

# Leaving as SPOUSE or PARTNER of a Foreigner? You NEED to attend the **GCP**

## Guidance and Counseling Program and Registration for spouses and other partners of foreign nationals

Under DFA Department Orders No. 28-94 and No. 11-97, Filipino spouses and other partners of foreign nationals are required to attend the guidance and counseling program as a pre-requisite to the issuance of passports. The objective is to help the said clientele make informed decisions and prepare them for the realities of cross-cultural marriages.

### Counseling Requirements

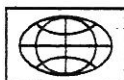
1. Two (2) valid identification cards with photograph;
2. Duly completed guidance and counseling form;
3. If married, certified true copy and photocopy of marriage contract on security paper from the National Statistics Office (NSO), or the Local Civil Registry Offices (LCRO); or original and photocopy of marriage contract duly authenticated by the Philippine embassy/consulate (if married abroad);
4. Other documents as may be required by the counselors; and
5. Payment of P400.00 counseling and registration fee.

After receipt of the passport and visa, Filipino spouses and other partners of foreign nationals must register with CFO prior to departure. Registration is done either in CFO Manila or CFO Cebu Extension Office, from Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. An emigrant registration sticker is affixed to the emigrant's passport as a proof of registration.

### Registration Requirements

1. Original and photocopy of passport;
2. Original and photocopy of visa;
3. Original and photocopy of Immigrant Data Summary for US-bound (except for K visa holders)/Confirmation of Permanent Residence for Canada-bound/Embassy Certification of Eligibility (for Spain-bound C visa holders)/Certificate of Eligibility for Japan-bound;
4. Original CFO guidance and counseling certificate; and
5. Duly completed emigrant registration form.

**For questions, please contact:**



Office of the President of the Philippines  
**COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS**

#### CFO Office in Manila

1345 Citigold Center, President Quirino Avenue,  
corner South Superhighway, Manila  
Tel. No(s): (+632) 552 4700 local 713 to 714 and 742 to 745  
Fax No.: (+632)562-3848  
Email: info@cfo.gov.ph; mieo@cfo.gov.ph  
Website: www.cfo.gov.ph

#### CFO Extension Office Cebu

Causing-Lozada Bldg., Osmeña Blvd.,  
Corner M. J. Cuenco Ave., Cebu Cty  
Telefax: (+6332) 255-5253  
Email: cfocebu@cfo.gov.ph

**CFO Manila**  
Schedule of Counseling sessions

Guidance and Counseling Session for spouses and other partners  
of foreign nationals (first come, first serve basis)

Starting July 16, 2012

Country	Day	Time
United States of America	Monday to Friday (12 slots)	9:00 am - 12:00 nn
Canada	Tuesdays and Fridays (12 slots)	9:00 am - 12:00 nn
Australia	Mondays and Thursdays (12 slots)	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
New Zealand	Wednesdays (12 slots)	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Japan	Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (12 slots)	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Taiwan	Tuesdays (12 slots)	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
South Korea and other Asia Pacific countries	Tuesdays and Thursdays (12 slots)	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Germany	Wednesdays (12 slots)	9:00 am - 12:00 nn
United Kingdom and Italy	Thursdays (12 slots)	9:00 am - 12:00 nn
Other European countries	Mondays (12 slots)	9:00 am - 12:00 nn
Other countries not listed (Middle East, South Africa, etc.)	Fridays (12 slots)	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**CFO Cebu**  
Schedule of Counseling sessions

Guidance and Counseling Session for spouses and other partners  
of foreign nationals (first come, first serve basis)

