



Legal Watch

DOLE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 199, SERIES OF 2026 AND DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 248-B, SERIES OF 2026



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SUMMARY

Effective 9 June 2026, all new and renewal applications of Alien Employment Permit (AEP) are to be handled exclusively by the DOLE Central Office through the Bureau of Local Employment (BLE).

For new submissions, Regional Offices have ceased all functions relating to the receipt, filing, processing, evaluation, review, approval, issuance, release, adjudication, enforcement, cancellation, revocation, renewal, and administration of AEPs, including Certificates of Exemption/Certificates of Exclusion and submissions of the Understudy Training Program and Skills Development Program. Meanwhile, all pending applications filed with Regional Offices on or before the close of business hours on 8 June 2026 were physically and electronically transferred to the BLE. The BLE now serves as the primary office administering these functions, including the Economic Needs Test.

Further, authority previously vested in Regional Offices and Regional Directors is transferred to the BLE and the latter's Director, updating therein all relevant provisions under Department Order Nos. 248 and 248-A. As an exception, Motions for Reconsideration regarding Orders cancelling or revoking an AEP, previously filed before the Regional Director, are now filed before the Director of the DOLE Legal Service*.

* Section 6, Rule IV of Department Order No. 248, Series of 2025.

* Agency Name

Bureau of Internal Revenue
(BIR)

* Issuance Title

Centralizing the Filing, Processing, Evaluation, Approval, Issuance, Release, Adjudication, and Enforcement Functions Relating to Alien Employment Permits, and Amending Relevant Provisions of Department Order Nos. 248 and 248-A, Series of 2025

* Link

Refer to summary





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SUMMARY

Throughout this transition, DOLE has assured the public that it will strictly adhere to the Data Privacy Act of 2012 to protect the foreign nationals' sensitive personal information, and Republic Act No. 11032 (Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act) to guarantee that no delays or penalties are incurred.

LINKS:

[1] <https://dole.gov.ph/news/secretary-tolentino-orders-full-centralization-of-aep-processing-nationwide>

[2] https://dole.gov.ph/php_assets/uploads/2026/06/DO-248B-26-Centralizing-the-Filing-Processing-Evaluation-Approval-Issuance-Release-Adjudication-and-Enforcement-Functions-Relating-to-AEPs-and-Amending-Relevant-Provisions-of-DOs-248-248A-25.pdf

ACTIONABLE ADVICE

Effective 9 June 2026, all stakeholders must file their AEP applications directly to the DOLE Central Office through the Bureau of Local Employment.

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Bureau of Internal Revenue
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* Issuance Title

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