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COVID-19 (TEMPORARY MEASURES) ACT 2020
(ACT 14 OF 2020)

COVID-19 (TEMPORARY MEASURES)
(FOREIGN EMPLOYEE DORMITORIES
— CONTROL ORDER)
REGULATIONS 2020

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In exercise of the powers conferred by section 34(1) of the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020, the Minister for Health makes the following Regulations:

PART 1

PRELIMINARY

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations are the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Foreign Employee Dormitories — Control Order) Regulations 2020 and come into operation on 14 September 2020.

Definitions

2.—(1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

“appointed date” means the date of commencement of these Regulations;

“boarding premises” has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Foreign Employee Dormitories Act 2015 (Act 3 of 2015);

“building sector worker” means —

- (a) a building elements supply worker;
- (b) a construction worker;
- (c) a related worker; or
- (d) a renovation worker;

“cleared status”, in relation to an individual and a specified dormitory, means an individual who —

- (a) in the period of 14 consecutive days before the individual first enters the specified dormitory as a resident thereof, has undergone a COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction test and his or her test result is negative for COVID-19; or
- (b) in the period of 180 consecutive days before the individual first enters the specified dormitory as a resident thereof, recovered from a COVID-19 infection,

and the period before first entry may be a period before the appointed date;

“foreign employee” has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Foreign Employee Dormitories Act 2015;

“individual of uncleared status”, in relation to a specified dormitory, means an individual who is not an individual of cleared status with respect to that specified dormitory;

“new resident”, in relation to a specified dormitory, means an individual who —

- (a) immediately before the appointed date, does not occupy one or more beds or rooms, or spaces within a

room, in the specified dormitory as the individual's main or only residence in Singapore; and

- (b) first enters, on or after the appointed date, a specified dormitory as a resident of that specified dormitory, disregarding any previous period the individual had occupied one or more beds or rooms, or spaces within a room, in the same specified dormitory that is discontinuous;

“occupancy agreement”, in relation to a specified dormitory, means an agreement (written or unwritten) —

- (a) to which an operator of the specified dormitory (or a person acting on behalf of the operator) is a party; and
- (b) under which an individual is provided one or more beds or rooms, or spaces within a room, in the specified dormitory to occupy as a resident of the dormitory;

“operator”, in relation to a specified dormitory —

- (a) means a person who is managing and maintaining, in the course of a business, the specified dormitory (whether self-owned or under lease or otherwise) to provide board and lodging for residents of the dormitory who may or may not be employees of that person; and
- (b) includes a lessor of a flat or house that is leased wholly as a specified dormitory;

“resident”, in relation to a specified dormitory, means an individual (whether or not a foreign employee) who occupies or enjoys a right to occupy one or more beds or rooms, or spaces within a room, in the specified dormitory as the individual's main or only residence in Singapore;

“specified dormitory” means any boarding premises that provides accommodation to 7 or more foreign employees and that is not a specified hostel.

(2) Unless expressly provided otherwise in these Regulations, any word or expression in these Regulations that is defined in the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020 (G.N. No. S 254/2020) has the meaning given to it by those Regulations.

Supplementary requirements

3.—(1) A permitted enterprise that is an operator of a specified dormitory must take, so far as is reasonably practicable, steps to ensure that the measures specified in these Regulations are complied with, in relation to its provision of board and lodging and other authorised services at the specified dormitory, in addition to the requirements in Division 1 of Part 3A of the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020.

(2) These Regulations prevail if, and to the extent, there is any inconsistency between these Regulations and the requirements in Division 1 of Part 3A of the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020 insofar as the matter relates to a specified dormitory.

PART 2

SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR RESIDENTS

Division 1 — Entering and leaving dormitory

Entering and leaving by residents, etc.

4. Residents leaving the specified dormitory (for work or otherwise) must be controlled in order —

- (a) to ensure that any resident who leaves the specified dormitory on his or her rest day has permission from the Chief of the Assurance, Care and Engagement (ACE) Group (given by way of an electronic notification or otherwise) to do so; and
- (b) to ensure that any resident who leaves the specified dormitory at any other time —

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- (i) is doing so for a special purpose approved by the Chief of the Assurance, Care and Engagement (ACE) Group after giving prior notice to the employer, and to the Chief of the Assurance, Care and Engagement (ACE) Group unless the latter waives the notice;
 - (ii) is seeking medical treatment or help in an emergency; or
 - (iii) is required by lawful authority to evacuate or leave the specified dormitory.

