

**Guidelines on the Availment of Awards and Incentives for
Overseas Filipino Centenarians under R.A. 10868
and its Implementing Rules and Regulations
(An Act Honoring and Granting Additional Benefits and Privileges to Filipino
Centenarians, and For Other Purposes)**

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide guidelines on the availment of awards and incentives for Filipino citizens residing abroad, who have reached one hundred (100) years of age (otherwise known as a *centenarian*) pursuant to the provisions and implementing rules and regulations of Republic Act 10868 or An Act Honoring and Granting Additional Benefits and Privileges to Filipino Centenarians, and For Other Purposes.
- 1.2 To ensure uniform interpretation and implementation of the benefits for Overseas Filipino centenarians and ensure the availment of the same ultimately upholds the objectives of the law.

2.0 Definition of Terms

- 2.1 **Cash incentive** – the amount to be awarded by the city or municipality to the centenarian as additional benefit to be determined by the concerned LGU, coursed through the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the Department of Foreign Affairs through its Embassies and Consulates.
- 2.2 **Centenarians** – All natural born Filipinos, who have reached one hundred (100) years old and above, whether residing in the Philippines or abroad.
- 2.3 **Centenarian Gift** – the amount of Php 100,000 cash benefit to the centenarian as a gift from the national government.
- 2.4 **Dual Citizens** – natural born Filipinos permanently residing overseas and as a result of the latter's laws enables them to have concurrent Philippine and foreign citizenship.
- 2.5 **Identification Document** – refers to any document or proof of being a centenarian that may be used as basis for the availment of the above-mentioned awards and incentives.
- 2.6 **National Respect for Centenarians Day** – the annual commemoration of centenarian day to be celebrated every first Sunday of October as part of the annual celebration of the Elderly Filipino Week (EFW) from October 1 to 7.

- 2.7 **Natural-born citizens** – Natural-born citizens of the Philippines are those who are citizens of the Philippines from birth without having to perform any act to acquire or perfect their Philippine citizenship.
- 2.8 **Nearest Surviving Relative** – refers to the closest person related to the deceased centenarian by blood or affinity.
- 2.9 **Overseas Filipinos** – All natural born Filipinos living and/or working outside the country; including those that have acquired another citizenship and later reacquired Philippine citizenship under RA 9225.
- 2.10 **Letter of felicitation** – a letter from the President of the Philippines congratulating the celebrant on his or her longevity.
- 2.11 **Overseas Filipino Centenarians** – All natural born Filipinos living and/or working outside the country who have reached one hundred (100) years old and above.
- 2.12 **Plaque of recognition** – an award granted to a living overseas centenarian from the city or municipality in the Philippines where he or she had last resided, given through the Philippine Embassy or Philippine Consulate that has jurisdiction over the former.
- 2.13 **Post** – all Philippine embassies, missions, consulates general and other foreign service establishments maintained by the Department of Foreign Affairs.
- 2.14 **Posthumous plaque of recognition** – an award given to a deceased centenarian presented to his nearest surviving relative from the national government through the Philippine Embassy or Philippine Consulate.

3.0 Coverage

All overseas Filipino citizens (natural-born or with reacquired citizenship) who have reached one hundred years old and above from the time the law was enacted, still residing abroad.

4.0 Awards and Incentives

- 4.1 **National Government.** A centenarian shall receive the following awards and incentives from the national government through the Philippine posts
 - 4.1.1 **Letter of Felicitation** – a Letter of Felicitation signed by the President of the Philippines shall be given to the living centenarian.
 - 4.1.2. **Centenarian Gift-** in addition to the Letter of Felicitation, a one time cash award of Php 100,000.00 shall be given only to the living centenarian in recognition of his or her longevity. The

amount of Php 100,000.00 for each centenarian shall be taken from the available funds of the DSWD as included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

4.1.3 **Posthumous Plaque of Recognition-** shall be awarded to the deceased centenarian by the DSWD to be received by the centenarian's nearest surviving relative. They are not eligible to receive the centenarian gift.

4.2 **Local Government.** A living centenarian may also receive the following awards and incentives coursed through the Philippine post from the city or municipality in the Philippines where he or she resided the longest prior to emigration.

