

IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11310 OR "AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM"

Pursuant to Section 23 of Republic Act (RA) No. 11310, or otherwise known as "An Act Institutionalizing the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), in consultation with partner government agencies and stakeholders, hereby issues, adopts and promulgates the following implementing rules and regulations (IRR):

RULE I. TITLE

Section 1. This set of rules and regulations shall be known as the IRR of RA No. 11310, or "An Act Institutionalizing the 4Ps."

RULE II. DECLARATION OF POLICIES

Section 2. The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order thereby uplifting its citizens and marginalized sectors from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.

The State recognizes the need to foster social justice consistent with the provisions of Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution, specifically:

- a. The Congress shall give highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of the people to human dignity, reduce social, economic and political inequalities, and remove cultural inequities by equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good;
- b. The promotion of social justice shall include the commitment to create economic opportunities based on freedom of initiative and self-reliance;

Towards this end, the State shall establish programs that invest and harness our country's human capital and improvement of delivery of basic services to the poor, particularly education, health and nutrition, which is an intervention anticipated to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty;

- c. Break the intergenerational cycle of poverty through investment in human capital and improved access and delivery of basic services to the poor, particularly education, health, nutrition, and early childhood care and development and employment and social services;
- d. Promote gender equality and empowerment of women and protection of children's rights;
- e. Achieve universal primary education;
- f. Reduce child mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and hunger;
- g. Improve maternal health and reduce maternal mortality; and
- h. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all.

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RULE III. PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM

Section 3. The 4Ps is the national poverty reduction strategy and a human capital investment program that provides conditional cash transfer to qualified household-beneficiaries. It is also a human development program which provides social protection, social assistance, social development and other complementary support services in partnership with concerned agencies, local government and other stakeholders towards improving the health and nutrition, education and socio-economic aspects of their lives.

Section 4. The conditional cash transfer to qualified household-beneficiaries has a maximum period of seven (7) years. For existing households, the maximum period of seven (7) years shall be reckoned from the implementation of these rules provided that they are still eligible and are still able and willing to comply with the program conditions.

However, the National Advisory Council (NAC) may recommend a longer period under exceptional circumstances through issuances of resolutions and guidelines consistent with the adopted or used standardized targeting system.

RULE IV. DEFINITION OF TERMS

Section 5. As used in this IRR, the following terms are defined, as follows:

- a. **Authorized Government Depository Banks (AGDBs)** refer to banking institutions accredited and managed by government which is also categorized as government-owned and -controlled corporation (GOCC) or government financial institution;
- b. **Case Management** refers to a process used by the DSWD to enable the qualified household-beneficiaries to improve their functioning by dealing with their difficulties specifically in complying with the terms of the Program. It shall refer to a mutually agreed process of assessing, planning, managing, coordinating and advocating for services and other interventions towards improving the well-being of households using the Social Welfare and Development Indicator (SWDI) and other-related tools;
- c. **Case Manager** refers to program staff directly working with qualified household-beneficiaries to effect change and assist them to improve their well-being. They are the city/ municipal links and other staff trained in case management process, counseling, family therapy, group process, project management and other related training, as may be determined by the DSWD;
- d. **Compliance Verification** refers to the checking and monitoring undertaken using standardized monitoring tool to ensure that the qualified household-beneficiaries comply with the conditions for entitlement set forth by the 4Ps;
- e. **Conditional Cash Grant** refers to the amount received by the qualified household-beneficiaries who comply with the conditions for entitlement;
- f. **Educational Facility** refers to schools or any structure or space, with or without marked visible boundaries, which is either recognized by the government or known by the community as a learning space for children;
- g. **Family Development Sessions** refer to appropriate monthly activities conducted with and attended by the grantee/s or responsible person towards enhancing their parenting capabilities, thereby encouraging them to be more active citizens of the society;

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- h. **Graduation** refers to the improvement of the level of well-being of poor households from survival and subsistence to self-sufficiency towards their eventual exit from the Program through provision of integrated and holistic support services and programs;
- i. **Grantee** refers to the most responsible adult member of the qualified household-beneficiary authorized to receive the conditional cash transfer;
- j. **Grievance Redress System** refers to the mechanism of the DSWD which addresses and resolves issues and concerns related to the implementation of the Program;
- k. **Health Facility** refers to a barangay health station, rural health unit, barangay health center, infirmary or hospital;
- l. **Household** refers to the social unit consisting of a person living alone or a group of persons who sleep in the same housing unit including any place of dwelling or facility, and have common arrangements for the preparation and consumption of food;
- m. **Household Registration** refers to the process of enrolling eligible household-beneficiaries in the 4Ps;
- n. **Institutionalization** refers to making the 4Ps an added function of the DSWD and a regular program funded from its annual appropriation;
- o. **Near-Poor Households** refer to households whose estimated per capita income is within ten percent (10%) above the poverty threshold at a given year; The 10% cut-off shall be the basis, until the government has established its official near-poor policy; They are considered as near poor due to high risk of subsequently falling again into poverty; They shall also be identified through the adopted standardized targeting system;
- p. **Parent Groups** refer to qualified household-beneficiaries clustered based on their residence proximity being headed by a parent leader;
- q. **Poor** refers to households whose income falls below the poverty threshold as defined by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and cannot afford in a sustained manner to provide their minimum basic needs of food, health, education, housing and other essential amenities of life;
- r. **Poverty Threshold** refers to the minimum income/ expenditure required for a family/ individual to meet the basic food and non-food requirements based on Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) definition of poverty threshold;
- s. **Preventive Health Check-up** refers to health and nutrition services comprising of complete immunization, deworming, growth and development monitoring, management of childhood diseases, malnutrition, and services for pregnant, lactating and postpartum women;
- t. **Qualified Household-Beneficiaries** refer to households identified by the DSWD for entitlement to the monthly conditional cash grants as provided under Rule V of this IRR; It is understood that only households whose members are resident Filipino citizens are qualified in the Program; In addition, these households are deemed partners of the Program;

