



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Eastern Samar

Office of the Provincial Governor

2nd Flr., Capitol Bldg., Brgy. Alang-alang, Borongan City

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. BPE 05-028, SERIES OF 2020

**AN EXECUTIVE ORDER EXTENDING THE GENERAL COMMUNITY
QUARANTINE IN EASTERN SAMAR**

WHEREAS, Section 16 of the Local Government Code of the Philippines mandates local government units to exercise powers necessary, appropriate or incidental for the promotion of general welfare, health and safety of their inhabitants;

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Presidential Proclamation No. 929 declaring a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines due to the COVID-19 Pandemic;

WHEREAS, Presidential Proclamation 929 enjoins Local Government Units to render full assistance and cooperation and mobilize necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent, appropriate response and measures in a timely manner to curtail and eliminate the threat of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 continue to rise throughout the country including provinces adjacent to Eastern Samar;

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that there will be an influx of Estehanons coming from Metro Manila to the province once the Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon is lifted;

WHEREAS, the Provincial Health Office and the Inter-Agency Task Force recommend the extension of the General Community Quarantine (GCQ) in the province in order to fully suppress the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic in our territorial jurisdiction;

NOW THEREFORE, I BEN P. EVARDONE, Governor of the Province of Eastern Samar, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

Section 1. General Community Quarantine - The entire Province of Eastern Samar is hereby placed under General Community Quarantine until 31 May 2020.

Section 2. Mandatory Quarantine - All persons coming to Eastern Samar from places with confirmed cases of COVID-19 shall undergo a health check upon entry and a mandatory quarantine for a period of 14 days. This shall be implemented and monitored by their respective municipalities or city.

Section 3. Minimum public health standards - the following minimum public health standards shall be complied with at all times for the duration of the GCQ:

- A. Mandatory wearing of face masks in public areas
- B. Social distancing
- C. Proper hygiene (frequent hand-washing, proper respiratory etiquette)
- D. The movement of all persons in areas placed under GCQ shall be limited to accessing essential goods and services and for work in the offices or industries permitted to operate hereunder. Provided, that movement for leisure purposes shall not be allowed.

Section 4. Restriction in movement of minors, senior citizens and other vulnerable groups - The following are required to remain in their residences at all times:

- i. Any person below 21 years old
- ii. Those who are 60 years old and above
- iii. Those with immunodeficiency, comorbidities, or other health risks
- iv. Pregnant women
- v. Any person who resides with the aforementioned

EXCEPT when indispensable under the circumstances for obtaining essential goods and services, for work in industries and offices, for individual exercise, or such other permitted activities.

Section 5. Resumption of work in government offices - Work in government offices may be at full operational capacity, or under such alternative work arrangements as agencies may deem appropriate in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). Provided that for offices requiring employees to report physically, commissioned shuttle services as well as point-to-point transport services may be provided.

Accredited diplomatic missions and international organizations may operate at fifty (50%) capacity. Alternative work arrangements such as flexible work arrangements, compressed work-week, and telecommuting are strongly encouraged.

Section 6. Regulation of business activities - Offices, establishments or individuals are allowed to operate or work under the following conditions provided that there be alternative working arrangements for all persons who are sixty (60) years old and above, those with immunodeficiency, comorbidities, or other health risks, and pregnant women.

- A. The following industries may resume maximum (100%) operational capacity:
 - 1. Power, energy, water, and other utilities
 - 2. Agriculture, fishery, and forestry industries
 - 3. Food manufacturing and food supply chain businesses, including food retail establishments such as supermarkets, grocery stores, and

- food preparation establishments insofar as take out and delivery services, food delivery services
 - 4. Health-related establishments
 - 5. Logistics sector
 - 6. Information and telecommunication companies
 - 7. Media
- B. The following industries may operate at anywhere between fifty percent up to full operational capacity (50-100%), without prejudice to work-from-home and other alternative work arrangements,
- 1. Mining and other manufacturing
 - 2. Electronic commerce companies
 - 3. Delivery, repair and maintenance
 - 4. Housing and office services
- C. The following industries may operate at 50% work-on-site arrangement, and without prejudice to work-from-home and other alternative work arrangements:
- 1. Financial services
 - 2. Legal accounting
 - 3. Auditing services
 - 4. Professional, scientific, technical and other non-leisure services
 - 5. Other non-leisure wholesale and retail establishments
- D. The following establishments shall not be permitted to operate
- 1. Amusement, gaming, gambling and betting
 - 2. Fitness establishments
 - 3. Business related mass gatherings including trade shows, conferences, conventions, workshops, retreats
 - 4. Politically related mass gatherings including election rallies, parades, polling centers
 - 5. Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities
 - 6. Kid industries
 - 7. Travel agency, tour operator

Section 7. Regulated operation of Malls - The operation of malls are regulated as follows:

- A. Limited operation in malls and shopping centers shall be allowed, except for leisure establishments and services which shall continue to be closed
- B. The mall must impose the following measures:
 - 1. Minors and senior citizens may not enter malls except when indispensable under the circumstances for obtaining essential goods and services or for work in establishments located therein;
 - 2. Mandatory temperature check
 - 3. Mandatory wearing of masks (improvised masks will suffice)
 - 4. Mandatory alcohol use
 - 5. Limit the number of people inside the mall
 - 6. Mall operators must provide masks and gloves to their employees

