH Issuances):
GCQ over Metro Manila Again Extended until August 15, 2020

This is a briefing on the issuances as of August 1, 2020 on the following matters in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- A. General Community Quarantine (GCQ) over Metro Manila Again Extended until August 15, 2020
 - B. Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Allows More Business Establishments to Operate During GCQ from August 1, 2020
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A. General Community Quarantine (GCQ) over Metro Manila Again Extended until August 15, 2020

1. The period of General Community Quarantine (GCQ) in Metro Manila, which was already extended to July 31, 2020,¹ has again been extended until August 15, 2020.² The President announced on July 31 the extension of the GCQ period.³

Cebu City, which was under the stricter Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) from July 16 to July 31, 2020, is now also under GCQ until August 15, 2020.⁴

The table below sets out the types of community quarantine imposed on various areas of the country pursuant to the announcement of the President.⁵

¹ See our Client Bulletin No. 26 dated July 21, 2020 at <https://syciplawresources.com/2020/07/21/syciplaw-bulletin-25-gcq-over-metro-manila-is-further-extended-until-july-31-2020/>.

² *Duterte extends GCQ in Metro Manila to August 15* dated July 31, 2020; <https://rappler.com/nation/duterte-extends-gcq-metro-manila-august-15-2020>; last visited at 10:50 AM on August 1, 2020.

³ *Duterte extends GCQ in Metro Manila to August 15* dated July 31, 2020; <https://rappler.com/nation/duterte-extends-gcq-metro-manila-august-15-2020>; last visited at 10:50 AM on August 1, 2020.

⁴ *Metro Manila, Cebu City under GCQ – Duterte*; <https://rappler.com/nation/duterte-extends-gcq-metro-manila-august-15-2020>; last visited at 10:54 AM on August 1, 2020.

⁵ See also IATF Resolution No. 60-A dated July 30, 2020; <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/downloads/2020/07jul/20200730-IATF-RESOLUTION-NO-60-A.pdf>; last visited at 11:01 AM on August 1, 2020.

Type of Community Quarantine Imposed	Period	Areas Covered
General Community Quarantine (GCQ)	August 1 – 15, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luzon: Bulacan, Batangas, Metro Manila, Cavite, Laguna, Rizal • Visayas: Cebu City, Lapu-Lapu City, Mandaue City, Talisay, Minglanilla, Consolacion (Cebu) • Mindanao: Zamboanga City
Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ)	August 1 – 15, 2020	All other areas in the Philippines not mentioned above

2. For the GCQ and MGCQ guidelines, as well as, the list of establishments allowed to operate and their corresponding operational capacities, please refer to the relevant issuances of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) and the Department of Trade and Industry.⁶

B. Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Allows More Business Establishments to Operate During GCQ from August 1, 2020

1. DTI Memorandum Circular No. 20-44 (*Prescribing the Recategorization of Some Business Activities from Category IV to Category III, Additional Services Allowed for Barbershops and Salons, Adjustment of Operating Hours, and Amendment of the IATF Negative List*) dated July 31, 2020⁷ has been issued to recategorize some business establishments/ activities from Category IV to Category III, thereby allowing them to reopen with an up to thirty percent (30%) operational capacity at a GCQ area beginning August 1, 2020. This has been approved by the IATF in its Resolution No. 59 dated July 28, 2020.⁸
2. The following business establishments are now allowed to operate during GCQ from August 1, subject to compliance with mandatory minimum health standards protocols:
 - a. testing, tutorial, and review centers;
 - b. gyms, fitness centers, and sports facilities but limited to individual workouts only. Group workout sessions composed of two (2) or more persons (e.g. zumba, yoga, pilates, etc.) shall be strictly prohibited;
 - c. internet cafes;
 - d. dermatological clinics offering aesthetic procedures;
 - e. other personal care services (except full-body massage services);
 - f. pet grooming services; and
 - g. drive-in cinemas.

⁶ See our Client Bulletin No. 20 dated May 30, 2020 at <https://syciplawresources.com/2020/05/30/syciplaw-bulletin-20-metro-manila-under-gcq-from-june-1-courts-nationwide-resume-full-operations-on-june-1/>.

⁷ See DTI Memorandum Circular No. 20-44 dated July 31, 2020; <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/downloads/2020/07jul/20200731-MC-20-44-RRD.pdf>; last visited at 11:57 AM on August 1, 2020.

⁸ See IATF Resolution No. 59 dated July 28, 2020; <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/downloads/2020/07jul/20200728-IATF-RESOLUTION-NO-59.pdf>; last visited at 11:54 AM on August 1, 2020.

3. The DTI has also allowed certain establishments to operate for longer hours -- food and retail businesses can be open until 11:00 p.m. and food delivery services can do business until 1:00 a.m.
4. For the updated list of establishments allowed to operate and their corresponding operational capacities, please refer to *DTI Memorandum Circular No. 20-44* dated July 31, 2020 at <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/downloads/2020/07jul/20200731-MC-20-44-RRD.pdf>.

For more information regarding the issuances discussed above, please contact your account partner or sshg@syciplaw.com or info@syciplaw.com.

Other COVID-19 related bulletins

The links to our earlier bulletins can be found at the SyCipLaw information hub, <https://syciplawresources.com/>.

Please note that there are other COVID-19 related government issuances that are not covered by our bulletins. For more information about other regulations, please contact your account partner or sshg@syciplaw.com or info@syciplaw.com.

This bulletin contains a summary of the legal issuances discussed above. It was prepared by SyCip Salazar Hernandez & Gatmaitan (SyCipLaw) to update its clients about recent legal developments.

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Please check the official version of the issuances discussed in this bulletin. There may be other relevant legal issuances not mentioned in this bulletin, or there may be amendments or supplements to the legal issuances discussed here which are published after the circulation of this bulletin.

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