Record keeping of persons entering and leaving

5. Records must be kept of —

- (a) the identity of each resident and visitor who enters or leaves the specified dormitory each day;
- (b) the respective times of the resident or visitor (as the case may be) entering and leaving the specified dormitory;
- (c) the purpose for which the visitor is entering or leaving the specified dormitory; and
- (d) the particulars of identity, and the mobile telephone number or other contact detail, of every resident of the dormitory.

Checks for symptomatic individuals entering and leaving

6. The following steps must be taken with respect to every resident or visitor entering or leaving the specified dormitory, before he or she enters or leaves the specified dormitory:

- (a) the visitor must have his or her body temperature taken in order to ascertain whether he or she is febrile;
- (b) the resident or visitor (as the case may be) must be examined without physical contact to visually ascertain whether he or she shows any specified symptom.

Division 2 — Minimising physical contact

Minimise bunching when leaving dormitory

7. Residents leaving the specified dormitory (for work or otherwise) must be controlled in order to minimise the following groups leaving the specified dormitory at or about the same time and from the same gate or other place of departure from the specified dormitory as other residents or group of residents:

- (a) residents who stay in different rooms;
- (b) residents who are not symptomatic cases.

Events ordinarily disallowed

8.—(1) The operator of a specified dormitory must not cause or permit an event involving a gathering in person between —

- (a) any residents of a specified dormitory; or
- (b) any residents of a specified dormitory and visitors,

to take place, in any room in the specified dormitory that is solely for the accommodation of any resident of the specified dormitory.

(2) The operator of a specified dormitory must not cause or permit an event involving a gathering in person between —

- (a) any residents of a specified dormitory; or
- (b) any residents of a specified dormitory and visitors,

to take place, in any room or place that is shared facilities of the specified dormitory (such as a hall, communal living room or canteen) unless —

- (c) the Chief of the Assurance, Care and Engagement (ACE) Group first gives to the operator of the specified dormitory approval for the holding of the event either generally or specially for a particular event, after having regard to —
 - (i) the risks of the incidence or transmission of COVID-19 arising from the event;
 - (ii) the well-being (mental or otherwise) of those residents; and

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- (iii) such other factors as the Chief of the Assurance, Care and Engagement (ACE) Group considers relevant;
 - (d) the gathering of residents does not consist of a mix of individuals of cleared status and individuals of uncleared status; and
 - (e) the gathering at or in relation to that event does not exceed the lower of the following:
 - (i) 250 individuals, whether as participants, conveners, performers or otherwise;
[S 274/2021 wef 24/04/2021]
 - (ii) the maximum number of individuals which the room or place where the gathering is taking place may accommodate if regulations 10B(1)(k), 12 and 13E(1)(d) of the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020, and the First Schedule to those Regulations (if applicable), are complied with.

(3) To avoid doubt, paragraph (2) does not disapply the requirements of the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Performances and Other Activities — Control Order) Regulations 2020 (G.N. No. S 927/2020), the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Sporting Events and Activities — Control Order) Regulations 2021 (G.N. No. S 277/2021) or the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Major Business Events — Control Order) Regulations 2021 (G.N. No. S 278/2021) (whichever being applicable) to the holding of any of the following in any room or place that is shared facilities of a specified dormitory:

- (a) a sporting event;
- (b) a media conference;
- (c) a live performance;
- (d) a business event.

Examples

A concert taking place in the communal hall of a specified dormitory for the entertainment of residents of that dormitory, even if approved by the Chief of the

Assurance, Care and Engagement (ACE) Group, must not have more than 220 residents at any time watching the concert if there are combined 30 performers and crew present for the purposes of the concert.

A cricket match between migrant workers at a large outdoor field that is organised by the operator of a specified dormitory, even if approved by the Chief of the Assurance, Care and Engagement (ACE) Group, must not involve more than 240 residents of that dormitory (whether as participants or spectators) if 5 umpires and other officials and 5 safe management officers engaged by the operator are also present.

