



Republic of the Philippines  
Professional Regulation Commission  
Manila



RESOLUTION No. 2019-1178  
Series of 2019

**REVISED GUIDELINES ON THE SUSPENSION OR CANCELLATION OF  
LICENSURE EXAMINATION DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER AND OTHER  
UNEXPECTED DISASTERS**

**WHEREAS**, Section 7 (d) of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 8981 empowers the Commission to administer and conduct the licensure examinations of the various professional regulatory boards (PRBs) in accordance with the rules and regulations it may promulgate by the Commission.

**WHEREAS**, the Commission is likewise mandated in Section 7(d) of R.A. No. 8981 to determine and fix the places and dates of examinations;

**WHEREAS**, the increasing frequency and incidents of weather disturbances, particularly typhoons/storms, earthquakes, fire and other unforeseeable disasters present a continuing concern to the Commission and the PRBs as it may cause the suspension or cancellation of board licensure examinations resulting to the amendment of the Master Schedule of Examinations;

**WHEREAS**, the safety of PRB members, examinees, PRC examination personnel and other voluntary examination proctors and watchers during the above situations is also a primordial consideration of the Commission and thus, suspension and cancellation of the conduct of examination shall be inevitable;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission issued Resolution No. 2014-864 dated August 13, 2014 to prescribe guidelines on the conduct or cancellation of licensure examinations during inclement weather, specifically during storm signals number 1, 2 and 3 as declared by the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAG-ASA);

**WHEREAS**, in order to provide a systematic procedure in the suspension or cancellation of licensure examination during the above mentioned circumstances and to avoid any conflict of schedules and other adverse or inimical consequences to the overall conduct of licensure examination, there is a need for the Commission to come up with a comprehensive guideline;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Commission **RESOLVES** to prescribe the following:

**I. GENERAL GUIDELINES**

No Licensure Examination for all professions shall be cancelled except on the grounds provided in this guideline following the procedures prescribed herein.

**II. SPECIFIC GUIDELINES**

**A. Grounds for Cancellation/Suspension**

The following conditions shall be a ground for the cancellation/suspension of a licensure examination.

**A.1 Weather Related Conditions**

**1. TYPHOONS**

**1.1 Storm Signal No. 4**

- 1.1.1 **Automatic Cancellation/Suspension of Licensure Examination.**  
A declaration of storm signal No. 4 by the PAG-ASA will result in

the automatic cancellation of a licensure examination without need of a Commission and/or PRB resolution or decision.

- 1.1.2 **Posting of Announcement.** The Director of the Licensure Office or in his/her absence, the Chief of the Licensure Division, shall immediately cause the posting of an announcement on the PRC website through the PRC Public Information and Media Relation Unit (PIMRU) and Information and Communication Technology Service (ICTS), not later than 7 pm of the day prior to the examination.

## **1.2 Storm Warning Signals No.1, 2 and 3**

**1.2.1 General Rule.** - The declaration of Storm Signal No. 1, 2 or 3 by the PAGASA shall NOT cause the cancellation/suspension of a licensure examination.

**1.2.2 Exception.** - Where such weather disturbance results in widespread flooding and destruction which the Commission, in consultation with the proper authorities such as PAG-ASA and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), the PRB and the Director/Officer-in-Charge/Coordinator of the affected PRC Regional or offsite/satellite office, has determined to pose imminent danger to examinees, PRB members and examination personnel, the Commission may order the cancellation/suspension of the examination.

**1.2.3 Announcement of Cancellation/Suspension of Examination.** – An announcement on the cancellation of an examination shall be posted on the PRC website through the PIMRU and ICTS, at the earliest possible time of the day prior to the schedule of the licensure examination. Earnest efforts shall also be undertaken to issue an announcement on the cancellation of the examination through the PRC social media accounts or other media outlets.

## **2. SEVERE FLOODING**

**2.1 Automatic Cancellation/Suspension of Licensure Examination.** During severe flooding, the licensure examination shall be automatically cancelled within the affected testing venue.

