



EXTENSION STRATEGY FOR UNEMPLOYED MIGRANT WORKERS

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Assistance to Unemployed Migrant Workers

- **Pre-COVID**
 - Social Security Unemployment Benefits
 - OWWA Welfare Assistance Program
- **During COVID**
 - COVID-19 Adjustment Measures Program
 - Abot-Kamay ang Pagtulong
- **Migrant Workers Act**
 - AKSYON Fund
 - Full-Cycle Reintegration Program



Social Security Unemployment Benefits (RA 11199)

- **Section 14-B. Unemployment. Insurance or Involuntary Separation Benefits.** - A member who is not over sixty (60) years of age who has paid at least thirty-six (36) months contributions twelve (12) months of which should be in the eighteen-month period immediately preceding the involuntary unemployment or separation shall be paid benefits in the form of monthly cash payments equivalent to fifty percent (50%) of the average monthly salary credit for a maximum of two (2) months: *Provided*, That an employee who is involuntarily unemployed can only claim unemployment benefits once every three (3) years: *Provided, further*, That in case of concurrence of two or more compensable contingencies, only the highest benefit shall be paid, subject to the rules and regulations that the Commission may prescribe.
- **Section 9-B. Compulsory Coverage of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs)** - (a) Coverage in the SSS shall be compulsory upon all sea-based and land-based OFWs as defined under Republic Act No. 8042, otherwise known as the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995. as amended by Republic Act No. 10022: *Provided*, That they are not over sixty (60) years of age.



OWWA Welfare Assistance Program (OWWA WAP)

WAP is an assistance extended to OWWA members, and/or their families. It seeks to provide cash relief assistance to OWWA members in any one of the following circumstances:

- Calamity assistance for Active OWWA members only and their families affected by natural calamities / disasters, such as super typhoons, earthquakes, heavy flooding, etc.
- *Relief assistance for OWWA members who were displaced / laid-off* due to economic / political / health crises, bankruptcy & other related conditions



COVID-19 Adjustment Measures Program (CAMP)

The **COVID-19 Adjustment Measure Program (CAMP)** is a one-time financial assistance program of the Department of Labor and Employment to affected workers during the COVID-19 lockdowns. Financial assistance under the **Abot-Kamay ang Pagtulong (AKAP)** for Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) as part of the CAMP aims to support displaced and returning Overseas Filipino Workers directly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

DOLE-OWWA AKAP covers pending and new applications for financial assistance of Php 10,000.00 for each of displaced OFWs who temporarily or permanently lost overseas employment upon the declaration of COVID-19 outbreak in the Philippines and globally until its lifting.



AKSYON FUND (RA 11641)

PURPOSE

AKSYON Fund (Agarang Kalinga at Saklolo para sa mga OFW na Nangangailangan) is fund created to provide legal, medical financial and other forms of assistance to OFWs, including repatriation, shipment of human remains, evacuation, rescue and any other analogous forms of assistance.

COVERAGE

D.O. No. 04, S. 2023

All OFWs whether land-based or sea-based, documented or undocumented, regardless of immigration status. Next-of-kin of OFWs in distress or families left behind can also avail of humanitarian assistance through the AKSYON Fund.



AKSYON FUND (RA 11641)

COVERAGE D.O. No. 05, S. 2023

The coverage was further enhanced to include immediate financial assistance to be granted to OFWs and/or their families severely affected and/or displaced or unable to leave for work or report for work due to economic downturn, policy-shift, political unrest in the host countries, natural calamities or human induced emergencies, disasters, epidemics, pandemics, abuses, or exploitations, human trafficking, severe illness, those with pending claims or complaints against their employers, and families of OFWs in death row, and other meritorious cases.

DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 05
Series of 2024

**INCREASING THE AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO OVERSEAS
FILIPINO WORKERS IN DISTRESSED SITUATIONS UNDER THE AGARANG
KALINGA AT SAKLOLO PARA SA MGA OFWs NA NANGANGAILANGAN
(AKSYON) FUNDS**

WHEREAS, Section 14 of Republic Act No. 11641, otherwise known as the Department of Migrant Workers Act, established the *Agarang Kalinga at Saklolo para sa mga OFWs na Nangangailangan* (AKSYON) Fund to provide legal, medical, financial and other forms of assistance to overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), including repatriation, shipment of human remains, evacuation, rescue and any other analogous form of assistance to protect the rights of Filipino nationals;

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Department of Migrant Workers issued Department Orders No. 04 and 05, Series of 2023 to provide guidelines on the implementation and granting assistance through the AKSYON Fund;

WHEREAS, Department Order No. 05, Series of 2023 prescribed the coverage of immediate financial assistance to be granted to OFWs and/or their families severely affected and/or displaced or unable to leave or report to work due to economic downturn, policy-shift, political unrest in the host countries, natural calamities or human-induced emergencies, disasters, epidemics, pandemics, abuses, or exploitations, human trafficking, severe illness, those with pending claims or complaints against their employers, and families of OFWs in death row, and other meritorious cases.

WHEREFORE, in the interest of the service and to ensure that OFWs and/or their next of kin are supported with financial resources to cope and recover from their distressful situation and help in their ability to return to normalcy, the amount of immediate financial assistance is hereby increased as follows:

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NATIONAL REINTEGRATION CENTER FOR OFWS
Department of Migrant Workers

AKSYON FUND (RA 11641)

COVERAGE

D.O. No. 05, S. 2024

The amount of immediate financial assistance was **increased** to:

- a. **Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php50,000.00)**
- b. Seventy Five Thousand Pesos (Php75,000.00)
- c. One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php100,000.00)

1,206 beneficiaries as of September 2024



FULL-CYCLE REINTEGRATION PROGRAM (RA 11641)

Section 17. Full-Cycle National Reintegration Program. – The Department shall develop and implement a full-cycle and comprehensive national *reintegration program for both documented and undocumented OFWs*, which shall be embedded in all stages of migration for work beginning from pre-deployment, on-site during employment, and *upon return whether voluntary or involuntary*. The reintegration program shall cover the different dimensions of support needed by the OFW such as economic, social, psychosocial, gender-responsive, and cultural, including skills certification and recognition of equivalency for effective employment services, and shall ensure contribution to national development through investments and transfer of technology from skilled or professional OFWs. *The reintegration program shall include promoting access to social protection instruments and financial services...*



FULL-CYCLE REINTEGRATION PROGRAM (RA 11641)

- **Balik Pinas! Balik Hanapbuhay Program** is a package of livelihood support / assistance intended to provide immediate relief to returning member-OFWs (distressed / displaced) amounting to a maximum Php 20,000.00 as start up or additional capital for the livelihood project.
- ***Livelihood Program for OFW Reintegration (LPOR)*** is a cash assistance worth Php 10,000 to Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) beneficiaries which aims to support OFWs and their families in their livelihood to sustain their daily needs and reintegration in the community.





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