

NEWS ADVISORY  
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## Travel agencies, immigration consultants not allowed to recruit overseas workers

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration warned job applicants anew to avoid travel agencies and immigration consultants that lure clients to avail of their services by promising them work overseas.

Under Republic Act No. 8042 as amended by Republic Act No. 10022, offering overseas employment in the guise of visa assistance without the necessary license or authority from the POEA constitutes illegal recruitment.

Job seekers need not gamble their hard-earned money by engaging the services of these agents. Some travel agencies and consultants charge their clients thousands of dollars for supposed working visas in countries such as the United States of America, United Kingdom, New Zealand, Australia, and Canada.

Some travel agencies include in their tour packages “the opportunity to hunt for jobs” in the course of their travel abroad. Others are more blatant, directly offering “overseas jobs” to clients.

Travel and immigration consultancy agencies, if found illegally recruiting overseas Filipino workers, would be closed down and the owners prosecuted.

On the other hand, job applicants should always make sure they are dealing with a legitimate recruiter with job orders approved by the POEA. /END