- u. **Responsible Person** refers to the parent or guardian in the qualified household-beneficiary;
- v. **Skilled Health Professionals** refer to competent maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health and nutrition professionals, educated, trained and regulated in accordance with the national and international standards;
- w. **Social Services** refer to a range of services that facilitate the achievement of the level of well-being of the qualified household-beneficiaries;
- x. **Supply Side** refers to the educational and health facilities such as schools and health centers and other related services in a specific area that are necessary for qualified household-beneficiaries to comply with the set conditions of the Program;
- y. **Standardized Targeting System** refers to a system for identifying who and where the poor households are, through the generation of socio-economic database of poor households that is adopted by national government agencies (NGAs) and implemented by the DSWD;
- z. **Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP)** refers to the livelihood and capability building program managed by the DSWD for the poor, vulnerable and marginalized families and individuals to help improve their socio-economic conditions through accessing and acquiring necessary assets to engage in and maintain thriving livelihoods; The one-time livelihood assistance is in the form of micro-enterprise development (MD) and employment facilitation (EF); The MD track provides microenterprise interventions to the poor or savings generation while the EF track provides interventions that facilitate employment;
- aa. **Social Welfare and Development Indicators (SWDI)** is a case management tool specifically developed by the DSWD to assess and monitor the well-being of the households of 4Ps;
- bb. **Transaction Account** refers to an account in the form of deposit account or electronic money/ wallet, held with AGDBs and other Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP)-regulated financial service providers which can be used to store money, send payments, and receive deposits. It is an essential financial service in its own right and can also serve as a gateway to other financial services; and
- cc. **Vulnerable Groups** refer to those who experience a higher degree of social exclusion and deprivation than the general population, and those who go through difficult circumstances, including but not limited to the following: (i) children, (ii) women, (iii) indigenous people (IPs), (iv) homeless street families (HSF) and (v) groups that experience a higher risk of poverty in line with the Special Protection Operational Framework of NEDA.

RULE V. SELECTION OF QUALIFIED HOUSEHOLDS AND CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

Section 6. On a nationwide basis, the DSWD shall select qualified household-beneficiaries of the 4Ps using a standardized targeting system. Until a new standardized targeting system is adopted by the government, the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR) or Listahanan shall be utilized by the DSWD under this Rule.

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Section 7. The DSWD shall ensure the use of a uniform, objective, and transparent procedure of identifying poor households as potential beneficiaries. Further, it shall conduct a regular revalidation of beneficiary targeting every three (3) years.

Section 8. Farmers including farm workers, fisher folks, homeless families, IPs, those in the informal settler sector, those in geographically-isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDA) including those in areas without electricity, persons with disabilities (PWDs) and other vulnerable groups shall be automatically included in the standardized targeting system to be conducted by the DSWD. The lists of those included in the above-mentioned sectors and other vulnerable groups under this Section shall be provided by the respective appropriate government agencies.

Section 9. To be eligible for the cash grants, households automatically included in the standardized targeting system under Section 8 must meet the following criteria:

- a. Classified as poor and near-poor based on the adopted standardized targeting system and the poverty threshold issued by the PSA at the time of selection;
- b. Have members who are aged zero (0) to eighteen (18) years old or have members who are pregnant at the time of registration; and
- c. Willing to comply with the conditions set in the oath of commitment and mutually-agreed household intervention plan (HIP).

RULE VI. CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER TO BENEFICIARIES

Section 10. The Advisory Council shall determine the regularity and the amount of conditional cash transfer (CCT) to beneficiaries through a resolution by the NAC, as a policy-making body of the Program, with the following schemes:

- a. CCT grant per child enrolled in daycare and elementary programs shall not be lower than Three Hundred Pesos (Php300.00) per month per child for a maximum of ten (10) months per year;
- b. CCT grant per child enrolled in junior high school shall not be lower than Five Hundred Pesos (Php500.00) per month per child for a maximum of ten (10) months per year;
- c. CCT grant per child enrolled in senior high school shall not be lower than Seven Hundred Pesos (Php700.00) per month per child for a maximum of ten (10) months per year; and
- d. Health and nutrition grant shall not be lower than Seven Hundred Fifty Pesos (Php750.00) per month for a maximum of twelve (12) months per year.

Section 11. The health and nutrition grant component aims to promote healthy practices and family development; improve the health and nutritional status of pregnant and postpartum mothers, infants and young children; and increase the use of health services by the qualified household-beneficiary. The health and nutrition grant is a fixed amount and does not depend on the number of members in the household.

Section 12. The grants shall be in accordance with the approved program timeline released for a particular period in a year. The grants shall be timely and accurately released based on the compliance of qualified household-beneficiary members. The initial grants shall be released to the households upon completion of the registration process. IPs and other

vulnerable groups, and other qualified household-beneficiaries residing in GIDA shall be facilitated in accordance with their particular needs, dynamics and culture, following rights-based strategies to provide them with convenient and cost-effective means to collect their cash grant.

RULE VII. MODE OF CASH TRANSFER

Section 13. The DSWD shall provide qualified household-beneficiaries with direct access to cash grants that is secured via transaction accounts through any number of AGDBs. Moreover, DSWD shall implement more frequent payouts.

For localities not adequately served by an AGDB, the DSWD may, by itself or through an AGDB, contract the services of rural banks, thrift banks, cooperative banks, and institutions engaged in money remittances duly accredited by the BSP.

To ensure direct and secured access to cash grants by the qualified household-beneficiaries, the same shall be credited directly to their transaction accounts held and maintained in any BSP-regulated financial institution.

