

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
FILM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF THE PHILIPPINES

ADVISORY NO. 02
Series of 2020



Relative to FDCP Advisory No. 01 on the activation of the **FDCP DISASTER/EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND RELIEF (DEAR) PROGRAM**, a disaster-triggered funding mechanism of the Film Development Council of the Philippines that provides financial assistance to its stakeholders who are directly affected by a major natural disaster, the **DEAR PRESS! PROGRAM** (for displaced freelance entertainment press) is hereby activated with the following guidelines issued:

Under DEAR, the **DEAR PRESS! PROGRAM** (for displaced Freelance Entertainment Press) is hereby activated with the following guidelines issued:

1. **Definition of Disaster-affected Freelance Entertainment Press Workers.** These are self-employed members of the press who were suddenly out of work as a direct result of the COVID-19 Enhanced Community Quarantine and subsequent State of National Calamity, and does not work for a direct employer and are not eligible for government instituted benefits from other government agencies.
2. **Coverage.** The program covers disaster- affected freelancer members of the entertainment press included but not limited to editors, writers and reporters on a no-work no pay status, and those that are not formally affiliated with a company. Program coverage is the National Capital Region.
3. **Conditions.** Any one of the following loss of work conditions must be satisfied by applying workers as a direct result of the COVID-19 situation:
 - a. The worker was scheduled to work, but were unable to reach the workplace.
 - b. The worker was scheduled to start work but the job was cancelled or does not exist anymore.
 - c. The worker developed an illness, sustained an injury, or became sick and thus, are unable to work.
 - d. The worker's employer/ producer has temporarily or permanently closed for business.
 - e. The worker already started the work but the job was cancelled or postponed to a later date.

4. **Qualifications.** Freelance workers of the entertainment press intending to apply for the DEAR PRESS! Program must satisfy all of the following qualifications.
 - a. The individual must have job/s that were cancelled or suspended as a direct result of the Covid-19 Pandemic. **March 15-April 14, 2020** is the duration of the Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon.
 - b. The individual must not have unemployment insurance benefits from either his/her employer/ producer, or from any other government agencies (e.g. SSS, DOLE, DSWD, etc.).
 - c. The individual must have written at least one (1) article about the PH showbiz and AV entertainment industry in the last three months that was published or reported in a news or media publication OR covered at least one FDCP press event last year.

5. **Benefit Payment.** Approved beneficiaries of the DEAR PRESS! Program will receive a one time cash financial assistance of Five Thousand Pesos (P 5, 000) tax free to cover expenses during the disaster period, like personal needs, medical expenses, housing and rent, and other essentials. The beneficiaries will be required to sign a Declaration and Agreement with FDCP agreeing and abiding to all the terms of the Program and certifying that all details of the application and documents submitted are factual and authentic.

6. **Application Process.** Relative to the COVID-19 situation, applications may be submitted to FDCP from **March 30 – April 30, 2020** or within 30 days of the activation of the DEAR PRESS! Program through this Advisory. Online submissions via email to dearnationalregistry@fdcp.ph with the subject *[Application] DEAR PRESS! (Surname, Name)* are preferable and hard copy applications are discouraged. However, drop boxes for DEAR PRESS! applications will still be available at the FDCP Office at 855 T.M. Kalaw Street, Ermita, Manila starting March 23, 2020.

7. **Documentary Requirements.** Freelance workers of the entertainment press who intend to apply are required to substantiate loss of work or self-employment or to substantiate work that was to begin on or after the declared date of the disaster. The following documents shall be submitted by each applicant:
 - Completely filled up DEAR PRESS! Application form (which will also serve as the National Registry for Entertainment Press (NREP) Application Form)
 - Affidavit of Agreement with at least an affixed signature. Notarized copy to follow post quarantine. (Template downloadable at the website.)
 - Any proof of income: Latest Income Tax Return (ITR), payslips, vouchers or Copy of PRESS ID
 - Certificate of Engagement/Employment from a news or media publication
 - Any of the following:
 - i. Copy/Link of Latest Showbiz-related Articles written for a publication (January to March 2020)
 - ii. Copy/Link of an FDCP-related article written/reported on (2019)

If documentary proof cannot be provided at the time the claim is filed, applicants have twenty one (21) calendar days from the time of application to submit the complete documents.

8. **Disbursement of Financial Support.** The concerned FDCP personnel shall issue the financial support directly to the affected worker's bank account or via available money remittance services at the soonest possible time upon the approval of the application.
9. **Effectivity.** The DEAR PRESS! PROGRAM shall be effective on **30 March 2020** upon its publication. Applications will be open from March 30- April 30, 2020.

Attached as ANNEX A is the DEAR Fund Guidelines and as ANNEX B is the DEAR PRESS! Program Guidelines.

For information and guidance.