Starting July 16, 2012

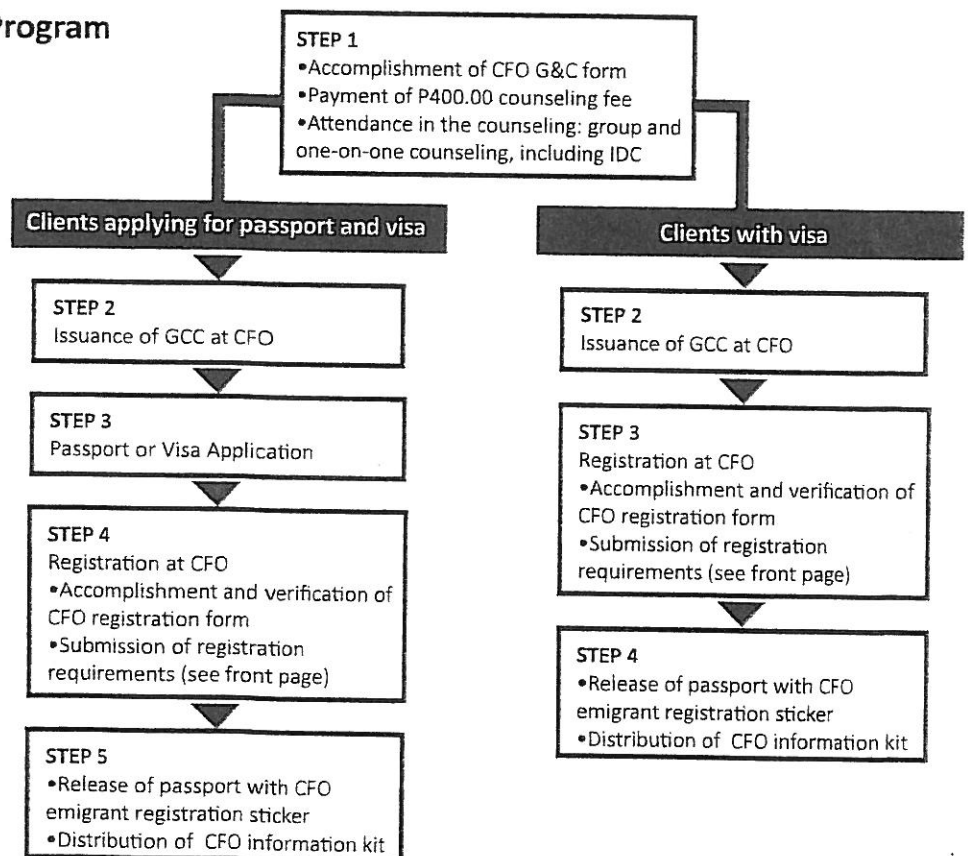
Country	Day	Time
United States of America and Canada	Monday to Friday (12 slots)	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Australia and New Zealand	Mondays and Wednesdays (12 slots)	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Japan and South Korea	Tuesdays and Thursdays (12 slots)	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Europe and other countries	Fridays (12 slots)	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**CFO Guidance & Counseling Program**  
Flowchart of Operations

**Legend:**

CFO – Commission on Filipinos Overseas  
G&C – Guidance and Counseling  
IDC – In-depth Counseling  
GCC – Guidance and Counseling Certificate

**CFO information kit** includes immigrant handbook, directory of post-arrival service providers, addresses of Philippine Embassies and Consulates, feedback form, and pre-departure checklist.



## Important Announcement For Filipino Spouses/Partners Of Foreign Nationals

Beginning **16 July 2012**, the Guidance and Counseling Program (GCP) for Filipino spouses / partners of foreign nationals will be **conducted by the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) in its Manila and Cebu offices.**

Under Department Orders No. 11-97, No. 15-89, and No. 28-94 of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Filipino spouses and other partners of foreign nationals are required to attend the guidance and counseling program as a pre-requisite to the issuance of passports. The objective is to enable the spouses/partners make informed decisions and prepare them for the realities of cross-cultural marriages.

The number of attendees per session is **LIMITED**, and participants will be accommodated strictly on a **first-come, first-served** basis. Only for those with **COMPLETE GCP REQUIREMENTS** will be considered. A guidance and counseling certificate will be issued to those who have satisfactorily completed the guidance and counseling program. This certificate will be presented to Philippine immigration authorities at the airport on the day of departure.

The schedule of sessions in Manila and Cebu is listed below.

