

**[PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR NO. 0025, S. 2013,
January 01, 2014]**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OWP PREMIUM AND PAYMENT
SCHEMES EFFECTIVE CY 2014**

I. RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVES

The PhilHealth Board, through Resolution No. 1571 s-2011, had approved a new premium contributions for all membership categories to more accurate and sustainable levels. The adjusted rate is set at minimum of Php2,400.00 per year, in anticipation of enhanced benefits that were introduced in CY 2012. This premium is an amount equivalent to poorest of the poor as prescribed in the law where the minimum amount of any premium contribution by any sector.

To provide members enough time to adjust, premium increases for OWP specifically were phased-in, with premiums pegged at Php1,200.00 effective January 2012 - December 31, 2013.

For CY 2012, benefit payments to OWP members and their beneficiaries for confinements abroad and in local hospitals has reached 130.53% over premiums collected. With the said premium adjustment, OWP members and their beneficiaries shall be entitled to out-patient care services provided under Primary Care Benefit, and in-patient hospital care including all case rate packages and catastrophic illnesses under the Z-benefit Benefit Package and other Special Benefit Packages.

It is imperative and of primordial importance, therefore, that PhilHealth implements the adjusted rates across all membership categories - Employed, Individually Paying, Indigent Program and OWP - with Php2,400.00 as the lowest premium rate, in order to ensure financial sustainability and viability.

II. IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES

A. Premium Contribution

The adjusted OWP premium contribution applicable to Land-based OFWs, either documented or undocumented, is set at **Two Thousand Four Hundred Pesos (Php2,400.00)** per year and shall take effect on **01 January 2014**.

B. Payment of Premium Contribution

1. To ease the effect of this adjusted premium, an OWP member has the following options for payment:
 - a. **Php2,400.00 valid for twelve (12) months** reckoned from date of initial membership/renewal to the OWP. Member is given a grace period of thirty (30) days per PhilHealth Circular No. 07, s-2006 after expiry of membership.