




Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT  
**EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION**  
ECC Building, 355 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue, City of Makati

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## JUNE 2012 GOOD NEWS

GOOD NEWS	WHY GOOD NEWS
<b>SOCIAL PROTECTION</b>	
<b>ECC gives job to dependents of ODWs</b>	<p>The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC), an attached agency of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), has recently provided employment to fourteen dependents of occupationally-disabled workers (ODWs) under the Special Program for Employment of Students (SPES).</p> <p>The ECC gave special attention to the dependents of the ODWs to fully help the primary beneficiaries of the Employees' Compensation Program. A person can be classified as an ODW when his illness or injury was considered work-related under the EC Program.</p> <p>Out of the fourteen dependents of the ODWs, three has been assigned as the DOLE-Calamba, another three has been assigned with the Occupational Safety and Health Center, one student grantee has been working with the Trece Martires Provincial Office of the DOLE Regional Office IV-A, one has been with the Office of the Vice Mayor of Angat, Bulacan and six with the ECC.</p>  <p><i>Emelbert Tayoba, SPES grantee assigned at the ECC-Information and Public Assistance Division, sorts out documents for SS + 2S purposes.</i></p> <p>Labor Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz directed the ECC to double or even triple the number of SPES grantees in CY 2013 after being informed by ECC Executive Director Stella Z.</p>

Regional Extension Units: ECC Region X, 3/F Gonzalo Go Bldg., Corrales Avenue, Cagayan de Oro City

ECC CAR, Cabinet Hills, Baguio City

ECC Region VII, 2/F, GMC Plaza, MJ Cuenco Avenue corner Legaspi St., Cebu City

ECC Region IX, Right Wing, 3/F QNS Bldg., Veterans Avenue., Ext. Tumaga, Zamboanga City

ECC Region XII, 102 Acepal Building, Mabini Extension, Koronadal City

	<p>Banawis that the ECC Secretariat is strengthening its efforts to provide more benefits to ODWs.</p> <p>"I would like to commend the act of the ECC in hiring the dependents of our ODWs as it will turn them into productive citizens and eventually learn the value of hard work," Baldoz added.</p> <p>The hired ODW dependents between the ages 15 to 24 reported for work on April 16, 2012 until May 31, 2012 and will receive the prevailing minimum wage.</p> <p>The SPES aims to develop the intellectual capacities of children of poor families and harness their potentials for the country's well being. It specially helps poor but deserving students pursue their education by providing income or augment their income through encouraging their employment during summer and Christmas vacations.</p>
<b>ECC issues policy for injuries sustained by stay-in local workers</b>	<p>The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC), by virtue of its mandate to formulate policies and guidelines for the effective implementation of the Employees' Compensation Program, recently issued a policy regarding the compensability of death or injuries sustained or incurred by local employees who are required by their employer to stay in quarters provided by the latter.</p> <p>The policy practically adopted the so-called "bunkhouse rule" cited by the Supreme Court in the case of Uy vs. Workmen's Compensation Commission where the Court ruled that when the employee is required to stay in the premises or in quarters furnished by the employer, injuries sustained therein are in the course of employment regardless of the time of its occurrence.</p> <p>The policy, however, provides exceptions to the general rule, such as when the injury was occasioned by the employee's intoxication, wilful intent to injure or kill himself or another, or notorious negligence as provided under PD No. 626, as amended.</p> <p>With the issuance of the said policy, workers are virtually insured by the Employees' Compensation Program whenever they are required to stay in the quarters provided by their employers subject, of course, to the limitations imposed by the Employees' Compensation Law.</p>
<b>Series of Employees' Compensation Program conducted</b>	<p>The ECC conducted 16 ECP seminars/lectures in June of 2012 which benefited 1,136 HR managers, supervisors, administrative officers, finance officers and quality control supervisors in Metro Manila, Pampanga, Laguna, Davao City, Dumaguete City, Cagayan de Oro City, Zamboanga City and Cebu</p>

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City.

Included in this seminar was the 3rd ECC-DOLE Advocacy Program this CY 2012 in Region 11 at Marco Polo Hotel, Davao City on 28 June 2012, in a bid to promote regional awareness among stakeholders on the various programs of the ECC, specifically focusing on the three ECP components - prevention, compensation, and rehabilitation services for occupationally-disabled workers (ODWs). This is in line with the call of Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz to strengthen linkages between attached agencies and DOLE Regional offices for harmonious and synchronized implementation of DOLE programs and projects.

The one-day seminar started with a welcome remarks made by DOLE Regional Director Joffrey M. Suyao who vowed to put up an ECC desk in the Davao Regional Office. Director Suyao said that having an ECC representative is very essential as he or she can assist claimants in their EC application. In the opening remarks of OIC-Deputy Executive Director Jonathan T. Villasoto, he emphasized among others, that the advocacy program was in fulfillment of the ECC's mission to ensure that workers are informed of their rights and privileges under the Employees' Compensation Program.

Topics discussed during the seminar included basic accident prevention and occupational safety and health, the employees' compensation program, the KaGabay Program, the ECC-Quick Response Team Program, and DOLE's various programs and projects.

More than 150 participants attended the advocacy program comprising of HR Managers, supervisors, administrative officers, safety officers, accountants, and finance officers of various companies in the region.

A press conference was simultaneously conducted during the seminar where Director Suyao and OIC Villasoto acted as resource persons. Fourteen media practitioners attended the said event.




*ECC OIC Deputy Executive Director Jonathan T. Villasoto clarifies various issues on the Employees' Compensation Program as DOLE Davao Regional Director Joffrey M. Suyao and some media practitioners listen during press conference at the Marco Polo Hotel in Davao City on 28 June 2012.*

<p><b>Typhoon victim's kin gets EC benefits</b></p>	<p>Marites Navarro, surviving spouse of a missing security guard assigned at Bubunawan Hydropower Plant in Bukidnon, received ten thousand pesos as funeral benefits under the EC Program. Aside from the said amount, the family of the deceased will receive a monthly death benefit pension for the security guard's work-connected death as soon as he is declared presumptively dead by the proper authority.</p> <p>According to the reports, the said hydropower plant was one of the establishments badly hit by Typhoon Sendong wherein ten workers died.</p> <p>Under ECC Board Resolution 93-08-0068, dated 5 August 1993, the provision on presumptive death provides that: "If one is declared presumptively dead after he had been reported missing for sometime, payment of death benefits shall be reckoned from the date he was declared presumptively dead by proper authority, in accordance with law; except when the declaration of death specified another date, in such a case, payment of death benefits shall start from the latter date; and, in spite of the fact that the body of a missing person had not been recovered, and that no burial activities had been undertaken, the beneficiaries shall still be entitled to funeral benefits, as provided for under the law."</p>
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