



PRESS RELEASE
08 December 2009

Health care workers need to pass licensing exam to practice in Saudi Arabia

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) reiterates its advisory to health care providers on the need to pass this examination and subsequently obtain their license from the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties before they can practice their profession in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,

During his recent visit to the Philippines, Dr. Ali Al-Qhatani, Deputy Minister of the Saudi Ministry of Health (MOH) reiterated the importance of this qualification requirement because of the continuing big demand for Filipino female nurses and other health specialists.

Doctors, nurses, medical technologists, dentists, pharmacists, surgeons, laboratory technicians, etc. who wish to work in Saudi Arabia are now required to pass the Saudi Licensing Examination in their respective specialty.

Administrator Jennifer J. Manalili said applicant-nurses and other health professionals should work on passing the said examination and obtain authentication of their documents even before they apply. They should also ensure their medical fitness to qualify.

All interested applicants for the Saudi licensing examination can register online at <http://www.prometric.com> for an appointment date for testing or log on to <http://eng.scfhs.org> or at the POEA website (www.poea.gov.ph) for further information or guidance.

When registering for the test, one must have an email address and enter the number and issuing country of either a valid passport or driver's license. Applicants can take the examination in two (2) specific testing centers authorized to administer the same in the Philippines, which are located in the cities of Makati and Cebu. The test can be taken three (3) times in one calendar year and four (4) time slots of the examination are available every Tuesday to Friday.

It is a computer-based examination with 70 questions in multiple choice format to be answered within two (2) hours, after which, a Score Report indicating whether the examinee has passed or failed the examination will be immediately received. Payment of US\$90 through international credit card (American Express, MasterCard or Visa) is due at the time of scheduling.