

**MALACAÑANG**  
Manila

**PRESIDENTIAL DECREE No. 541 August 20, 1974**

**ALLOWING FORMER FILIPINO PROFESSIONALS TO PRACTICE THEIR RESPECTIVE PROFESSIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES.**

WHEREAS, a considerable number of Filipino professionals have, with the passage of time, gone to other countries to pursue further studies and/or take up specialized studies in their chosen fields of endeavor while others emigrated to other lands in search of better job opportunities;

WHEREAS, since their departure from the Philippines some of these professionals have become naturalized citizens of their host countries so that they are now barred from the practice of their profession in our country;

WHEREAS, a considerable number of these erstwhile Filipino professionals are now desirous to come home under the Balikbayan Program and, while here, would like to serve our people or share their advanced knowledge and expertise with their local professional colleagues;

WHEREAS, for the sake of faster national development our government is now trying to attract these erstwhile Filipino professionals to return and reside permanently in the Philippines so that they can provide the talent and expertise urgently needed by the homeland;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby decree and order the following:

**Section 1.** The provisions of all existing laws, rules and regulations, decrees, orders, and instructions to the contrary notwithstanding, professionals who were formerly citizens of the Philippines and who have previously passed licensure examinations in the Philippines for the practice of their profession, may, while in this country on a visit, sojourn or permanent residence, practice their profession: Provided, That they are professional practitioners of good standing prior to their departure from the Philippines and in their adopted country: Provided further, That prior to the practice of their profession they shall have first registered with the Professional license fee; and Provided finally, That they shall pay the corresponding income tax due on all incomes realized by them in the practice of their respective professions in the Philippines.

**Section 2.** The Professional Regulations Commission shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement and carry out the purposes of this Decree.

**Section 3.** This Decree shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 20th day of August, in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and seventy-four.



Republic of the Philippines  
**PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION**  
Manila

**Office Order No. 2003-140**

September 18, 2003

- To : All Officials and Employees of the International Affairs Division, Registration Division, Office of the professional Teachers, marine deck and Engine Officers Divisions, and other concerned.
- Subject : Guidelines and Procedures in the Issuance of Special Permit and License Professional identification card to former Filipino Professionals under Presidential Decree No. 541 to practice their respective professions in the Philippines.

In line with the Commission's policy to ensure the proper implementation of presidential decree No. 541 allowing former Filipino Professionals to practice their respective Professions in the Philippines while on a visit, sojourn or permanent residence in the country, all concerned are hereby directed to strictly observe the following guidelines and procedures in the issuance of Special permit and/ license/ professional Identification card to former Filipino Professionals:

1. Officials and employees involved in the issuance of license/professional identification card to registered professionals shall, at all times, check the citizenship of the applicant in the application for professional Identification card.
2. If found to be non-Filipino citizen, but a former Filipino Citizen, the registered professional or former Filipino professional shall be instructed to proceed to the international Affairs division (IAD) for issuance of a Process and Action Sheet and Application for Special Permit.
3. The application for Special Permit shall be properly filled out and signed by the applicant and duly subscribed before a notary public or the Philippine consul in the case the applicant abroad.
4. The International Affairs Division (IAD) shall take charge for the assessment and evaluation of requirements for the issuance of Special Permit and License/Professional identification Card and shall recommend to the Professional Regulatory Board (PRB) concerned the approval of the same.
  - 4.1. In addition to the Application for Professional Identification card, Process and Action Sheet, and application for Special Permit, the Applicant shall be required to submit the following:
    - 4.1.1. Applicant's passport showing his/her name, picture, citizenship, and date of entry in the Philippines which must be within six (6) months before the filing of the application for renewal (original and Photocopy);
    - 4.1.2. PRC license/Professional ID (original and Photocopy);
    - 4.1.3. Passport size ID pictures, 4 Copies;
    - 4.1.4. **License/Certificate of Registration** in the adopted country (if license abroad) or **Certification of employment with letterhead and job description** within the definition of your profession (original and Photocopy).

- 4.2. If the applicant is abroad, requirements 4.4.1 and 4.1.4 shall be duly authenticated by the Philippine consul and representative of the former Filipino professional shall present a special power of Attorney duly notarized by the same when filing for the issuance of special Permit and license/Professional identification card;
- 4.3. If application is found in order, IAD staff shall attest to the completeness of the documents submitted by affixing his/her signature in the process and action sheet.
- 4.4. The Officer-in Charge of the Division shall recommend to the PRB concerned the approval of the issuance of special permit and license/professional identification card;
- 4.5. The applicant or authorized representative shall be directed to proceed to the concerned offices for assessment of fees: to the Office of Professional Teachers (OPT), for teachers; to the Marine Deck Office Division (MDOD), for Marine deck Officers; To the Marine Engineer Division (MEOD) for marine engine officers; and to the Registration division, for other professions.
5. Registration Division, Office of the professional Teachers, marine deck and Engine Officers Divisions shall take charge of the processing and approval of the issuance of a special permit and license/ professional Identification Card.
  - 5.1 Staff of the above-mentioned divisions shall assess the fees to be paid and the applicant or authorized representative shall be directed to proceed to the cashier/cash section for payment of the prescribed.
  - 5.2 After payment of the prescribed fees, applicant or authorized representative shall submit to the above-mentioned divisions the approved application for professional ID, Application for special Permit, and other documentary requirements for processing and approval of the issuance of special permit and license/professional identification card.
  - 5.3 .The applicant or authorized representative shall be issued a claim slip.
6. Representative of former Filipino professionals shall present a Special Power of Attorney duly notarized by the Philippine Consul when claiming the Special permit and professional identification card of the same.

For immediate compliance.

[Click here to download APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL PERMIT](#)

[Click here to download PROCESS AND ACTION SHEET form for Assessment and Evaluation of Requirements for Issuance of Special Permit to Former Filipino Professionals under PD 541](#)