

PRESSS RELEASE

P100K Cash Incentive Now Available for Filipino Centenarians Living Abroad



*President Duterte with a Filipino Centenarian during the signing of the Centenarian Act's IRR on September 26, 2016.
Photo credit to KrizJohn Rosales*

Good News for all Filipino Centenarians (100 years old and up) living overseas– you may now apply for your cash incentive worth Php 100,000 from the Philippine government at the nearest Philippine Embassy or Consulate.

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) recently approved on March 9, 2017 the Availment of Awards and Incentives for Overseas Filipino Centenarians Guidelines, after the passage of Republic Act 10868 or the Centenarian Act of 2016. The guidelines was drafted by the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO), which serves as the focal agency in charge with coordination with centenarian applicants based abroad.

Qualified applicants may fill up the application form and submit the required documents, such as proof of identification to the nearest Philippine Embassy or Consulate. The Post shall then coordinate with CFO, who will communicate with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and DFA in order to facilitate, at no cost, the transmittal of both national and local awards and incentives to the respective Posts.

The Posts will be in charge of awarding both the national and local awards and incentives and may mount a simple celebration during Centenarians Day (held every first Sunday of October), in line with the national celebration. Local Government Units

(LGUs) from where an overseas Centenarian hails from may also opt to award a Plaque of Recognition and cash incentive of indeterminable amount in behalf of the concerned city or municipality.

The guidelines and application form for overseas Filipino Centenarians may be initially downloaded thru the CFO website (cfo.gov.ph) and subsequently thru the DFA and the Philippine Embassies and Consulates websites.

As a backgrounder, the Centenarians Act of 2016 pays tribute to all Filipinos who reach 100 years old, whether living in the Philippines or abroad in recognition of their longevity. They will receive letter of felicitation from the President of the Philippines and a "centenarian gift" in the amount of Php 100, 000.

The CFO, the DSWD, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of Health (DOH), were designated to take the lead in the effective implementation of the Act.

President Rodrigo Roa Duterte signed the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of the law on September 26, 2016, days before the observance of the annual Elderly Filipino Week on October 1-7. The first Sunday of October was also declared as the National Respect for Centenarians Day.

Thus, every Centenarians Day, all Filipinos who have reached the age of one hundred during the current fiscal year shall be awarded a Plaque of Recognition and a cash incentive by their respective city or municipal governments in appropriate ceremonies in addition to the Letter of Felicitation and Centenarian Gift from the national government and the President of the Philippines himself.

In the case of deceased centenarians, a Posthumous Plaque of Recognition will only be received by the authorized representatives of the deceased centenarians.

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