The AGDBs shall ensure that the channels through which the qualified household-beneficiaries can access their transaction accounts are adequate, available and accessible to the qualified household-beneficiaries regardless of their geographical locations. Consultations with the stakeholders shall be held in order to determine the efficiency of the AGDBs.

The DSWD shall coordinate with BSP to promote an enabling regulatory environment in order to ensure adequacy, availability and accessibility of transaction channels in line with the national strategy for financial inclusion.

RULE VIII. CONDITIONS FOR ENTITLEMENT

Section 14. As applicable, all qualified household-beneficiaries shall comply with all the following conditions as a requirement for continued program eligibility:

- a. Pregnant women must avail of pre-natal services, give birth in a health facility attended by a skilled health professional, and receive post-partum care and post-partum visits, and essential newborn care and post-natal follow-up visits for her newborn infant;
- b. Children zero (0) to five (5) years old must receive regular preventive health and nutrition services including check-ups and vaccination, growth and development monitoring, and promotion from the City/ Municipal Health Center, Rural Health Units, or Barangay Health Station to avail applicable health services, based on existing DOH guidelines;
- c. Children one (1) to fourteen (14) years old must avail of deworming pills/ medicines at least twice a year;
- d. Children three (3) to four (4) years old must attend day care service or pre-school classes and at least maintain class attendance at a rate of eighty-five percent (85%) of the time per month;
- e. Children 5 to eighteen (18) years old must attend elementary or secondary classes at maintain a class attendance at a rate of least 85% of the time per month; and

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- f. At least 1 responsible person or any appropriate member of the household must attend Family Development Sessions (FDS) conducted by the DSWD, at least once a month. This shall include all sessions and programs conducted by DSWD and its partners.

Whenever applicable, all conditions provided under a, b, c and f of Section 14 of Rule VII, shall be complied with in order to receive the health and nutrition grant provided under Section 10 (d) of Rule VI, and in reference to RA No. 11148, otherwise known as "Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Mag-Nanay Act."

The mechanics of Alternative Delivery Mode (ADM), Alternative Learning Systems (ALS) and other specialized mode and other delivery mode system in checking the attendance of children 5 to 18 years old vis-à-vis regular educational facilities shall be formulated.

Section 15. Any or all of the conditions for entitlement may be suspended by the DSWD Secretary during times of calamities, war and armed conflicts and force majeure situations in accordance with relevant laws and DSWD Guidelines. In such cases, full compliance to such conditions are deemed waived and payments to beneficiaries shall be granted in full.

RULE IX. CASE MANAGEMENT AND NON-COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITIONS

Section 16. The DSWD shall develop a set of standardized procedures, mechanisms and tools to ensure that household-beneficiaries are assessed on their level of well-being and status of compliance to the conditions of the Program upon entry into and until they exit from the program within a 7-year timeline. Until a new tool is developed, the Program shall periodically administer the SWDI to assess and monitor the well-being of the qualified household-beneficiaries. They shall be engaged in a mutually agreed HIP, the goal of which is to support their compliance with conditions and achieve an improved level of well-being towards self-reliance. To achieve this end, convergence initiatives involving resources and programs and services provided by partner agencies and organizations shall be accessed and mobilized through the Advisory Councils.

Section 17. The responsible person of a reported qualified household-beneficiary who fails to comply with all conditions set forth under Rule VIII of this IRR shall at first be notified in writing. Thereafter the payment of cash grants will immediately be terminated without prejudice to any case management process of the DSWD.

Section 18. After 4 consecutive months of willful non-compliance, the household-beneficiary shall be subject to intensive case management. The conduct of intensive case management by the DSWD shall be for the purpose of identifying and resolving barriers impairing them from complying with the terms of the Program and enable them to comply again.

Section 19. The grants of qualified household-beneficiaries shall not be forfeited in case they fail to comply with the conditions for reasons beyond their control subject to case management strategies. In cases where the necessary social services to aid their compliance are unavailable, they shall be referred to the concerned agency for appropriate action.

In addition, households with children with disabilities; with IPs, and those in GIDA, whose peculiar situation are determined to cause their inability to comply with the program conditions, shall not be penalized by withholding their cash grant under this Rule. Provided that, a report shall be made to address the situation that resulted in the inability of compliance by these groups.

Circumstances not mentioned in the immediately preceding paragraph shall be considered willful non-compliance to the conditions of the Program.

Section 20. Should the qualified household-beneficiary member so notified persist in not complying with the conditions within a period of one (1) year since the day of receipt of the written notification, the qualified household-beneficiary member shall be removed from the program. There shall be proper notice to the non-compliant qualified household-beneficiary prior to removal from the program. Guidelines for the removal of non-compliant beneficiaries shall be formulated by the DSWD, with the approval of the NAC.

However, interventions shall be conducted by the respective government agency vis-à-vis the non-compliance of the qualified household-beneficiary member based on a specific case management intervention plan to address the reason for non-compliance.

RULE X. FAMILY DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS AND FORMATION OF PARENT GROUPS

Section 21. In reference to Rule VIII Section 14 of this IRR, at least one (1) responsible person must attend FDS conducted by the DSWD and its implementing partners at least once a month.

Section 22. The FDS shall be delivered by the DSWD with its implementing partners. It shall aim to provide a venue to enhance and acquire new skills and knowledge in responding to their parental roles and responsibilities, promoting the concept of shared parenting. It shall focus on health and nutrition, education, economic and psychosocial needs of their children, while promoting positive family values. It shall strengthen marital relationships, and further advocate active citizenship, spiritual development, gender sensitivity, disaster resiliency, financial literacy, entrepreneurial skills and volunteerism towards community development.