MARYLIZA B. DIÑO
Chairperson and CEO

ANNEX A

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
FILM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF THE PHILIPPINES

**FDCP NATIONAL REGISTRY
DISASTER/EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND RELIEF (DEAR) PROGRAM**

OBJECTIVE

The **FDCP DISASTER/EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND RELIEF (DEAR) PROGRAM** is a disaster-triggered funding mechanism of the Film Development Council of the Philippines that provides financial assistance to its stakeholders and is activated as a direct result of a major natural disaster. A major disaster means any typhoon, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water or tidal wave, earthquake, drought, fire, public health emergency or other catastrophes as declared by the President that warrants government assistance to communities and individuals in the country. The DEAR Program is administered by the Film Development Council of the Philippines through the FDCP National Registry and is available to its duly registered members, subject to qualifications.

QUALIFYING EVENTS

Based on the recommendation of the concerned Departments or Disaster Task Force, the President of the Philippines may declare a State of Calamity or equivalent and similar proclamations e.g. State of Public Health Emergency. The declaration identifies the major disaster which provides the full range of disaster assistance available under the law for the country.

In special cases like these, FDCP can activate its emergency funds. Disaster-triggered support may be made available to provide assistance or aid to its stakeholders who do not qualify for assistance under other programs of frontline government agencies.

INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

When a major disaster is declared by the President, programs under DEAR will be activated via an official advisory and will be generally available to its stakeholders registered under the FDCP National Registry affected by the disaster.

In cases where funding is insufficient to serve all eligible stakeholders, FDCP may prioritize those in need of immediate aid.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To file a claim, disaster-affected stakeholders may contact the Film Development Council of the Philippines National Registry.

Applications must be filed by an individual within thirty (30) days of the announcement of the activation of the DEAR Program through an FDCP Advisory released online and through mass media channels. Applicants must follow the instructions in the FDCP

Advisory and file for an application based on the filing methods used by the Agency (i.e. in person, mail, or online).

DOCUMENTATION AND REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are required to provide documentation according to the requirements for the activated programs.

BENEFIT PAYMENT

A financial assistance (tax-free) will be made to disaster-affected stakeholders whose applications have been approved.

DURATION OF BENEFITS

DEAR benefits are payable only for the dates that fall within the Disaster Assistance Period.

RESTRICTIONS ON ENTITLEMENT

DEAR benefits are not payable to individuals who are entitled to or qualified for regular unemployment compensation, waiting period credit or benefits from SSS, DOLE, DSWD, their own employer, and similar agencies.

RETURN SERVICE

As the DEAR Program is a government fund and in the spirit of serving the community and stakeholders, the beneficiary must commit to rendering return service by participating in at least two (2) FDCP-led or supported event, activity or project serving in the capacity of their field. The service must be rendered for free within two (2) years upon the receipt of the assistance.

DECLARATION AND AGREEMENT

Each approved beneficiary worker of DEAR must sign a Declaration and Agreement with FDCP, agreeing and abiding to all the terms of the Program and certifying that all details of the application and documents submitted are factual and authentic.

For more information, please contact:

FDCP NATIONAL REGISTRY

855 T.M. Kalaw St. Ermita, Manila

dearnationalregistry@fdcp.ph

<http://fdcp.ph/dear-program>

ANNEX B

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
FILM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF THE PHILIPPINES

**FDCP NATIONAL REGISTRY
DISASTER/EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND RELIEF (DEAR) PROGRAM**

**DEAR PRESS! PROGRAM (For Displaced Freelance Entertainment Press Workers)
FACT SHEET**

WHAT IS THE DEAR PROGRAM?

The FDCP DEAR (Disaster Emergency Assistance and Relief) Program is a disaster-triggered funding mechanism of the Film Development Council of the Philippines that provides financial assistance to its stakeholders who are directly affected by a major natural disaster. This disaster fund is activated every time the President of the Philippines declares a public emergency or a State of Calamity in the country.

WHAT IS DEAR PRESS! PROGRAM (FOR DISPLACED FREELANCE ENTERTAINMENT PRESS WORKERS)?

DEAR PRESS! PROGRAM (For Displaced Freelance Entertainment Press Workers) is a targeted program that provides final assistance to disaster-affected freelance members of the entertainment press - writers and reporters - who are directly affected by a declared major disaster and are not eligible for other government instituted benefits.

WHAT IS A MAJOR DISASTER?

A major disaster may be a typhoon, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water or tidal wave, earthquake, drought, fire, public health emergency, or any other catastrophes as declared by the President of the Philippines.

DOES DEAR PRESS! COVER THE COVID-19 SITUATION?

Yes. DEAR PRESS! covers the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic that caused Enhanced Quarantine procedures and consequent declaration of the State of Calamity in the country that disrupted work, events, and activities in affected areas.

WHAT ASSISTANCE DO I GET FROM DEAR PRESS!?