Filipino spouses of Korean nationals who have passed the GCP will be required to take the Two-Day South Korea Cultural Workshop (SKCW). This will be conducted **EXCLUSIVELY at the CFO offices in Manila and Cebu starting July 25, 2012.**

Meanwhile, GCP Counseling sessions at the People's Reform Initiative for Social Mobilization Inc. (PRISM) will continue **until July 13, 2012**, and at the St. Mary Euphrasia Foundation-Center for Overseas Workers (SMEF-COW) **until September 15, 2012.**

For further assistance, you may email the CFO at [imiravalles@cfo.gov.ph](mailto:imiravalles@cfo.gov.ph) or [info@cfo.gov.ph](mailto:info@cfo.gov.ph).

**Guidance and Counseling Sessions in CFO Manila Office (Effective July 16, 2012)**

COUNTRY	DAY	TIME
United States of America	Monday to Friday <i>(12 slots everyday)</i>	9:00 am-12:00 nn
Canada	Tuesdays and Fridays <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	9:00 am-12:00 nn
Other European countries	Mondays <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	9:00 am-12:00 nn
Germany	Wednesdays <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	9:00 am-12:00 nn
United Kingdom and Italy	Thursdays <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	9:00 am-12:00 nn
Japan	Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	2:00 PM- 5:00 PM
South Korea and other Asia Pacific Countries	Tuesdays and Thursdays <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	2:00 PM- 5:00 PM
Australia	Mondays and Thursdays <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	2:00 PM- 5:00 PM
Taiwan	Tuesdays <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	2:00 PM- 5:00 PM
New Zealand	Wednesdays <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	2:00 PM- 5:00 PM
Other Countries (Middle East, South Africa, etc.)	Fridays <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	2:00 PM- 5:00 PM

Guidance and Counseling Sessions in CFO Cebu Office (Effective July 16, 2012)

COUNTRY	DAY	TIME
US and Canada	Mondays to Fridays <i>(12 slots everyday)</i>	2:00 PM- 5:00 PM
Australian and New Zealand	Monday and Wednesday <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	2:00 PM- 5:00 PM
Japan and South Korea	Tuesdays and Thursdays <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	2:00 PM- 5:00 PM
EU and other countries	Fridays <i>(12 slots per session)</i>	2:00 PM- 5:00 PM

In view of these changes, the CFO Pre-Departure Orientation Seminar (PDOS) and Peer Counseling Sessions for Filipino emigrants will follow the new schedule as specified below:

**Schedule of Pre-Departure Orientation Seminar (PDOS) for Filipino Emigrants  
CFO Manila (effective 16 July 2012)**

Country	Day	Time
United States of America	Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays <i>( 70 slots everyday)</i>	10:00 am - 12:00 nn
	Tuesdays and Fridays <i>( 70 slots everyday)</i>	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Canada	Mondays to Fridays <i>( 60 slots everyday)</i>	9:30 am - 12:00 nn
Europe	Tuesdays and Fridays <i>( 70 slots everyday)</i>	10:00 am - 12:00 nn
Australia and New Zealand	Tuesdays and Fridays <i>( 60 slots everyday)</i>	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Japan and other Asian countries	Mondays and Thursdays <i>( 70 slots everyday)</i>	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

**Schedule of Peer Counseling Sessions for Filipino Youth Emigrants (13 to 19 Years Old)  
CFO Manila (Effective July 16, 2012)**

Destination Country	Day	Time
All Countries	Mondays to Fridays <i>(25 slots per session)</i>	9:30 am - 12:00 nn 2:00 pm-5:00 pm

**Schedule of Pre-departure Orientation Seminar (PDOS)  
CFO Cebu (Effective July 16, 2012)**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>
USA and Canada	Monday to Friday <i>(40 slots per session)</i>	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 n.n
Australia and New Zealand	Mondays and Wednesdays <i>(40 slots per session)</i>	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 n.n
Japan	Tuesdays and Thursdays <i>(40 slots per session)</i>	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 n.n
EU and Other Countries	Fridays <i>(40 slots per session)</i>	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 n.n

**Pre-Departure Orientation Seminar (PDOS) for Exchange Visitor Program Participants (J-1 visa holders)**

**CFO Manila (Effective May 8, 2012)**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Registration</b>	<b>J1 Orientation Seminar</b>
Wednesdays and Fridays <i>(60 slots per session)</i>	12:00 n.n. – 1:30 p.m	2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m