**2.2 Posting of Announcement.** The Director of the Licensure Office or in his/her absence, the Chief of the Licensure Division, shall immediately cause the posting of an announcement on the PRC website through the PIMRU and ICTS at the earliest possible time. Earnest efforts shall also be undertaken to issue an announcement on the cancellation of the examination through the PRC social media accounts or other media outlets.

## **A.2 Non-Weather Related Conditions**

### **1. FIRE OUTBREAKS**

**1.1 Automatic Suspension of Licensure Examination.** During fire outbreaks, the licensure examination shall be automatically cancelled within the affected testing venue. The Director/Officer-in-Charge or Coordinator and the designated Building Supervisor of the affected area or testing center shall closely coordinate with proper authorities and concerned government entities on the safe and orderly evacuation of the examination personnel and examinees.



- 1.2 **Transfer of Testing Center.** The designated Building Supervisor and Examination Coordinators shall make recommendations as to the possible transfer of the affected examinees to another testing center/venue if available on the same day.
- 1.3 **Time Extension.** Upon transfer, the concerned examinees shall be given an extended time for their examination per subject equivalent to the lost time from interruption to resumption of the conduct of examination.
- 1.4 **Examination Materials and Answer Sheets.** All Room Watchers/Proctors shall be responsible for the collection of the examination test booklets and answer sheets of the examinees for turnover to the Floor Supervisors.

## 2. EARTHQUAKES

- 2.1 ***Automatic Cancellation/Suspension of Licensure Examination.*** During devastating earthquakes, the licensure examination shall be automatically suspended within the affected testing venue.
- 2.2 ***Responsibility of Examination Personnel.*** All room watchers and proctors shall be responsible in advising the examinees to stay calm and to observe the "duck, cover and hold" maneuver during the progress of the earthquake.

The Director/Officer-in-Charge or Coordinator of the affected testing venue shall assess the situation and coordinate it with the proper authorities such as the NDRRMC and the PRC Emergency Response Team (PRC-ERT). The PRC-ERT shall have the following functions:

- 2.2.1 Determine the necessity of a complete evacuation and/or cancellation/suspension of the examination.
- 2.2.2 Assess the magnitude of destruction and disturbances that affect the condition and surroundings of the testing venue, upon coordination with proper authorities.
- 2.2.3 Evaluate and coordinate with the Director/Officer-in-Charge or Coordinator of the affected testing venue if a resumption of the licensure examination is possible. If so, the examination shall continue; provided, no examinees have left the examination premises and that all test materials including Identification and Answer sheets are intact and safeguarded.
- 2.3 **Time Extension.** Upon resumption of examination, the concerned examinees shall be given an extended time for their examination per subject equivalent to the lost time from interruption to resumption of the conduct of examination.
- 2.4 ***Posting of Announcement.*** In cases where resumption of examination is no longer feasible, as may be determined under item 2.2.2, the Director of the Licensure Office or in his/her absence, the Chief of the Licensure Division, shall immediately cause the posting of an announcement on the PRC website through the PIMRU and ICTS at the earliest possible time. Earnest efforts shall also be undertaken to issue an announcement on the cancellation/suspension of the examination through the PRC social media accounts or other media outlets.

**B. Fixing of New Date/s of Examination**

Within two (2) days from the cancellation of the licensure examination, the Director of the Licensure Office or the Chief of the Licensure Division, as the case may be, shall meet with the PRB concerned to determine the new date/s of the examination. The Director or Division Chief shall thereafter report for clearance of the date/s so determined to the Oversight Commissioner of the PRB concerned who shall, in turn, make his/her endorsement to other members of the Commission.

The new date/s of the licensure examination as approved by the Commission shall be embodied in a resolution. The same shall also be announced by means of radio and/or television, the PRC website and other PRC social media/network accounts not later than three (3) days before the conduct of the examination.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all concerned shall observe strict and immediate implementation of this Resolution;

**FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately from the date of its docketing and shall supersede previous issuances that are inconsistent herewith.

Done in the City of Manila this 17th day of July 2019.



**TEOFILO S. PILANDO, JR.**  
Chairman



**YOLANDA D. REYES**  
Commissioner



**JOSE Y. CUETO, JR.**  
Commissioner