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The Bureau of Immigration (BI) recently launched the Long-Stay Visitor Visa Extension (LSVVE) scheme to encourage tourist arrivals in the Philippines. With the LSVVE, foreign nationals may now enjoy longer visa extension (six months) under a single transaction. The visa costs P13,900.00 for visa-required nationals and P11,500.00 for non-visa required nationals based on the attached schedule of fees.

This initiative is part of the PH Government's objective of increasing the number of tourists and investors to the Philippines. The target of the DOT for 2014 tourism arrivals has recently been raised raised from 6.5 million to 6.8 million.

Currently, BI issues a maximum stay of two months each time a foreign national applies for visa extension. The LSVVE allows foreign travelers to prolong their stay in the Philippines without the need to frequently visit the Bureau of Immigration's office to process their documents. Under this program, the maximum stay given to nationals under EO 408 is 36 months, while visa-required nationals are given 24 months. Conversion to other visa category is also allowed.

BI also announced the introduction of a new visa sticker that will replace the wet stamp used by the Bureau in implementing extensions of stay in the passports of foreign tourists. The new visa sticker will prevent the proliferation of fake visa extension stamps that have victimized many foreigners. The sticker has security and tracking features that cannot be copied, according to BI.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION
MAGALLANES DRIVE, INTRAMUROS
1002 MANILA

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR No. RADJR 2013- 0 0 2

**PRESCRIBING THE USE OF SECURITY VISA STICKER
FOR IMPLEMENTATION
OF LONG-STAY VISITOR VISA EXTENSION (LSVVE)**

WHEREAS, under Section 9(a) of Commonwealth Act No. 613, as amended, otherwise known as the "Philippine Immigration Act of 1940 (PIA)," temporary visitors coming into the Philippines for business or for pleasure or for reasons of health may be admitted into the country as non-immigrants;

WHEREAS, the Commissioner is vested with the power and authority to grant or deny visa extensions;

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Immigration together with the Department of Tourism and the Department of Foreign Affairs have agreed to introduce policy reforms in a bid to spur tourist arrivals in the country;

WHEREAS, a number of temporary visitors stay in the Philippines for more than six (6) months;

WHEREAS, in the interest of speedy delivery of services, it is within the prerogative of the Commissioner to determine policies, rules and procedure to identify, document and monitor foreign nationals staying in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the Long Stay Visitors Visa Extension (LSVVE) will facilitate decongesting the Bureau of Immigration offices of the volume of clients applying for visa extensions;

WHEREAS, the LSVVE offers convenience to the foreign nationals by allowing longer terms of extension of authorized stay under a single transaction;

WHEREAS, there is a necessity to incorporate greater security measures in the implementation of LSVVE;

WHEREAS, the Security Visa Sticker (SVS) contains security and tracking features which are not available in the wet stamp medium of implementation;

WHEREAS, the use of the SVS instead of the traditional wet stamp in implementation will speed up transaction time in the application process and will allow more efficient tracking of records and faster detection of forged and tampered stamps;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the provisions of Section 3 of Commonwealth Act (C.A.) No. 613, or the Philippine Immigration Act of 1940, as amended, and Sections 29 and 36, Chapter 6, Book IV, Title III of Executive Order (E.O.) No. 292 or the Revised Administrative Code of 1987, this Memorandum Circular is hereby issued:

Section 1. Long-Stay Visitor Visa Extension (LSVVE), defined. - Long-Stay Visitor Visa Extension (LSVVE) refers to the extension of visa of temporary visitors under existing laws, regulations or circulars, or of tourists under Section 9(a) of the Philippine Immigration Act, the duration of which shall be up to six (6) months from the time of expiration of authorized stay.

Section 2. Long-Stay Visitor Visa Extension (LSVVE), who may apply. - All temporary visitors who are not otherwise disqualified may apply for a LSVVE subject to payment of fees and documentary requirements. Said option however, does not prevent the concerned foreign national to avail of a shorter term of extension under existing regulations.

Section 3. Security Visa Sticker (SVS), defined; Additional P100 Fee. - The Security Visa Sticker (SVS) is a medium of implementation for the LSVVE which bears security and tracking features not available in the traditional wet stamp. For this purpose, an additional One hundred pesos (Php 100.00) shall be added to existing fees of the visa application to defray the costs of the Security Visa Sticker.