Section 8. Regulated operation of hotels – No hotels or similar establishments shall be allowed to operate, except those accommodating the following:

- A. Guests who have existing booking accommodation for foreigners as of May 1, 2020;
- B. Guests who have existing long-term bookings;
- C. Distressed Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and stranded Filipinos or *foreign nationals*;
- D. Repatriated OFWs in compliance with approved quarantine protocols;
- E. Non-OFWs who may be required to undergo mandatory facility-based quarantine; and
- F. Healthcare workers and other employees from exempted establishments under these Omnibus Guidelines and applicable Memoranda from the Executive Secretary.

Except that in all of the foregoing, hotel operations shall be limited to the provision of basic lodging to guests.

Section 9. Resumption of face-to-face classes – Residential or face-to-face classes shall be suspended for the duration of the GCQ. For academic year 2020-2021, the following shall be observed for the conduct of classes:

- A. For basic education, the Basic Education Learning Continuity plan of the Department of Education is adopted as follows:
 - 1. Opening of classes for basic education shall be on 24 August 2020 and shall end on 30 April 2021;
 - 2. Opening of private schools will be allowed within the period provided by law. Provided that school learning continuity plan shall be submitted; no face-to-face classes will be allowed earlier than 24 August 2020; and from 24 August, face-to-face learning shall only be allowed when the local risk severity grading permits, and subject to compliance with minimum health standards;
 - 3. Adoption of various learning delivery options such as, but not limited to face-to-face, blended learning, distance learning, and homeschooling and other modes of delivery shall be implemented depending on the local COVID Risk Severity Classification and compliance with minimum health standards;
 - 4. Conduct of curricular and co-curricular activities involving gatherings such as fairs, trade fairs, school sports, campus journalism, festival of talents, job fairs and other similar activities is cancelled, except those conducted online.
- B. For Higher education, the recommendations of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) are hereby adopted as follows:
 - 1. The rolling opening of classes will be based on education delivery mode, with compliance with minimum health standards and the situation on the ground:

- i. Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) using full online education can open anytime;
 - ii. HEIs using flexible learning can open anytime in August 2020;
 - iii. HEIs using significant residential (face-to-face) mode can open not earlier than 01 September 2020.
 - iv. No face-to-face classes until 31 August 2020.
2. Private HEIs are encouraged to change their academic calendar and open in August 2020.

Section 10. Prohibition on mass gatherings - Mass gatherings that are unauthorized, non-work essential or entertainment-related - such as movie screenings, concerts, and sporting events - are prohibited.

While adhering to the prescribed minimum health standards, religious gatherings are not encouraged but in any case should be not more than ten (10) persons.

Section 11. Allowed outdoor activities - Individual outdoor exercise such as outdoor walks, jogging, running or biking are allowed within GCQ areas provided that minimum health standards and precautions such as wearing of masks and maintenance of social distancing protocols are observed.

The following persons may go outdoors for the purpose of individual exercise:

- i. Persons below 21 years old
- ii. Those who are 60 years old and above
- iii. Those with immunodeficiency, comorbidities, or other health risks
- iv. Pregnant women
- v. Those who reside with the aforementioned

Section 12. Resumption of public transportation - The road, rail, maritime, and aviation sectors of public transportation shall be allowed to operate at the capacity in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Transportation (DOTr). *Provided*, that in all public transports, a strict one (1) meter distance between passengers shall be observed and appropriate engineering controls are in place.

In accordance with DOTr guidelines, the following limits to passenger capacity shall be imposed:

- A. Public Utility Buses - 50% of vehicle's capacity (maximum) excluding driver and conductor; passengers seated one seat apart with no standing passengers
- B. Public Utility Jeepneys - 50% of vehicle's capacity (maximum) excluding driver and conductor; passengers seated one seat apart with no standing passengers; only one (1) passenger on the driver's row (if no conductor)
- C. UV Express - Maximum of two (2) passengers per row; only one (1) passenger allowed on the driver's row

- D. Shuttle service - 50% of vehicle's capacity (maximum) excluding driver and conductor; only one (1) passenger on the driver's row (if no conductor)
- E. Tricycles - Maximum of one (1) passenger in the side-car; no passenger shall be seated right beside/behind the driver

Section 13. Resumption of public and private construction projects - All public and private construction projects shall be allowed, but with strict compliance to the issued construction safety guidelines for the implementation of infrastructure projects during the COVID-19 pandemic by the Department of Public Works and Highways.

Section 14. Separability - In any event that any provision of this Order or any part hereof is declared invalid, contrary to law, or unconstitutional, the provisions not thereby affected shall remain in force and effect.

Section 15. Repeal - All other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 16. Effectivity - This Order shall take effect immediately.

SO ORDERED.

DONE this 15th day of May 2020 in Borongan City, Eastern Samar.


BEN P. EVARDONE
Governor