

NEWS RELEASE

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POEA allows withdrawal of additional escrow on dismissed cases

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) has allowed recruitment agencies with dismissed recruitment violation cases to withdraw part of their additional escrow deposit as a respite from financial burden and constraints in their operation due to COVID-19 pandemic.

The POEA Governing Board has previously allowed licensed recruitment and manning agencies which already posted additional escrow deposit to withdraw the same upon posting of a surety bond for two (2) years equivalent to the amount of additional escrow deposit requested to be withdrawn and upon compliance with other requirements.

In Memorandum Circular No. 26, Series of 2020, the POEA included recruitment agencies with eventually dismissed recruitment violation cases, along with agencies with no pending recruitment violations as of March 2020, to withdraw the additional escrow deposit.

Qualified recruitment agencies must submit all the necessary documents including a Request Letter to partially withdraw the additional escrow deposit for eventually dismissed recruitment violation cases, a Bank Certificate indicating the total amount of escrow deposit; and a Certification from the POEA Adjudication Office including the agency's track record.

Also required are a Board Resolution or Partnership Resolution indicating the name of the person authorized to receive the check of escrow deposit to be partially withdrawn.

All the above-mentioned documents must be submitted to POEA Licensing Branch, through the email address evaluation.licensing@poea.gov.ph for evaluation, review, and approval of the Administrator.

The POEA Governing Board suspended for two years the implementation of additional escrow deposit requirement and the withdrawal of part of it to provide reasonable financial relief to the recruitment agencies and in recognition of their assistance to OFWs affected by the pandemic. ###