The FDS will become a venue to promote the roles of the qualified household-beneficiaries as community members in their respective communities by enhancing their level of participation and contribution in community development. It shall be an avenue to transform households from passive attendees to decision-makers, thereby allowing them to develop beneficial programs and/or projects for their respective communities.

Youth Development Sessions (YDS) shall be encouraged among the young members of the households.

Section 23. The grantees of the qualified household-beneficiaries shall be organized into Parent Groups as a strategy and a venue for the FDS implementation. They shall establish peer support and cooperation among the qualified household-beneficiaries and monitor their performance in complying with the conditions of the Program.

Section 24. Each Parent Group shall select one (1) Parent Leader (PL) and one (1) Assistant PL based on a set criteria by the DSWD, and both shall serve as community leaders and volunteers for a prescribed term of service. Parent Leaders may assist the DSWD in the case management of qualified household-beneficiaries.

RULE XI. PERIODIC ASSESSMENT

Section 25. The Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) shall conduct an impact assessment every three (3) years. The impact assessment shall cover the evaluation of:

- a. effectiveness of the Program;

- b. veracity of the list of qualified beneficiaries
- c. behavioral and social outcomes;
- d. social exclusion among covered and non-covered children;
- e. impact on child poverty, income poverty and multidimensional poverty; and
- f. other matters relevant to program implementation.

PIDS shall include in their budget the conduct of the said impact assessment.

Section 26. The amounts indicated in Rule VI, Section 10 of this IRR shall be made available to the qualified household-beneficiaries during the first 3 years of the implementation of this IRR; Provided that every six (6) years after the effectivity of the Act, the PIDS shall recommend to the NAC whether the cash grants shall be adjusted to its present value using the consumer price index, as published by the PSA: Provided, further, that the NAC shall ensure that the grant amounts are sufficient to make a positive impact on the health and nutrition, and education, and are timely received and spent by the qualified household-beneficiaries.

RULE XII. LIVELIHOOD INTERVENTIONS

Section 27. Qualified household-beneficiaries shall be given priority in the availment of the modalities and interventions under DSWD's SLP or other appropriate or similar programs offered by other government agencies or accredited private institutions, in accordance with their policies and guidelines.

Section 28. The qualified household-beneficiaries shall also be given priority in the availment of the EF services provided by the SLP or other employment programs of appropriate government agencies implementing the same, in accordance with their policies and guidelines.

Section 29. The qualified household-beneficiaries, upon assessment of their readiness to avail of entrepreneurial projects or activities, shall be referred to DSWD, other appropriate government agencies, and LGUs for livelihood interventions or other similar support services.

RULE XIII. COVERAGE IN THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

Section 30. All qualified household-beneficiaries of as identified by the standardized targeting system shall automatically be covered in the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP). The necessary funding for their coverage shall be sourced from the revenue generated pursuant to RA No. 10351, otherwise known as the "Sin Tax Reform Act of 2012".

Section 31. The coverage in the NHIP shall be administered by the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) in accordance with their policies and guidelines. Benefits and mechanisms available shall be in accordance to the provisions stated in RA No. 11223, otherwise known as the "Universal Health Care Act," and its IRR.

RULE XIV. GRIEVANCE REDRESS SYSTEM

Section 32. A gender-sensitive and IP-responsive Grievance Redress System (GRS) serves as a mechanism to address grievances relative to the implementation of the Program,

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essentially ensuring that its goals and objectives are achieved. The system is a venue where both the qualified household-beneficiaries and the general public can report their grievances for resolutions. The GRS is a guide for program staff on handling and resolving grievances that invariably emerge in the program implementation.

The period for resolving grievances brought under this Rule shall be based on the existing guidelines of the DSWD 4Ps GRS. In case of doubt, it shall be resolved in favor of the qualified household-beneficiary.

Section 33. Upon the promulgation of the GRS by the NAC, the DSWD shall formulate the rules on appeal for instances or cases not covered by the GRS.

RULE XV. EXIT FROM 4Ps

Section 34. As provided under Rule III, Section 4 and Rule V, Sections 6 to 9 of this IRR, a qualified household-beneficiary shall remain in the program. However subject to the following instances, without prejudice to Section 16 of Rule IX of Case Management and Non-Compliance with Conditions, a qualified household-beneficiary shall be deemed to exit from the Program, whichever comes first, when:

- a. The last monitored child in the household turns 19 years old;
- b. The last monitored child in the household finishes high school;
- c. The household reaches the 7-year duration in the Program;
- d. The household is no longer poor, based on the latest assessment thru the adopted standardized targeting system;
- e. The household voluntarily waives its membership from the Program; or
- f. The household commits offenses wherein the sanction is delisting, subject to the standards to be developed by the DSWD.

The DSWD, in consultation with the NAC, will formulate specific exit procedures under this Rule, including the creation of a HIP. The graduation, as defined in this IRR, of the qualified household-beneficiaries shall lead to their eventual exit from the Program.

RULE XVI. LEAD AGENCY

Section 35. The DSWD shall serve as the central planning, coordinating, implementing and monitoring body of the Program. It shall establish an arrangement of line of authority, communications, and the roles and responsibilities of the different divisions, including regional provincial, city/ municipal structures, in the implementation of the Program. As the Program's monitoring body, the DSWD shall ensure cultural appropriateness and gender responsiveness of its program management cycle including planning, implementation, and evaluation. Appropriate data and statistics on gender and vulnerable sectors, among others, shall be regularly collected, generated, and analyzed to inform assessment processes

The DSWD shall ensure appropriate program structure and sufficient staffing personnel for the program's effective implementation. This shall be reviewed as a part of the Program performance to ensure that the structure and staffing complement remain relevant to achieve the program objectives.

