

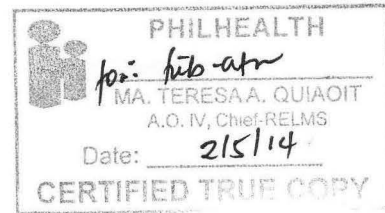
Republic of the Philippines  
**PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION**

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**PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR**

No. 0005 s. 2014

*July*



**TO :** ALL EMPLOYERS, MEMBERS OF THE FORMAL ECONOMY, PHILHEALTH ACCREDITED HEALTHCARE INSTITUTIONS AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

**SUBJECT :** ISSUANCE AND VOLUNTARY AVAILMENT OF THE PHILHEALTH HEALTH INSURANCE CARDS (HIC) BY THE MEMBERS OF THE FORMAL ECONOMY

**I. RATIONALE AND BACKGROUND**

The Department of Health (DOH), through Administrative Order No. 2010-0036, enunciates the implementation framework for achieving Universal Health Care (UHC), also known as the Kalusugang Pangkalahatan (KP) Program. The aforesaid AO defines Public-Private Partnership (PPP) as a cooperative venture between the public and private sectors, built on the expertise of each partner, that best meet clearly defined public needs through the appropriate allocation of resources, risks and rewards. This partnership may range from health care provision to logistics management, from information and communication technology to capacity building of health providers.

Section 7 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 10606, otherwise known as the National Health Insurance Act of 2013 provides that *"the Corporation shall assign a permanent and unique PhilHealth Identification Number (PIN) to every member including each and every dependent of theirs. It shall facilitate the issuance of a Health Insurance ID Card containing the PIN for purposes of identification, eligibility verification and utilization recording."* Further, *"this health insurance ID card with a corresponding ID number shall be recognized as a valid government identification and shall be presented and honored in transactions requiring the verification of a person's identity."*

Meanwhile, Section 16, Article IV of the said law provides that PhilHealth has the power, among others, to *"(b) the formulation and promulgation of policies for the sound administration of the NHIP, and (j) to negotiate and enter into contracts with health care institutions, professionals, and other persons, juridical or natural, regarding the pricing, payment mechanisms, design and implementation of administrative and operating systems and procedures, financing, and delivery of health services"*.

In line with this mandate, PhilHealth published invitations to invite the private sector to participate in several of its programs. Consequently, a Service Provider heeded the invitation of PhilHealth for a non-exclusive partnership for the issuance of a Health Insurance Card (HIC) which can be voluntarily availed of by the members of the Formal Economy. The said engagement with the PPP partner will be a beneficial support in PhilHealth's drive for database

build-up and updating and provide the members in the Formal Economy with a UMID-compliant HIC.

## II. COVERAGE

This Circular shall cover the issuance and voluntary availment of the HICs by the members of the Formal Economy which include the following:

- a. Government Employees – employees of the government, whether regular, casual or contractual, who renders services in any of the government branches, military or police force, political subdivisions, agencies or instrumentalities, including government-owned and controlled corporations, financial institutions with original charter, Constitutional Commissions, and is occupying either an elective or appointive position, regardless of status of appointment.
- b. Private Employees – employees who render services in any of the following:
  - i. Corporations, partnerships, or single proprietorships, NGOs, cooperatives, non-profit organizations, social, civic, or professional or charitable institutions, organized and based in the Philippines including those foreign-owned;
  - ii. Foreign governments or international organizations with quasi-state status based in the Philippines which entered into an agreement with the Corporation to cover their Filipino employees in PhilHealth;
  - iii. Foreign business organizations based abroad with agreement with the Corporation to cover their Filipino employees in PhilHealth;
- c. All other workers rendering services, whether in government or private offices, such as job order contractors, project based contractors, and the likes.
- d. Owners of business enterprises
- e. Household helps as defined in the Republic Act 10361 or “Kasambahay Law”
- f. Family drivers

## III. PRIVILEGE OF HIC HOLDERS

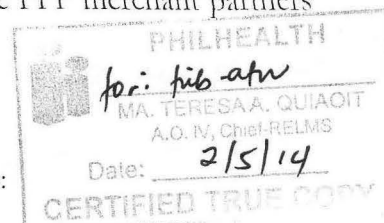
The Health Insurance Card shall be recognized as a valid government-issued identification and shall be honored in transactions requiring the verification of a person's identity. In addition, for the principal member's confinement, member-cardholders may present, in lieu of the Member Data Record (MDR), the Health Insurance Cards (HICs) to accredited health care institutions together with the properly accomplished Claim Form 1 (CF-1) to avail of PhilHealth benefits.

PhilHealth shall publish a separate issuance should there be additional benefits and privileges that will be accorded to HIC cardholders. The existing cardholders of the i-PhilHealth-y cards shall still continue to enjoy the discounts and privileges extended by the PPP merchant partners until further notice.

## IV. GENERAL GUIDELINES

The following shall be the general guidelines in the issuance of the HICs:

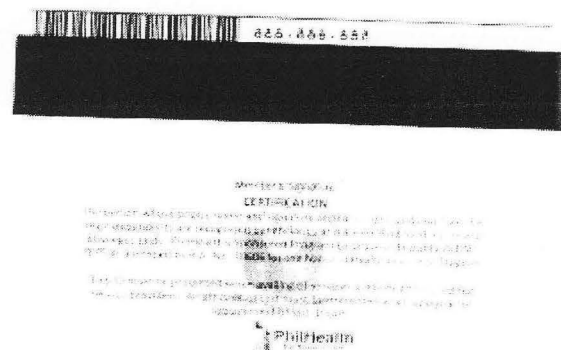
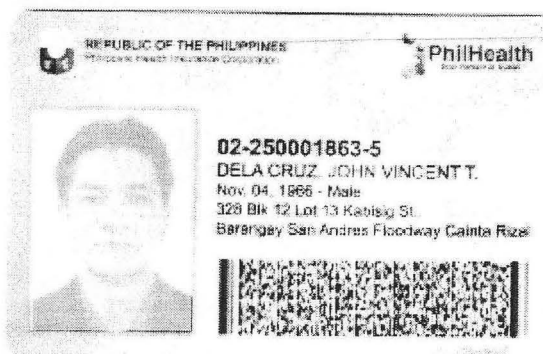
1. The issuance of the HIC is voluntary/optional and shall initially be issued to members under the Formal Economy who are both registered with PhilHealth and whose employers are submitting their remittance reports through the EPRS.
2. The service provider shall secure a Certificate of Authority (CA) duly signed by the PhilHealth President and CEO or the Chairperson of the PPP Committee. This shall



be presented to the PhilHealth Regional/ Branch Office for the issuance of a Letter of Introduction (LOI) (attached herein as Annex "A") to be attached to the proposal to the employers.

3. The Service Provider shall prepare and submit a proposal to employers who submit their remittance report through EPRS. However, employers who are interested to be issued new HICs but were not yet contacted by the Service Provider may submit a letter of intent addressed to the Regional Vice President or Branch Manager for approval.
4. The Service Provider shall facilitate the data capture, printing and distribution of the HIC.
5. The cost of the HIC shall not exceed Ninety Pesos (Php 90.00) to be shouldered by the employers, employees or shared by both depending on their agreement with the Service Provider.

The PVC-made HIC design is as follows:



## V. EFFECTIVITY

This Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation and deposited thereafter with the National Administrative Register at the University of the Philippines Law Center.

**ALEXANDER A. PADILLA**  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date signed: 1-24-14

