

NEWS RELEASE

October 22, 2020

POEA issues guidelines on unemployment insurance certification for qualified OFWs

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) has released its guidelines on the issuance of certification for displaced overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) who wish to apply for unemployment insurance of the Social Security System (SSS).

The said certificate is a requirement for the application for involuntary separation benefit by qualified overseas Filipino workers.

In the POEA Memorandum Circular No. 24, Series of 2020, all qualified OFWs may file their application for certification at the POEA Central Office and any POEA office and One-Stop Service Center for OFWs (OSSCO) in the provinces.

The POEA Welfare and Employment Office will also serve as the central coordinating, monitoring, and supervising unit for the issuance of the certification.

Applicants must bring one valid identification card; and a copy of the notice of termination issued by the employer, or if not available a duly notarized affidavit of termination of employment.

The application forms for qualified OFWs can be accessed at <http://poea.gov.ph/memorandumcirculars/2020/MC-24-2020.pdf>.

To qualify for the grant of unemployment benefit, the OFW must not be over 60 years old and has paid at least 36 months contribution to SSS.

The OFW must have been involuntarily separated due to economic downturn, natural or human-induced calamities/disasters, and authorized causes of termination due to installation of labor-saving devices, redundancy, retrenchment, and closure of operations and other analogous cases as determined by DOLE.

The issued guidelines are in line with the DOLE Circular No. 01, Series of 2019, and pursuant to the Social Security Act of 2018. ###