Section 36. In the implementation of the Act and this IRR, the DSWD shall perform the following functions:

- a. Select and use an appropriate, effective and cost-efficient method to identify and select qualified household-beneficiaries;
- b. Identify and select the target household-beneficiaries on the basis of a uniform, objective and transparent selection process as indicated in Section 5 of the Act;
- c. Coordinate with different national and local government agencies, including organizations from the private sector to ensure full implementation of statutory commitments herein;
- d. Set up participatory monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems and methodologies on compliance of conditions, implementation of operations, and output and impact assessments. It shall also coordinate with the NAC and with Independent Monitoring Committee (IMC) at the national and local levels, to verify compliance on a monthly basis, using the M&E systems designed for purpose;
- e. Recommend to the NAC measures and policies for the responsive delivery of the commitments under the Act;
- f. Identify the coverage of the 4Ps based on the Standardized Targeting System;
- g. Provide seminar-workshops and training programs to educate qualified household-beneficiaries about the conditions and other actions pertinent to the Act;
- h. Organize a session on entrepreneurship and disaster preparedness and risk reduction or arrange a community development activity in the qualified household-beneficiaries' respective cities/ municipalities or barangays whichever are available annually;
- i. Submit an annual report to Congress on all aspects of its operations, financial status and other relevant data;
- j. Formulate IRR and guidelines for the enforcement of the Act; and
- k. Perform such other functions as may be necessary or incidental to the proper implementation of the provisions of the Act.

Section 37. Capability-building and related capacity development activities for parent leaders, household members, partners and 4Ps personnel shall be implemented by DSWD in collaboration with the NGAs, LGUs and other stakeholders.

RULE XVII. ADVISORY COUNCIL

Section 38. An Advisory Council shall be created at the national and regional levels to be headed by the DSWD. For this IRR, "The Advisory Council" shall refer to the national level and "The Advisory Councils" shall refer to both national and regional level.

Section 39. The National Advisory Council (NAC) shall be the policy-making body manifested through approval of resolutions and enhancement of guidelines aimed towards ensuring supply side requirements and necessary support for household members to meet the conditions for entitlement and strengthening of overall implementation of the Program. It shall

formulate and recommend to the President, as stated in the Act, policies and strategies to enhance and improve program implementation which is aimed towards enhancement of national and local efforts with partner agencies in ensuring that the necessary support for qualified household-beneficiaries are provided towards improvement of their well-being.

The Regional Advisory Council (RAC) shall provide policy directions and recommendations on program implementation at the regional level. They translate national policies to region specific operational guidelines to ensure smooth implementation of the Program. This joint effort shall promote regional ownership among other agencies and local implementers to guarantee the availability and provision of necessary support services or access to basic services for the qualified household-beneficiaries.

Section 40. The NAC and RAC shall have, as members, representatives from the following:

- a. Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Chair;
- b. Department of Health (DOH), Vice Chair;
- c. Department of Education (DepEd), Vice Chair;
- d. Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Member;
- e. Department of Agriculture (DA), Member;
- f. Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Member;
- g. Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Member;
- h. Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Member;
- i. Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Member; and
- j. Two (2) Accredited Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Member.

Section 41. The NAC and RAC shall also have, as additional members, two (2) representatives from accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working or monitoring social welfare service programs, subject to the DSWD accreditation, as per RA No. 4373 Series of 1965 entitled "An Act to Regulate the Practice of Social Work and the Operation of Social Work Agencies in the Philippines and for Other Purposes." The membership of the NGOs to the NAC/RAC shall be valid for three (3) years.

DSWD shall submit a list of accredited NGOs to the NAC and RAC and convene them. The interim NAC and RAC will facilitate the selection based on their prescribed criteria and process.

Section 42. The Advisory Councils shall have the following functions:

- a. Meet regularly to promote coordination across agencies to enhance the implementation of the Program and jointly address and resolve program implementation issues;
- b. The NAC recommends to the President and the RAC recommends to NAC the measures and policies for the responsive delivery of the commitments under the Act and integration with the general poverty reduction strategy of government;

- c. Ensure that the funding requirements for livelihood, training and EF programs shall be included in the annual budgets of the government agencies implementing the same;
- d. Promulgate a GRS and accept complaints and grievances pertaining to the implementation of the 4Ps; and
- e. Review the monitoring and assessment reports of the IMC and submit necessary policy recommendations to Congress to improve and strengthen the program, if necessary.

Section 43. The regular meetings of the NAC while RAC will be held once every quarter. Special meetings may be conducted whenever necessary, as may be called by DSWD, as the lead agency.

Section 44. The Provincial and City/ Municipal Advisory Councils shall be established with the LGUs to further strengthen the implementation of the Program at the local level.

Section 45. The DSWD shall serve as the Secretariat for the NAC and the RAC. DSWD shall assign necessary personnel to accomplish the aforementioned task.

RULE XVIII. CONVERGENCE OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Section 46. Within the framework of a strategy for national poverty alleviation and a holistic social protection program, the various agencies of government implementing multi-stakeholder programs and services for the poor shall guarantee that the same complement and converge seamlessly with the aim of ensuring that the targeted household-beneficiaries are alleviated from poverty and remain non-poor even after the prescribed maximum period for the conditional cash grant. Such convergence shall focus on the enhancement of operational efficiency and strengthening of inter-agency partnership, and funding of the Program. The government shall monitor the performance of these agencies to ensure the sustainability and positive impact of its pro-poor programs.

Section 47. The National Technical Working Group (NTWG) shall be created to review and provide inputs and recommendations as basis in the finalization and approval of policies and guidelines through resolutions by the NAC. It shall be composed of NAC member-agencies and other key agencies of convergence as enumerated under Section 49 (b) of this IRR.