[S 274/2021 wef 24/04/2021]

Use of shared facilities must be controlled

9. Access by residents to shared facilities (such as a communal living room, bathroom, laundry or kitchen) in a specified dormitory for a purpose other than to attend an event held in accordance with regulation 8(2) must be controlled to minimise physical interaction —

- (a) between residents who stay in different rooms in the dormitory;
- (b) between residents who are construction workers or building elements supply workers and other residents in the dormitory;
- (c) between residents who are process construction workers, process maintenance workers or marine and offshore manufacturing workers and other residents in the dormitory; and
- (d) between residents mentioned in paragraph (b) or (c) deployed to carry out work at the same work site unless the residents are allocated to the same work team by the permitted enterprise occupying that work site.

Division 3 — Segregated rooming arrangements

Rooming new residents separately

10.—(1) A new resident of a specified dormitory who is an individual of uncleared status must not be allowed to live in the same

room in the specified dormitory with any other resident unless that other resident —

- (a) is also of uncleared status; and
- (b) first entered the specified dormitory as a resident on the same date as the firstmentioned resident.

(2) A new resident of a specified dormitory who —

- (a) is an individual of uncleared status; and
- (b) is allowed, with the approval of the Chief of the Assurance, Care and Engagement (ACE) Group mentioned in regulation 4(b)(i), to leave the specified dormitory to be at work,

must not be allowed to live in the same room in the specified dormitory with any other resident unless that other resident —

- (c) is also of uncleared status;
- (d) first entered the specified dormitory as a resident on the same date as the firstmentioned resident; and
- (e) is deployed to work at the same workplace as the firstmentioned resident, whether or not having the same employer.

Residents of construction site or shipyard dormitory, etc.

11.—(1) If the specified dormitory is situated on a construction site or shipyard, or is temporarily erected near or for a construction site specially to provide accommodation for individuals at work at the construction site, the residents of the dormitory must consist of only the following:

- (a) construction workers deployed to perform construction work at that construction site, or work connected with marine and offshore manufacturing at that shipyard, as the case may be;
- (b) other permitted enterprise workers deployed exclusively to perform work at that construction site or shipyard, such as security guards.

(2) In addition, where a specified dormitory that is situated within a construction site, or is temporarily erected near or for a construction site specially to provide accommodation for individuals at work at the construction site, has residents who are construction workers, each room in the specified dormitory must not have living in that same room construction workers not from the same team allocated by their employer to perform construction work at the same construction site.

Segregation of certain residents by employer

12.—(1) In addition to regulation 10, for a specified dormitory that has residents who are building sector workers, each room in the specified dormitory for these workers —

- (a) ordinarily must have living in that same room, building sector workers who are employed by the same employer;
- (b) must not have living in the same room a mix of building sector workers who are employed by 3 or more different employers; and
- (c) must be adjoining another room if any building sector workers living in those rooms are employed by the same employer.

(2) In addition to regulations 10 and 13, for a specified dormitory that has residents who are process construction workers, process maintenance workers or marine and offshore manufacturing workers, each room in the specified dormitory —

- (a) ordinarily must have living in that same room one of the following class of workers (and not a mix of classes) who are employed by the same employer:
 - (i) the class consisting of process construction workers or process maintenance workers or both;
 - (ii) the class consisting of marine and offshore manufacturing workers; and
- (b) must not have living in that same room a mix of any such class of workers who are employed by 3 or more different employers.

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- (3) Paragraph (1) does not apply to a specified dormitory that —
- (a) is situated within a construction site; or
 - (b) is temporarily erected near or for a construction site specially to provide accommodation for individuals at work at the construction site.

Segregation of process construction workers, etc., by work site

13. In addition to regulations 10 and 12, for a specified dormitory that has residents who are process construction workers, process maintenance workers or marine and offshore manufacturing workers employed by the same employer, the residents who are —

- (a) process construction workers deployed to perform process construction work at the same work site;
- (b) process maintenance workers deployed to perform process maintenance work at the same work site; or
- (c) marine and offshore manufacturing workers deployed to perform marine and offshore manufacturing work at the same shipyard,

must not be allowed to live in the same room in the dormitory if they are not from the same team allocated by their employer occupying that work site or shipyard, as the case may be.

