

COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 11-2024

APPROVING THE PHILIPPINE COMPETITION COMMISSION'S CONDUCT OF THE MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Philippine Competition Commission ("PCC"), pursuant to Section 12 (q)¹ of Republic Act No. 10667 or the Philippine Competition Act ("PCA"), is mandated to promote capacity-building on competition law;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Bar Matter No. 850, issued by the Supreme Court of the Philippines *en banc*, the Integrated Bar of the Philippines ("IBP") requires its members to attend the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education ("MCLE") to ensure that, throughout their careers, they keep abreast with law and jurisprudence, maintain the ethics of the profession, and enhance the standards of the practice of law;

WHEREAS, the PCC applied for a two-year accreditation as an MCLE Provider. The application for accreditation was granted by the MCLE Governing Board on 12 December 2023, effective until 11 December 2025;

WHEREAS, the PCC MCLE Program shall ensure that the members of the legal profession are equipped with a comprehensive understanding of the provisions of the PCA, and that they remain informed of the latest developments in competition law and economics, thus, elevating the overall standards of legal practice, especially in competition law in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the PCC has, under its employ, around 60 lawyers, all of whom are required to attend MCLE and will also benefit from the conduct of an MCLE Program on competition law;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission **RESOLVED**, as it hereby **RESOLVES**, to approve the conduct of the PCC's MCLE Program.

RESOLVED, that expenses for the initial PCC MCLE Program shall be sourced from the General Appropriations Act of 2024 in the amount of One Million Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (PhP 1,850,500.00), subject to the government's budget, accounting, and audit rules and regulations.

¹ Section 12. Powers and Functions. – The Commission shall have original and primary jurisdiction over the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this Act, and its implementing rules and regulations. The Commission shall exercise the following powers and functions:

(q) Promote capacity building and the sharing of best practices with other competition-related bodies.



RESOLVED, FURTHER, that a reasonable registration fee shall be collected from the external participants of the PCC MCLE Program.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that pursuant to the authority granted under the PCA, the Commission hereby adopts the **Guidelines on the Conduct of Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Program**.

RESOLVED, FINALLY, that the PCC Chairperson be designated as the authorized representative for the application of the PCC MCLE Program before the MCLE Office.

DONE this 12th day of September 2024 in Quezon City, Philippines.

(Sgd.)
MICHAEL G. AGUINALDO
Chairperson, PCC

(Sgd.)
MARAH VICTORIA S. QUEROL
Commissioner

(Sgd.)
MICHAEL B. PELOTON
Commissioner

(Sgd.)
LOLIBETH RAMIT-MEDRANO
Commissioner

(Sgd.)
FERDINAND M. NEGRE
Commissioner

Commission Resolution No. 11-2024 dated 12 September

GUIDELINES ON THE CONDUCT OF MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

I. RATIONALE

The Philippine Competition Commission (“PCC”), pursuant to Section 12 (q) of Republic Act No. 10667 or the Philippine Competition Act (“PCA”), is mandated to promote capacity-building activities on competition law. Pursuant to Bar Matter No. 850, issued by the Supreme Court of the Philippines *en banc*, the Integrated Bar of the Philippines requires its members to attend Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (“MCLE”) to ensure that, throughout their careers, they keep abreast of the law and latest jurisprudence, maintain the ethics of the profession, and enhance the standards of the practice of law. The conduct of MCLE by the PCC could be an avenue to ensure that the members of the legal profession are knowledgeable in the provisions of the PCA and are well informed of the latest developments in competition law and economics.

In view of the foregoing, the PCC intends to offer and conduct a face-to-face MCLE Program to PCC lawyers and external stakeholders who are currently practicing or interested in practicing competition law.

II. OBJECTIVES

The conduct of the MCLE Program aims, not only to promote a culture of competition among PCC lawyers, but also to expand the PCC’s education and advocacy campaign to relevant groups, including private legal practitioners and lawyers in the business community, government agencies, and academe, among others. The MCLE Program shall provide a structured framework for stakeholders to continually refine and expand their knowledge and skills in competition law. This commitment to ongoing education and training will help the stakeholders to stay updated on legal advancements, remain ethically grounded, and elevate the overall standards of legal practice, especially in competition law in the Philippines.

III. SCOPE

This issuance shall cover and apply to all external stakeholders who intend to avail of this MCLE Program.

IV. GENERAL GUIDELINES.

- A. The conduct of the MCLE Program is aligned with Section 12(q) of the PCA, to wit:

Sec. 12. Powers and Functions. – The Commission shall have original and primary jurisdiction over the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this Act, and its implementing rules and regulations. The Commission shall exercise the following powers and functions:



**SUBJECT: GUIDELINES ON THE CONDUCT OF THE PHILIPPINE
COMPETITION COMMISSION MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL
EDUCATION PROGRAM**

(q) Promote capacity building and the sharing of best practices with other competition-related bodies.

