MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2020-214

TO: Traffic Safety Division (TSD)
    All Regional Directors and Assistant Regional Directors
    All Regional Accreditation Committees (RACs)
    All Heads of District Offices
    All LTO Employees Concerned
    All Accredited Driving Schools
    STRADCOM Corporation

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES RELATIVE TO THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LTO AUTOMATED CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION OF STUDENT-DRIVERS (ACES) – UPLOADING FACILITY

DATE: 29 June 2020

WHEREAS, the LTO’s Road Safety Action Plan (RSAP) released in 2019, has from among its pillars - the licensing of “Qualified Drivers”, in order to lessen the road crashes Filipinos experience and see day to day. It can be noted that road crashes remain to be one of the leading causes of death in the country, in 2018 alone, it was the top cause of death among youths age 5 to 29. The total road crash fatalities in 2018 reached 10,674 (or an average of 28 to 31 persons per day) and has increased to 12,866 (or an average of 31-34 person/day) in 2019.

WHEREAS, in February 2020, the Philippines through the Department of Transportation (DOTr), committed a reduction of 50% on total road crash fatalities in the “3rd Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety: Achieving Global Goals 2030” held in Stockholm, Sweden, which will further institutionalize and intensify the campaign towards lessening road crashes and promoting road safety among drivers.

WHEREAS, The LTO hereby enforces the mandatory submission of driving course certificates for applicants for Student Permits and Driver’s Licenses pursuant to Sec. 3 of R.A. No. 10930 which prescribed the stricter issuance of Driver’s Licenses to ensure that only deserving applicants with sufficient knowledge on road safety and road courtesy ply our roads, and in compliance to LTO Memo Circular 2019-2176 which requires the submission of driving course completion certificates for applicants as proof of formal training from the LTO or its accredited Driving Schools.
NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises set forth herein, the LTO hereby promulgates the herein guidelines for the planned nationwide implementation of the LTO Automated Certification and Education of Student-drivers (LTO-ACES). The LTO ACES shall equip the Agency and its accredited Driving Schools with a system that will electronically transmit driving course completion certificates of driver's license applicants to the LTO-IT System.

I. Beginning 3 August 2020, all LTO sites shall only accept and process Student Permit (SP), New Driver's License (DL), and Additional Restriction Code (RC) applications / transactions with driving course completion certificates issued by LTO-accredited Driving Schools, their authorized Driving School Instructors / Administrators, and by the LTO-Driver Education Centers (DECs) in LTO offices, which are electronically transmitted to the LTO-IT System, as detailed below:

   a. Student Permit (SP) Application
      All SP applications, including applications for Foreign SPs and those with expired SPs who will apply for new SPs beginning 3 August 2020, will require Theoretical Driving Course (TDC) Certificates electronically transmitted to the LTO-IT System.

   b. New Driver's License Application, Professional and Non-Professional
      All New DL applications with Student Permits issued from 03 August 2020 onwards will require Practical Driving Course (PDC) certificates electronically transmitted to the LTO-IT System.

   c. Additional Restriction Code (RC) Application
      Electronically transmitted PDC certificates for the RC being applied for will be required.

   d. Conversion of Foreign Driver's License to Philippine Driver's License
      No TDC or PDC certificates will be required.

II. To prepare for the nationwide activation of this new system, all concerned regional offices and district offices must be ready to accept electronically transmitted PDC and TDC certificates before 3 August 2020.

III. The public is advised that the LTO will momentarily not accept Student Permit applications from 1 July 2020 until 2 August 2020. However, Accredited Driving Schools and DECs which are ready, may conduct the 15-hour seminar on 1 July 2020 and submit the electronically transmitted PDC and TDC certificates starting 3 August 2020.

IV. In order to ensure that the foregoing is communicated to all stakeholders, all regional offices are directed to conduct their respective information campaigns in their areas of jurisdiction.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.

For your guidance and strict compliance.

EDGAR Q. GALVANTE
Assistant Secretary