Division 4 — Infection control

Provision of sick bay and reception areas

14. There must be provided the following separate areas within the specified dormitory:

- (a) a sick bay that is fully enclosed for the isolation of residents who are symptomatic cases, suspected of being carriers or infected with an infectious disease, or are otherwise unwell, with a minimum number of beds as follows:
 - (i) 8.5% of the occupancy load of the dormitory (rounded up to the nearest whole number) where

the dormitory is the subject of a licence under the Foreign Employee Dormitories Act 2015;

- (ii) 5% of the occupancy load of the dormitory (rounded up to the nearest whole number) in any other case,

the occupancy load being the maximum number of individuals that, in the last written permission relating to the dormitory states may be accommodated in the dormitory, or the maximum number of individuals specified in the last approval under section 23 of the Fire Safety Act (Cap. 109A) relating to the dormitory that allows compliance with Clause 9.3.3(b) of the Fire Code;

- (b) an area where visitors may wait;
- (c) an office area where the permitted service workers of the operator of the specified dormitory may carry out work.

Infection detection protocol

15. Any resident of a specified dormitory who is a symptomatic case or infected with COVID-19 must, without delay after he or she is known to be one —

- (a) be provided with and required to wear a mask at all times when within the specified dormitory;
- (b) be isolated in a sick bay pending his or her receiving medical treatment; and
- (c) be provided or caused to be provided medical treatment.

Safe and sanitary condition

16. The specified dormitory must be kept and maintained in a safe and sanitary condition.

Evacuation protocol for outbreak of COVID-19 infections

17. There must be established and maintained by the operator of the specified dormitory appropriate internal policies, procedures and controls to effect a safe and expeditious evacuation of the specified dormitory in the event of an outbreak of COVID-19 infections or

suspected COVID-19 infections among residents of or visitors to the dormitory.

PART 3

OTHER SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Restrictions on accepting certain new residents

18. Subject to regulation 19, an operator of a specified dormitory must not do, on or after the appointed date, any of the following in relation to an individual who is subject to a movement control measure or is an individual of uncleared status:

- (a) enter into an occupancy agreement for the purpose of the individual becoming a new resident of the specified dormitory;
- (b) accept the individual as a new resident of the specified dormitory.

Limited acceptance of individuals of uncleared status as residents

19. An operator of a specified dormitory may on or after the appointed date, in respect of an individual who is not subject to a movement control measure but is of uncleared status —

- (a) enter into an occupancy agreement for the purpose of the individual becoming a new resident of the specified dormitory; or
- (b) accept the individual as a new resident of the specified dormitory,

if, and only if, the occupancy agreement expressly provides that regulation 10(1) must be complied with when the individual is of uncleared status.

Termination of occupancy agreement

20. An operator of a specified dormitory must not, on or after the appointed date —

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- (a) terminate an occupancy agreement relating to an individual who is a resident of the specified dormitory;
 - (b) refuse to renew or extend an occupancy agreement relating to an individual who is a resident of the specified dormitory; or
 - (c) refuse to allow an individual to continue as a resident of the specified dormitory,

if the individual is subject to a movement control measure or is an individual of uncleared status, except with the prior approval of the Chief of the Assurance, Care and Engagement (ACE) Group.

PART 4

MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS AND GENERAL

Restrictions on movement outside specified dormitory

21.—(1) A resident of a specified dormitory who leaves the specified dormitory on his or her rest day with the permission from the Chief of the Assurance, Care and Engagement (ACE) Group —

- (a) must not travel to a place that is not a place specified generally when granting the permission, or specially in that permission; and
- (b) must not intentionally remain outside of the specified dormitory for a period longer than the period specified generally when granting the permission, or specially in that permission.

(2) A resident of a specified dormitory who leaves the specified dormitory on his or her rest day for a special purpose approved by the Chief of the Assurance, Care and Engagement (ACE) Group —

- (a) must not remain outside the specified dormitory for any other purpose that is not connected with, or is not incidental to, the special purpose approved; and
- (b) must not intentionally remain outside of the specified dormitory for a period longer than the period specified in the approval.

Application

22. These Regulations do not apply to prevent the Government or any public body doing or omitting to do anything in the performance of any function, or the exercise of any power, of the Government or public body (as the case may be) under any law.

Made on 12 September 2020.

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(To be presented to Parliament under section 34(4) of the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020).