- B. The collection of registration fees and the use of proceeds for the conduct of the MCLE Program shall be in accordance with Section 12(s)¹ of the PCA, applicable provisions of the General Appropriations Act (“GAA”) and the National Budget Circular on the Guidelines on the Release of Funds.²
- C. The details and schedule of the MCLE Program shall be separately released through an announcement posted on the PCC website, PCC’s official social media accounts, and other external website/s.

V. SPECIFIC GUIDELINES.

A. Registration Procedure

- 1. All interested applicants should have an official or valid e-mail address which must be used to fill out the registration form within a reasonable period prior to the conduct of the MCLE Program. Registration forms may be accessed through the link or QR Code provided on the PCC website and/or PCC official Facebook page.
- 2. Once the application is approved, the MCLE assessment slip shall be sent to the registered e-mail address of the applicant for payment of the registration fee. The assessment slip has a five (5) working-day validity once sent. Failure to pay within the validity period will result in the ***automatic cancellation of the application***.
- 3. After payment, the applicant shall, within the five (5) working-day validity period, send via email at pccmcle@phcc.gov.ph clear scanned copies of the proof of payment and signed assessment slip.
- 4. E-mail subject shall follow the format:

Payment for MCLE [Dates]_[Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial of Enrollee].

¹ Sec. 12. *Powers and Functions.* – The Commission shall have original and primary jurisdiction over the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this Act and its implementing rules and regulations. The Commission shall exercise the following powers and functions:

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(s) Charging reasonable fees to defray the administrative cost of the services rendered.

² Agencies, pursuant to their respective mandates are authorized to collect fees for the conduct of the following specific activities and use said collections to defray the cost of the future activities of a similar nature:

Seminar, conference, training, and oath-taking activities from government and private agency participants.

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The proceeds in excess of the actual cost of implementing these aforecited activities shall be deposited with the National Treasury as income of the General Fund, pursuant to Section 44, Chapter 5, Book VI of E.O. No. 292.



SUBJECT: GUIDELINES ON THE CONDUCT OF THE PHILIPPINE COMPETITION COMMISSION MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

E.g. **Payment for MCLE Oct. 1-5, 2024_Dela Cruz, Juan A.**

5. Within three (3) working days from the receipt of the proof of payment and assessment slip, the corresponding confirmation, which includes the details of the MCLE Program, shall be sent to the applicant's registered email. Failure to send the scanned copies of the proof of payment and assessment slip within the validity period shall automatically forfeit the applicant's payment and registration.

B. Payment of Registration Fee

1. The registration fee for all interested applicants shall be as follows:

PARTICULARS	AMOUNT
Full 36 credit units	PhP 15,000.00
Early bird rate – less PhP 1,000 (at least twenty calendar days before to the last day of registration)	PhP 14,000.00
Group rate ³ – 5% (at least three persons)	PhP 14,200.00
4 days	PhP 12,000.00
3 days	PhP 9,000.00

2. The registration fee shall be based on the approximate expenses to be incurred by the PCC in the delivery of the MCLE Program which covers the meals, materials, certificate, and other related expenses. From time to time, the PCC may review the amount of the registration fee, and if determined necessary, amend the amount.
3. The registration fee must be settled within the validity period of the assessment slip and is **non-transferable and non-refundable**.
4. Registration fee paid prior to the issuance of the assessment slip shall cause the forfeiture of both the payment and the registration of the applicant.
5. Payment shall be made only through cash payment at the PCC Office or via Landbank LinkBiz.Portal. Any other modes of payment shall not be accepted.

VI. MCLE TRAINING SEMINAR CERTIFICATES.

- A. **MCLE Certificate of Compliance** – This shall be issued to the participants who have fulfilled all the training requirements as follows:
 - a. Filled out the Attendance Form and attended the required number of MCLE units for the Compliance Period.
 - b. Accomplished and submitted the Program and Resource Person/s Evaluation Form.

³ The group rate and early bird discount cannot be availed of simultaneously.



**SUBJECT: GUIDELINES ON THE CONDUCT OF THE PHILIPPINE
COMPETITION COMMISSION MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL
EDUCATION PROGRAM**

- B. Once the Certificates of Compliances have been issued by the MCLE Committee and received by the PCC, the participants will each receive a soft copy of the same through their registered email addresses.
- C. The MCLE Certificates may also be claimed in person before the PCC Office located at 25/F Vertis North Corporate Center 1, North Avenue, Quezon City 1105, or may be delivered through courier upon payment of the courier's fee.
- VII. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** In case any section or provision of this Circular or any part thereof, or the application of such section, provision or portion shall be declared invalid, the validity of the remaining provisions of these Guidelines shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby.
- VIII. EFFECTIVITY.** These Guidelines shall take effect immediately following the publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation and upon filing with the Office of the National Administrative Register of the UP Law Center.

(Sgd.)
MICHAEL G. AGUINALDO
Chairperson, PCC

(Sgd.)
MARAH VICTORIA S. QUEROL
Commissioner

(Sgd.)
MICHAEL B. PELOTON
Commissioner

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LOLIBETH RAMIT-MEDRANO
Commissioner

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