Section 48. The NTWG shall ensure that the required support is covered by appropriate funds in the annual budgets of their respective agency; appoint a counterpart 4Ps focal person in their respective agency; provide accomplishment reports to the NAC; enter into data sharing agreement in relation to 4Ps implementation and monitoring; provide inventory of the supply side including those in GIDA; and integrate the 4Ps in their respective information, communication and advocacy efforts.

Towards strengthening of partnership and enhancement of operational efficiency of the Program, the NTWG Members shall ensure to facilitate the following:

- a. Formulate standards and develop information, education, communication, and advocacy strategies for the integration of health and nutrition concepts/ education for 4Ps in all levels;
- b. Provide support to 4Ps in the development and implementation of innovative advocacy project, strategies and approaches; and

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- c. Permanently assign an advocacy focal person to ensure delivery of the required performance stated above.

Section 49. To efficiently carry out the convergence of programs, each member of the NTWG shall have a duly authorized representative and/or focal person to supervise the following roles and functions:

a. Members of National Advisory Council and Regional Advisory Council

1. **Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)** shall be the lead agency for 4Ps. It shall be responsible for overseeing and coordinating the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the 4Ps. It shall develop a 4Ps Operation Manual (OM); conduct assessment of supplies for health and education in partnership with concerned agencies; identify target areas based on existing data and select potential beneficiaries; forge agreements with the LGUs to ensure the availability of the supply side; provide technical assistance to the regional, provincial, city/ municipal level of the overall operations of the Program; serve as a repository of data and information about the program; implement grievance system for the Program. It shall mobilize, manage and account program funds and resources and prepare the Budget OM in coordination with the DBM, DOF, DILG and the COA, among other functions. DSWD shall serve as Secretariat to the Advisory Councils and the NTWG.
2. **Department of Education (DepEd)** shall ensure that supply of educational facilities, teachers and educational materials are available in 4Ps target provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays, as mandated to provide basic education that is equitably accessible to all. It shall actively participate in the Advisory Councils at the national, regional, provincial and city/ municipal levels. It shall align similar systems for 4Ps and help monitor and evaluate the program operations particularly on the compliance of the qualified household-beneficiaries with the conditions for education. Further, it shall develop innovative ways or strategies in ensuring that supplies/ facilities for education are accessible for the homeless families, itinerant IPs and those from GIDA.
3. **Department of Health (DOH)** shall ensure that supply of health facilities and health and nutrition services are available in 4Ps target provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays, as the principal health agency for the country. It shall actively participate in the Advisory Councils at the national, regional, provincial and city /municipal levels. It will augment the LGU logistics needs to enable it to provide the supply side for 4Ps, including enrollment to PhilHealth. It shall help monitor and evaluate the program operations particularly on the compliance of the beneficiaries with the conditions for health. It shall be responsible for providing technical assistance in health and nutrition to ensure that these are more responsive for 4Ps. Further, it shall develop innovative ways or strategies in ensuring that supplies/facilities for health are accessible for the homeless families, itinerant IPs and those in and from GIDA.
4. **Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)** shall ensure that 4Ps policies and guidelines are in accordance with provisions of the national strategies for combatting child labor, to contribute to the reduction of child labor and to the EF of its qualified household-beneficiaries. It shall actively participate in the Advisory Councils at the national, regional, provincial and city/ municipal levels. It shall provide regular updates to the NAC on the initiatives of DOLE to reduce incidence of child labor among the qualified household-beneficiaries. It shall provide a national plan for their EF through its present and future DOLE programs. Further, it shall actively participate in the M&E of program implementation at all levels

5. **Department of Agriculture (DA)** shall ensure that 4Ps policies and guidelines are in accordance with providing programs for farmers and farm workers. In availing of these interventions under a particular program/project of the DA, the existing implementing guidelines shall govern the same. It shall actively participate in the Advisory Councils at the national, regional, provincial and city/ municipal levels. It shall provide regular updates to the NAC on the initiatives of DA among the qualified household-beneficiaries. It shall share relevant data for program provision and monitoring. Further, it shall actively participate in the M&E of program implementation at all levels.
6. **Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR)** shall ensure that 4Ps policies and guidelines are in accordance with providing programs for agrarian reform beneficiaries. It shall actively participate in the Advisory Councils at the national, regional, provincial and city/ municipal levels. It shall provide regular updates to the NAC on the initiatives of DAR among qualified household-beneficiaries. It shall match its database of 4Ps and for DAR to identify beneficiaries who availed of Certificates of Land Ownership Award (CLOA). Further, it shall actively participate in the M&E of program implementation at all levels.
7. **Department of Science and Technology (DOST)** shall ensure that 4Ps policies and guidelines are in accordance with the programs and projects of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI). It shall actively participate in the Advisory Councils at the national, regional, provincial and city/ municipal levels. It shall provide regular updates to the NAC on the interventions provided by DOST to the qualified household-beneficiaries. Further, it shall actively participate in the M&E of program implementation at all levels.
8. **Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)** shall, in coordination with DSWD, provide business advisory services on entrepreneurship and various livelihood skills/ trainings which are tailor-fit according to the needs of 4Ps through one-on-one consultations, focus group discussions, and coaching/ mentoring at the Negosyo Centers located in every city/ municipality. It shall actively participate in the Advisory Councils at the national, regional, provincial and city /municipal levels. It shall provide regular updates to the NAC on the initiatives of DTI among the qualified household-beneficiaries. It shall provide a national plan for their training and livelihood through its present and future DTI programs and line agencies. Further, it shall actively participate in the M&E of program implementation at all levels.
9. **Technical Education Skills and Development Authority (TESDA)** shall ensure that 4Ps policies and guidelines are in accordance with the provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement between DSWD and TESDA. It shall actively participate in the Advisory Councils at the national, regional, provincial and city/ municipal levels. It shall provide regular updates to the NAC on the initiatives of TESDA among the qualified household-beneficiaries. It shall provide scholarships, covering training and assessment, and student assistance programs subject to qualification requirements. Further, it shall actively participate in the M&E of program implementation at all levels.

b. Other Key Agencies for Convergence

1. **Commission on Population and Development (PopCom)** shall ensure that the 4Ps policies and guidelines are in accordance with the Philippine Population Management Program (PPMP), as the central policy-making, planning, coordinating, and monitoring body of the population program of the country. As applicable, it shall actively participate in the NTWG. PopCom shall ensure ways of assisting parents with unmet

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need for modern family planning to access its information and services. Further, it shall assist in the M&E of program implementation at all levels.

