



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT
GENERAL SOLANO STREET, SAN MIGUEL, MANILA

MAR 08 2024

DR. TEODORO J. HERBOSA

Secretary
Department of Health (DOH)
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue
Sta. Cruz, Manila

Attention: **Undersecretary Ma. Carolina Vidal-Taiño, CESO I**
Management Support Cluster

Dear **Secretary Herbosa**:

Assalamua'alaykum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh!

This pertains to the meeting conducted on January 17, 2024 between our departments¹ to discuss the issues/concerns relative to the status of all Health Emergency Allowance (HEA)-related claims, as well as the appropriate measures to address the overwhelming complaints of the healthcare workers and health facilities with regard to the same.

We note that based on our records, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) has already released a total amount of **PhP 91,282,694,000.00** for Public Health Emergency Benefits and Allowances (PHEBA) covering all healthcare workers benefits from 2020 to 2023, which are detailed below:

Nature of Allowance	Allotment (By Fund Source)					Total
	GAA	UA	Bayanihan	MPBF	CF	
Special Risk Allowance (SRA)	-	1,839,405	9,020,506	445,738	1,592,198	12,897,847
Health Emergency Allowance (HEA)/ One COVID-19 Allowance (OCA)	49,994,983	23,266,028	-	-	-	73,261,011
COVID-19 Sickness and Death Compensation	3,080,840	570,000	-	-	-	3,650,840
Other Benefit (i.e. Meal, Accommodation and Transportation Allowance)	-	-	-	-	1,472,996	1,472,996
Total	53,075,823	25,675,433	9,020,506	445,738	3,065,194	91,282,694

*Amounts in thousands

Notwithstanding the amounts released, we were informed during the meeting that there are still unpaid claims/arrears to date.

As discussed during the meeting, there is a need for the DOH to urgently finalize the computation of the HEA claims in arrears to enable the DBM to determine if additional

¹ Represented by DBM Budget and Management Bureau-B and DOH Administrative Service

funding requirements are necessary despite the cumulatively released PHEBA allocations for our healthcare and non-health care workers.

Hence, it was agreed that the DOH shall develop a **"HEA Mapping"** that will capture and present all PHEBA claims and payments by Region/Health Facilities for the duration of the period covered by the benefit. The said Mapping will provide a comprehensive status of the PHEBA, which our departments shall use in expediting the final determination of the amount of deficiency to cover the full settlement of arrears. We likewise recommended that said record be published in the DOH website for transparency to all claimants and stakeholders alike.

Notably, the DOH committed to submit the aforementioned HEA Mapping, with the final amount of computed PHEBA deficiencies not later than March this year, subject to the DBM's validation based on submitted documents and the amounts reflected in the Health Emergency Allowance Processing System.

In view of the foregoing, we highly appreciate receiving the agreed HEA Mapping detailing the utilization, disbursement, and distribution of the PHEBA releases **no later than March 15, 2024**. We likewise reiterate our recommendation to make the Mapping publicly available through the DOH website, once available.

Rest assured that we are equally committed in ensuring the settlement of the PHEBA claims of our healthcare and non-healthcare workers.

We trust your usual prompt action to our request.

Thank you and best regards.

Very truly yours,


AMENAH F. PANGANDAMAN
Secretary

