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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Exemptions on travel restrictions to Australia**

The government of Australia only allows entry to its citizens, residents and their family members, and diplomatic and UN passport holders, as part of its strict border control and preventive measures against the pandemic COVID-19, but may also allow entry to individuals in critical sectors.

In particular, the Commissioner of the Australian Border Force, may grant exemption to individuals, including Filipino workers in critical sectors or with critical skills in different identified qualifications.

As such, individuals who are providing critical or specialist medical services, including air ambulance, medical evacuations and delivering critical medical supplies, as well as individuals with critical skills in the supply of essential goods and services (such as in medical technology, critical infrastructure, telecommunications, engineering and mining, supply chain logistics, agricultural technology, food production, and the maritime industry), may be allowed to travel to Australia.

Also, individuals in the delivering services in sectors critical to Australia's economic recovery (such as financial technology, large scale manufacturing, film and television production and emerging technology), where no Australian worker is available, can be exempted to the imposed travel restrictions.

Permission to entry Australia may be also granted to individuals who are travelling at the invitation of the Australian Government or a state or territory government authority for the purpose of assisting in the COVID-19 response.

To request for a travel exemption under the said category or business, an individual can submit on their behalf, which should be made for at least four weeks, but not more than three months prior to the planned travel. ###