

Limits on basic goods imposed

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The **Quezon City local government** will limit the number of items or goods a person can purchase for the duration of the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) from 6 to 20 August 2021 in order to avoid hoarding and panic buying.

In the latest ECQ guidelines issued by the Quezon City mayor, **the Business Permits and Licensing Department (BPLD)** is mandated to implement Ordinance SP-2948 S-2020, or Regulating the Selling of Basic Necessities During Calamities.

“We have to impose limits to avoid panic buying and hoarding that may lead to supply problems and could prevent other citizens from purchasing the needs of their families during the ECQ. It is better that this policy is in place now so that everyone has the opportunity to buy what they need,” the mayor said.

The ordinance limits sardine purchases to just five cans per brand per person, while with other canned goods, such as meat loaf and corned beef, a customer is limited to 10 cans per brand.

City officials stressed there is no need to hoard food items now since the delivery of goods will remain unhampered during the ECQ.

The directive, which takes effect on midnight of 6 August, also sets Public Safety Hours at 8 p.m. to 4 a.m., as agreed upon by the Metro Manila Council.

During the ECQ, only persons going to and from work, authorized persons outside of residence (APOR) and those who have confirmed vaccination schedules are allowed to go out. The revival of the use of quarantine passes issued by the barangay has also been ordered. A pass should not be given to more than one person per household, preferably to a person who is fully vaccinated and also does not have a company ID or other APOR ID.

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Dine-in, whether indoor or outdoor, is not allowed, but restaurants and other food establishments may provide takeout or delivery services at any time, even during public safety hours.

The ban on the sale of liquor and the operation of personal care services, such as barber shops, nail spas, parlors and salons, has also been ordered.

In addition, essential businesses that operate indoor facilities, such as supermarkets, palengkes and the like, need to limit their capacity to ensure at least a two-meter distance among customers and ensure sufficient ventilation.

Business establishments allowed to operate should strictly implement the Kyusi Pass digital contact tracing method. A lessee inside a larger establishment (such as individual stores inside a mall) should also have its own KyusiPass contact tracing log.

All establishments, institutions and facilities are required to provide their QR code scanners as mandated under the City's Kyusi Pass Ordinance.

Under the latest guidelines, no home quarantine shall be allowed for confirmed Covid-19 cases and symptomatic close contacts. They must be transferred to the city's hospitals, HOPE community caring facilities, barangay isolation facilities and national government-accredited isolation hotels.