



News Release

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POEA warns OFWs on loans offered by recruitment agencies

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) has warned Filipino overseas job applicants not to fall for any exclusive loan arrangements made by their preferred licensed recruitment agencies.

According to Administrator Bernard P. Olalia, the POEA has received reports about agencies who facilitate exclusive credit and loan arrangements for OFW applicants, in the pretext of offering assistance on their overseas employment.

Some recruitment agencies also arrange exclusive training and pre-employment medical examinations at designated training institutions and clinics, of which costs are charged to the workers.

Olalia reiterated that exclusive arrangements made by agencies on loans, and any training or medical examinations with excessive costs to OFWs are clear violations of the Migrant Workers Act or the Republic Act 10022, and 2016 Revised POEA Rules and Regulations.

Violation of recruitment rules and regulations is ground for administrative sanctions and penalties for the erring licensed and manning agencies.

The POEA encourages OFW applicants who have been victimized by these unethical practices to report to the POEA for investigation and filing of appropriate cases.

OFW applicants and overseas job seekers are also urged to visit the POEA website at www.poea.gov.ph, and in the POEA Anti Illegal Recruitment Branch Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/airbranch for the necessary information on avoiding recruitment scams. ###