



**Philippine
Overseas
Employment
Administration**

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NEWS RELEASE

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Charging of placement fees to Guam-bound workers illegal

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration warned anew Philippine recruitment agencies from charging placement fees from applicants bound for the US, including Guam for jobs falling under the H-2B visa category or non-agricultural temporary worker.

The policy, contained in POEA Memorandum Circular No. 10 Series of 2009 issued in September last year is in line with US Government regulations which forbids the charging of recruitment or placement fees from a worker as a condition for employment under an H-2B visa.

POEA has adopted a policy that prohibits charging of placement fees from workers applying for jobs in countries that do not allow charging of such fees since 2001. The US, including Guam, is now one such country that forbids the charging of placement fees from workers. Other countries that prohibit the collection of placement fees from workers are United Kingdom, Ireland, Israel, some parts of Canada like Alberta, Manitoba, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Netherlands.

Administrator Jennifer Jardin-Manalili said that administrative charges carrying a penalty of cancellation of license shall immediately be filed against recruitment agencies found violating the no-placement fee policy in these countries.

Manalili also urged jobseekers to visit the POEA website www.poea.gov.ph or call hotlines 722-1144/7221155 or text 2917 for any developments on the Guam labor market.

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