Section 4. Repealing clause. - All previously issued memoranda and communications or parts thereof which are inconsistent with these Rules are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 5. Effectivity. - This Circular shall take effect within fifteen (15) days from publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Let copies of this Memorandum Circular be filed with the Office of the National Administrative Registrar (ONAR), U.P. Law Center, University of the Philippines Complex, Diliman, Quezon City.

04 APR 2013

[Signature]
RICARDO A. DAVID, JR.
Commissioner

APPROVED:

[Signature]
LEILA M. DE LIMA
Secretary of Justice

01-DRTS 04.01.2013

Comm. RICARDO A. DAVID, JR.
Bureau of Immigration

[Signature]
Department of Justice
CRJ - 0201 10407
REGISTRATION OF BAR NO. 6 888



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION
MAGALLANES DRIVE, INTRAMUROS
1002 MANILA

BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION
RECEIVED
JUN 10 2013
ASAC 1508M
ADMINISTRATIVE DIV.

MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. RADJR-2013-007

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LONG-STAY
VISITOR VISA EXTENSION (LSVVE)**

Pursuant to Memorandum Circular No. RADJR-2013-002, the following guidelines are hereby issued in connection with the implementation of the LSVVE:

1. Applicability - The LSVVE shall apply to all nationals.
2. Extension of Tourist Visa - Subsequent LSVVEs may be applied for during the last thirty (30) days of the previously issued LSVVE, or upon the expiry of a regular visa extension.

Restriction on Extensions - The approval of the Commissioner shall be required for visa extensions when the number of months applied for would exceed the 16-month limit.

Foreign nationals with an accumulated total stay near the 16-month cap from the date of their latest arrival should be informed of the preceding restriction should they apply for additional visa extensions.

No LSVVE shall be issued to visa-required nationals whose stay exceeds twenty-four (24) months and thirty-six (36) months for non visa-required nationals.

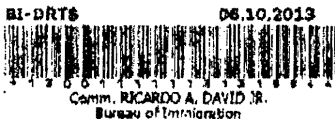
4. Payment and Fees - An additional One Hundred Pesos (Php 100.00) as cost of the sticker visa shall accrue for the account of the Bureau of Treasury.

Applicable visa extension fees shall still be collected based on the schedule of fees for the entire six (6) month period.

5. Implementation - The initial implementation of the LSVVE shall be limited to the BI Main Office in Intramuros, Manila, until further notice.

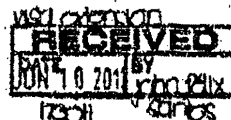
SO ORDERED.

10 JUN 2013



RICARDO A. DAVID, JR.
Commissioner

Encl. : Schedule of Fees



**LSVVE Schedule of Fees for
Visa-required nationals:**

Extension Fee	Php	3,010.00
Application Fee		1,810.00
ACR		1,010.00 ¹
Head Tax		250.00 ²
ECC		710.00 ³
Certification Fee		510.00
I-Card		2,100.00 ⁴
Express Lane Fee		3,000.00
Express Lane Fee (Cert.)		1,000.00 ⁵
Express Lane Fee (I-Card)		500.00
TOTAL	Php	<u>13,900.00</u>

¹ Php510.00 for fourteen (14) years old and below.

² No Head Tax for those below sixteen (16) years of age.

³ Php210.00 for fourteen (14) years old and below.

⁴ Actual rate depends on USD=PHP foreign exchange rate.

⁵ Double Express Lane Fee.

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**LSVVE Schedule of Fees for
Non visa-required nationals:**

Extension Fee	Php	3,010.00
Application Fee		910.00
ACR		1,010.00 ¹
Head Tax		250.00 ²
ECC		710.00 ³
Certification Fee		510.00
I-Card		2,100.00 ⁴
Express Lane Fee		1,500.00
Express Lane Fee (Cert.)		1,000.00 ⁵
Express Lane Fee (I-Card)		500.00
TOTAL	Php	<u>11,500.00</u>

¹ Php510.00 for fourteen (14) years old and below.

² No Head Tax for those below sixteen (16) years of age.

³ Php210.00 for fourteen (14) years old and below.

⁴ Actual rate depends on USD=PHP foreign exchange rate.

⁵ Double Express Lane Fee.