2. **Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC)** shall ensure that the rights and the best interest of children are considered in the crafting of 4Ps policies and guidelines, as the central coordinating agency of the country for the protection, welfare, development and participation of children. As applicable, it shall actively participate in the NTWG. It shall assist in the M&E of program implementation at all levels. It shall develop innovative ways/ means to ensure that all children, especially those in and from GIDA are able to access the basic services offered by the government. Further, the CWC shall also ensure that the provisions on its sectoral plans of action for children are duly incorporated in the Program.
3. **Department of Budget and Management (DBM)** shall ensure sound, efficient and effective management and utilization of government resources and Official Development Assistance (ODA) consistent with existing budgeting, accounting and auditing rules and regulations, as an instrument in the achievement of the national socio-economic and political development goal. As applicable, it shall actively participate in the NTWG. Further, it shall assist the DSWD in the preparation of a Budget OM for the Program to improve and systematize methods, techniques and procedures employed in budget preparation, authorization, execution and accountability.
4. **Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)** shall encourage LGUs to incorporate pro-poor programs, particularly on the health, nutrition and education in their plans and budget, in order to promote peace and order, ensure public safety and further strengthen local government capability aimed towards effective delivery of basic services to the citizenry. It shall actively participate in the NTWG, as applicable. It shall assist the target LGUs in accessing resources that allow them to upgrade the basic health and education facilities and address the supply side gaps of the cities/ municipalities. Further, it shall actively participate in the M&E of program implementation, specifically at the barangay level focusing on the ability of the LGUs to provide the required services.
5. **National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC)**, as an advisory body that exercises oversight functions in the implementation of the Social Reform Agenda, shall assist in the coordination, the M&E of program implementation. It shall actively participate in the NTWG.
6. **National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP)** shall ensure that the 4Ps policies and guidelines are in accordance with the provisions of RA No. 8371, or otherwise known as, "The Indigenous People's Rights Act," as the primary government agency that formulates and implements policies, plans and programs for the recognition, promotion and protection of the rights and well-being of IPs with due regard to their ancestral domains and lands, self-governance and empowerment, social justice and human rights, and cultural integrity. As applicable, it shall actively participate in the NTWG. It shall provide resource persons for orientation or training activities relative to RA No. 8371, the IPs, and their indigenous knowledge systems and practices. It shall assist in crafting or enhancing policies, guidelines or manuals relevant to IPs, which should be culturally sensitive and appropriate. Further, it shall assist in the M&E of program implementation at all levels.
7. **National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)** shall ensure that the 4Ps policies are aligned with and contribute to the attainment of the country's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Ambisyon Natin 2040, and the

Philippine Development Plan, as the highest socio-economic development planning and policy coordination body in the country. As applicable, it shall actively participate in the NTWG. Further, it shall assist in the policy development and the M&E of program implementation at all levels.

8. **National Nutrition Council (NNC)** shall ensure that the 4Ps policies and guidelines on nutrition are aligned with existing national nutrition standards and the government's current thrust and directions for nutrition, and as indicated in the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition. As applicable, it shall actively participate in the NTWG. Further, it shall assist in the M&E of program implementation particularly on compliance to nutrition-related conditions.
9. **Philippine Commission on Women (PCW)** shall contribute in ensuring that gender issues and concerns of the qualified household-beneficiaries are properly addressed and that the policies, activities and programs implemented are gender responsive. As applicable, it shall actively participate in the NTWG. Further, it shall assist in the M&E of program implementation at all levels.
10. **Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth)** shall ensure that the coverage in the NHIP is complied with including enrollment of the qualified household-beneficiary members, in accordance with Universal Health Care Act, and its IRR. As applicable, it shall actively participate in the NTWG. It shall assist in the M&E of program implementation at all levels.
11. **Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS)** shall conduct impact assessment of the Program, validation on the veracity of list of qualified household-beneficiaries and program implementation, and assessment of the level of benefits and recommend policy measures to improve program implementation and service delivery. It shall coordinate with program stakeholders on its design. It shall remain independent and will not be directly involved in program implementation. Further, it shall disseminate findings to DSWD, NAC, congressional oversight committee, stakeholders, and the general public.

Section 50. Partnership of DSWD with the LGUs shall be coursed through the DILG and the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP), in the form of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Specific Implementation Agreements (SIA), in order to address the supply side requirements necessary for the compliance of the qualified household - beneficiaries to program conditions, and provision of complementary support services in preparation for the households' eventual exit from the program within the 7-year maximum period.

Section 51. Partnerships of DSWD with NGOs, CSOs and the private sectors are aimed to strengthen the well-being of qualified household-beneficiaries. It shall promote participation and involvement in community development. Partnership engagement includes program complementation, service delivery, capacity building, knowledge management, and advocacy and sponsorships.

RULE XIX. INDEPENDENT MONITORING COMMITTEE

Section 52. An Independent Monitoring Committee (IMC) shall be created at the national and regional levels, composed of representatives from the private sector and civil society organizations (CSOs), subject to the criteria to be developed by the DSWD, to complement the monitoring activities of the DSWD and provide feedback for appropriate action. Its

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establishment is aligned with the Department's policies on transparency, accountability, participation, equity, and quality assurance.