4.2.1. **Plaque of recognition**– In addition to the Letter of Felicitation, a Plaque of Recognition shall also be given to the centenarian acknowledging his or her long life.

4.2.2. **Cash Incentive** – Together with the Plaque of Recognition, the city and municipality shall also grant the centenarian a cash incentive in an amount to be determined by the LGU. Due consideration may be given to any local ordinance passed earlier granting a similar cash incentive for centenarians.

4.3 The awards and incentives (both local and national) will only be given once.

5.0 Documentary Requirements

5.1 The centenarian shall submit one (1) duly accomplished application form and present any one (1) of the following primary documentation to prove his / her entitlement:

5.1.1 Authenticated Birth Certificate

5.2.2 Unexpired Philippine Passport.

5.2 In the absence of the above-mentioned primary IDs: any two (2) of the following secondary documents may also be accepted:

5.2.1 Marriage Certificate of the centenarian issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) or Philippine Embassy

5.2.2 Birth Certificates of children borne by/of the centenarian

5.2.3 Affidavits executed by at least two (2) disinterested persons with personal knowledge of centenarian's actual age or date of birth

5.2.4 Old School or Employment records showing date of birth of centenarian

- 5.2.5 Baptismal and/or Confirmation records of centenarian
 - 5.2.6 Overseas voting card or affidavit
 - 5.2.7 Foreign driver's license
 - 5.2.8 Medical or health card
 - 5.2.9 Any other valid identification documents recognized in the country of residence indicating the year of birth as a reference point for the centenarian's eligibility for the awards and incentives.
- 5.3 If a representative will file the application in behalf of the centenarian, he/she is required to present the following documents in addition to the usual required documents:
- 5.3.1 Letter of authorization from the centenarian or if not applicable, medical certificate for bedridden overseas centenarians; and
 - 5.3.2 Original valid identification card with photograph of the proxy.
- 5.4 In case of the nearest surviving relative claiming in behalf of the deceased centenarian, he/she shall submit the following:
- 5.4.1 one (1) duly accomplished application form
 - 5.4.2 death certificate of Centenarian (and photocopy)
 - 5.4.3 valid Identification card (and photocopy) of nearest surviving relative
 - 5.4.4 proof of relationship with posthumous centenarian, such as pictures which are to be evaluated or in the absence of which, affidavits executed by at least two (2) disinterested persons with personal knowledge of nearest surviving relative's relationship with the posthumous centenarian

6.0 Rules on the filing of nominations

- 6.1 Nominations must be made on the prescribed form (see Form 1) and submitted together with the required supporting documents. All submissions must be legibly written in, or translated into English or Filipino.

The Nomination Form must be completed and should accordingly include all required information.

- 6.2 Applications should be submitted personally or via mail/courier through the Philippine Embassy or Consulate with jurisdiction in the country/area.
- 6.3 The Post shall review all nominations, verify compliance with the required documentation, request for additional documents (if needed) and endorse nomination documents to the Commission on Filipinos Overseas.
- 6.4 The Commission on Filipinos Overseas shall evaluate all applications received from the Posts; compile a folio of qualified applicants and endorse it to the Department of Social Welfare and Development for evaluation.
- 6.5 The Department of Social Welfare and Development shall review and evaluate the qualified applicants as submitted by the CFO. After deliberation, it shall commence with the processing of the national awards and incentives due the centenarian.
- 6.6 The DSWD shall coordinate with the Department of Foreign Affairs for the transmittal of Felicitation Letter and Cash Gift from the national government. In the case of deceased centenarians, a Posthumous Plaque of Recognition will only be sent.
- 6.7. The DSWD shall also endorse the list of qualified centenarians to their respective local government unit for processing of local awards and incentives.
- 6.8 The concerned city or municipality shall coordinate with the Department of Foreign Affairs for the transmittal of Plaque of Recognition and Cash Incentive from the local governments.
- 6.9 The DFA shall facilitate, at no cost, the transmittal of both national and local awards and incentives to the Centenarian, or his or her nearest surviving relative, residing within the jurisdiction of the Post.

Posts shall be in charge of awarding both the national and local awards and incentives and may mount a simple celebration to mark the occasion. Posts are also enjoined to publish or report such accomplishments.