



Republic of the Philippines
Professional Regulation Commission
Manila



February 20, 2018

MARIA CATALINA E. CABRAL, Ph.D.
National President
Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers, Inc.
4 Albany St., Cubao, Quezon City 1109
Philippines

Dear Madamme,

Reference is made to your letter requesting for an amendment of the existing Operational Guidelines (OG) on the Implementation of RA 10912, otherwise known as the "Continuing Professional Development Act of 2016" for Civil Engineers, Resolution No. 07, Series of 2017.

Section 15, Article IV of RA 10912, states that a Professional Regulatory Board (PRB) may prescribe its own requirements or procedure relating to the CPD as may be pertinent and applicable to the specific profession, provided that the same does not contravene any of the provisions of RA 10912 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

Since the CPD Program is envisioned to promote and to upgrade the practice of professions in the country, as it aims to enhance the competencies of Filipino professionals and to open more opportunities in the national as well as in the international level, especially as the ASEAN economic community integration has already commenced, the Professional Regulatory Board of Civil Engineering welcomes your comments and proposed amendments to make the Operational Guidelines responsive to the needs of Civil Engineers.

The PRBCE discussed the merits of your proposals and decided on the following:

1. Cap on the CPD Credit Units

Your proposed amendments are on two (2) items as follows: the required number of CPD credit units during the compliance period and the maximum units creditable per year.

In line with the directives of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) to exercise maximum flexibility in the implementation of the CPD Program, and the IRR specifically states that the PRBs concerned may prescribe their own required CPD credit units through a resolution subject to the approval of the Commission, the PRBCE shall consider revising the required number of CPD credit units from March 2018 and onwards in accordance with your proposal.

On the excess credit units earned, however, the PRBCE deem it necessary to discuss your concern with the Commission since the IRR specifically states that any excess CUs shall not be carried over, etc.

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2. Determination of Credit

The importance of the CPD in upgrading the competencies of Filipino professionals cannot be over emphasized.

It is the stand of the PRBCE that the professionals should be aware that the CPD is a tool, a giant leap, to improve their competencies, thus it should not be considered as a burden in the practice of their profession.

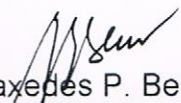
While the CPD Council intends to be generous in granting the credit units, please note that conferences and / or conventions sponsored by their AIPO / APO, are not strictly considered as CPD Programs. However, appropriate credit units are given in recognition of the fact that the same contribute to the professional development and lifelong learning of professionals. Thus, a one (1) credit unit per hour of the conference and / or convention is not justifiable. On the other hand, technical papers presented during the said conference and / or convention shall be credited accordingly.


3. Deletion of Major Areas for CPD Activities

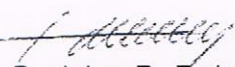
Your comments are valid, especially at this time, and deserving of study. In the meantime, we shall defer the implementation of Section 5. Major Areas of CPD Activities.

The success of the CPD Program in attaining the desired objective of improving the competitiveness of Filipino civil engineers to be at par with their counterparts globally, if not to excel, rests on the CPD Council, chaired by a member of the PRBCE, a first member representing the APO, and a second member representing the national organization of the academe. The CPD Council is under the supervision of the PRBCE. It is envisioned that the Professional Identification Card (PIC) will not only be a proof of the professional's identity but more of his / her professional qualification, recognized and accepted internationally.

Very truly yours,
PRBCE


Praxedes P. Bernardo
Chairperson


Romeo A. Estanero, PhD
Member


Pericles P. Dakay, PhD
Member