Section 53. The IMC is tasked to:

- a. Monitor the inter-agency implementation of the Program at all levels;
- b. Participate in the review and assessment of qualified household-beneficiary and LGU compliance to conditions;
- c. Solicit participation of the private sector to collaborate with government in the implementation of the Program;
- d. Set the standards for accountability, transparency and equity among 4Ps stakeholders;
- e. Hold regular quarterly meetings or special meetings as needed; and
- f. Act as resource persons in advocacy activities as appropriate.

Section 54. The IMC shall submit a report on the results of its monitoring activities relative to the program implementation to the respective NAC and RAC

RULE XX. REGULAR PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Section 55. The DSWD shall monitor the program implementation and report its status at least once every three (3) years in order to ensure the attainment of the goals enumerated in Section 2 of the Act and this IRR to the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Philippines.

RULE XXI. REPORT OF THE PROGRAM

Section 56. The DSWD shall annually publish a full report of the 4Ps covering the implementation of the previous fiscal year. The said report shall include financial disclosures, number of households included in the 4Ps, and recommendations to the Advisory Council, the President and to both chambers of the Congress on how to further enhance it. This report shall be submitted to Congress before the submission of the President's Budget Message.

The DSWD shall develop a flowchart to be included in the OM, for the detailing and streamlining of the reportorial process regarding the M&E and implementation. The flowchart shall also provide the timeline for the submission of the reports. The program report shall include an evaluation of the impacts of the Program to the community.

RULE XXII. PROGRAM TRANSPARENCY AND PROMOTION

Section 57. The DSWD shall regularly and timely post and update on its website a report of financial disclosures and information about the qualified household-beneficiaries based on geographical area, social, economic and cultural circumstances. Provided that it shall be in compliance with the Data Privacy Act and its IRR.

Section 58. The Program shall use social marketing and advocacy strategies to promote program goals and objectives, gain social acceptance and support, foster significant values

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on health and education, and advance positive and productive changes in the lives of qualified household-beneficiaries.

RULE XXIII. JOINT CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Section 59. Upon effectivity of the Act and this IRR, a Congressional Oversight Committee, hereafter referred to as the 4Ps Oversight Committee is hereby constituted. This Committee shall set the overall framework to review the implementation of the Act. It shall likewise determine inherent weaknesses in the law and recommend necessary remedial legislation or executive measures.

Section 60. The 4Ps Oversight Committee shall be composed of fourteen (14) members with the chairperson of the Committee on Poverty of Alleviation of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development of the Senate as Co-Chairpersons; and six (6) members from each House, to be designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Senate President, respectively.

Section 61. For the purpose of determining remedial legislation, the 4Ps Oversight Committee shall, within three (3) years after the effectivity of the Act, conduct a sunset review which shall include a systematic evaluation of the impact of the Act, accomplishments of the Program, and the performance of its implementing agencies.

RULE XXIV. APPROPRIATIONS

Section 62. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act shall be charged against those authorized in the current and subsequent General Appropriations Act.

RULE XXV. PENALTIES

Section 63. Any person, whether or not acting in conspiracy with public officials or employees, who, by act or omission, inserts or allows the insertion of data or false information, or who diverts from what ought to be contained in the registry, with the view of altering the fact, or aiding in the grant of the money to other persons other than the qualified household-beneficiaries, shall be penalized with imprisonment of not less than one (1) month but not more than one (1) year, or a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Pesos (PhP10,000.00) but not more than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (PhP100,000.00) or both imprisonment and fine, at the discretion of the court.

Section 64. A public official or employee who commits any of the acts provided in the previous section and this IRR herein shall be penalized with temporary disqualification to hold public office. Administrative sanctions shall be imposed without prejudice to prosecution in the proper courts, in accordance with the 2017 Revised Rules on Administrative Cases in the Civil Service (2017 RRACCS) and RA No. 11032, otherwise known as the "Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018."

RULE XXVI. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 65. Should any provision of the Act be found unconstitutional by a court of law, such provisions shall be severed from the remainder of the Act and this IRR, and such action shall not affect the enforceability of the remaining provisions of the Act and this IRR.

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Section 66. All laws, decrees, letters of instructions, resolutions, orders, circulars, rules and regulations, and other presidential decrees or executive issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of the Act and this IRR are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

The current composition of the NAC shall be in hold-over capacity three (3) months from the approval of this IRR.

It is recognized that the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) has specific circumstances by reason of the provisions of the Bangsamoro Organic Act. Thus, to ensure that an effective implementation of 4Ps in BARMM, close technical assistance shall be provided by the 4Ps National Program Management Office in accordance with the Act and to this IRR.


The existing 4Ps Operations Manual (OM) shall be revised based on the Act and this IRR detailing the processes, procedures, flowcharts and other information pertinent to program implementation lacking herein for clarification and clear guidance of all concerned.

Section 67. This IRR shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the filing of at least three (3) certified true copies of this IRR at the University of the Philippines Office of the National Administrative Register (UP ONAR) and its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved and signed this _____ day of December 2019.



ROLANDO JOSELITO D. BAUTISTA
Secretary


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE, III
Secretary, DOH

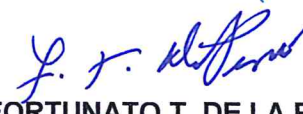

LEONOR M. BRIONES
Secretary, DepEd

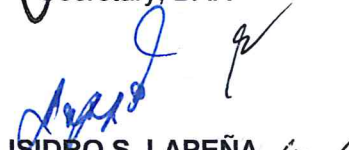

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Office of the Secretary

OTH-20-153