

850,000 families in QC to get lockdown aid

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An estimated 850,000 families in Quezon City will receive P1,000 to P4,000 in financial assistance from the national government during the two-week enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) in Metro Manila.



An initial 43,000 qualified beneficiaries were scheduled to receive the lockdown aid in various payout centers in the city yesterday, according to Mayor Joy Belmonte.

To avoid confusion stemming from false information, Belmonte urged the beneficiaries to refer to the list and schedules posted by the city government and respective barangays online and in their communities.

“They can find the information about the time and venue of the aid distribution, as well as the requirements that they need to bring in order for them to claim it,” Belmonte said.

“It will be up to the barangays if they will use stubs, color coding, per street, alphabetical or per purok as their mode of distribution to ensure order and maintain the implementation of minimum health standards,” she added.

Belmonte said the barangays would assign a specific day and time to each beneficiary and put in place other guidelines to avoid overcrowding at payout sites.

Based on the city government’s guidelines, the beneficiary list must be staggered through hourly schedules to prevent mass gathering at the distribution venue.

Belmonte said the recipients should not be allowed to loiter around the cash distribution area before or after their designated schedule.

City hall has coordinated with the Philippine National Police for additional security during the cash aid distribution to avoid any untoward incident, according to Belmonte.

The local government has received P2.48 billion to cover the financial assistance for the poorest residents affected by the ECQ. Beneficiaries will receive P1,000 per individual or up to P4,000 per household.

Families whose names are not on the beneficiary masterlist can still avail themselves of the cash assistance by appealing to a grievance committee.

Unclaimed cash assistance may be redistributed to them after the regular payout process.