Each displaced freelance entertainment press member who qualifies for the program will receive a one-time flat rate cash financial assistance of Five Thousand Pesos (P 5,000) tax free to cover their expenses during the disaster period, like personal needs, medical expenses, housing and rent, and other essential needs. Entertainment Press people who have been granted assistance will be requested for a Return Service commitment to FDCP for its programs and activities.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR DEAR PRESS! BENEFITS?

DEAR PRESS! is available for freelance Entertainment Press workers who are members of the FDCP's National Registry for Entertainment Press (NREP) who suddenly lost work as a direct result of a disaster.

You are considered "suddenly unemployed or suddenly lost work" if because of the disaster, you experienced any of the following and can support your claim through documentary proof:

1. You were scheduled to work but were unable to reach your workplace.
2. You were scheduled to start work but the job was cancelled or does not exist anymore.
3. You developed an illness, sustained an injury, or became sick and thus, are unable to work.
4. Your employer/ producer has temporarily closed for business, or the place of business was permanently damaged or destroyed.
5. The worker already started the work but the job was cancelled or postponed to a later date.

You qualify for the DEAR PRESS! benefit if:

1. Your scheduled jobs have been suspended or cancelled as a direct result of a major disaster, as declared by the President of the Philippines.
2. You do not have unemployment insurance benefits from either your employer/ producer, or from any other government agencies (i.e. SSS, DOLE, DSWD, etc.).
3. You wrote at least one (1) article about the PH showbiz and AV entertainment industry in the last three (3) months that was published in a news publication OR covered at least one (1) FDCP press event last year.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR DEAR PRESS!?

Online Application

Fill out a DEAR PRESS! Application Form available online at <http://fdcp.ph/dear-program>. Print the form and fill it up legibly by hand or typed text. Collect all the available documentary requirements and attachments, scan each document and submit online to dearnationalregistry@fdcp.ph with the following subject:

[APPLICATION] DEAR PRESS! (Surname, Name)

e.g. [APPLICATION] DEAR PRESS! (Dela Cruz, Juan)

Hard Copy Application

For applications during the COVID-19 situation, hard copy applications are discouraged. However, drop boxes for DEAR applications will still be available at the FDCP Office at 855 T.M. Kalaw Street, Ermita, Manila starting March 23, 2020.

Application Dates

You must file an application within thirty (30) days of the announcement of the activation of the DEAR PROGRAM through an FDCP ADVISORY released online and through mass media channels. For DEAR PRESS! applications related to the COVID-19 declaration, they may be submitted to FDCP from **March 30- April 30, 2020**.

Submission of Documentary Support

Make sure that all documentary requirements are available before lodging your application. However, if further documentary proof cannot be provided when you submit your application, you will have twenty one (21) calendar days from the time your application to meet the requirements. Failure to do this shall forfeit the application or will result to return of the benefit.

Required Documents

1. Completely filled up DEAR PRESS! Application form (which will also serve as the National Registry for Entertainment Press (NREP) Application Form)
2. Affidavit of Agreement with at least an affixed signature. Notarized copy to follow post quarantine. (Template downloadable at the website.)
3. Any proof of income : Latest Income Tax Return (ITR), payslips, vouchers OR Copy of PRESS ID
4. Certificate of Engagement/ Employment from your news or media publication
5. Any one of the following:
 - Copy/Link of Latest Showbiz-related Articles written for your publication (January to March 2020)
 - Copy/Link of an FDCP-related article you wrote/reported (2019)

WHO ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR DEAR PRESS! BENEFITS?

Workers who are employees of companies regardless of status (regular, contractual, project-based, contract of service, etc.) and are in the regular payroll of said companies and who are entitled to regular employment compensation, waiting period credit, or benefits from SSS, DOLE, DSWD, and other similar government institutions or agencies are NOT eligible for DEAR.

If you are an employee (regular, contractual, seasonal, project-based, contract of service etc.) of a company that is affected by a disaster as proclaimed by the President, please refer to the CAMP and TUPAD assistance programs of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), or to the available programs of DTI, DSWD, SSS or other similar agencies.

WHAT IS THE RETURN SERVICE REQUIREMENT?

The DEAR fund is a government fund for your welfare. In the spirit of serving the community and the stakeholder of the film industry, we ask beneficiaries of DEAR PRESS! to commit to rendering return service by participating in at least two (2) FDCP-led or FDCP-supported events, activities, or projects as a volunteer worker or professional, serving in the capacity of your field. The service must be rendered within two (2) years after you receive the DEAR assistance.

DO YOU HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

For inquiries, please email dearnationalregistry@fdcp.ph with the following subject:

[INQUIRY] DEAR NR (Topic)

e.g. [INQUIRY] DEAR NR (Doc Requirements?)

Forms are downloadable at <http://fdcp.ph/dear-program>

1. DEAR PRESS! Application Form
2. National Registry for Entertainment Press Application Form
3. DEAR PRESS! Fact Sheet
4. Affidavit of Agreement Template
5. Sample Certificate of Engagement
6. Latest FDCP Advisory activating DEAR PRESS! PROGRAM