



**Philippine
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NEWS RELEASE
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POEA DEPLOYS SECOND BATCH OF NURSES, CAREGIVERS TO JAPAN

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) announced today the deployment to Japan of 118 selected health workers on May 9.

The current batch of 46 nurses and 72 caregivers forms part of Philippine deployment to Japan under the Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement (JPEPA) Implementing Agreement on the Movement of Natural Persons, which was signed by the two countries in 2009. The first batch of 283 nurses and caregivers left for Japan in May 2009.

POEA Administrator Jennifer Jardin-Manalili said that the screening for this year's batch of health workers under the program was more rigorous to ensure an excellent and well prepared corps of candidates. The health workers have undergone a thorough pre-departure orientation seminar and will also be given a pre-flight briefing. Upon arrival in Japan, the nurses and caregivers will undergo intensive Japanese cultural and language training for six months, after which they will start working in their respective health care institutions.

Manalili further informed that the POEA plans to discuss with its Japanese counterpart agency its proposal that the six-month long Japanese culture and language training be conducted in the Philippines to give the next batch of health workers time with their families while undergoing the training.