



OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

Tax Ordinance 017-2020
November 09, 2020

AN ORDINANCE PRESCRIBING FEES FOR THE REVERSE TRANSCRIPTION POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION (RT-PCR) TESTING SERVICES OF THE SAN ANTONIO CITY OF ILAGAN HOSPITAL MOLECULAR LABORATORY FOR PERSONAL AND PRIVATE USE.

Author: Honorable Rolando L. Tugade

WHEREAS, early detection and management of COVID-19 positive individuals are proven effective in preventing further transmission of the virus;

WHEREAS, the City Government of Ilagan has established a Molecular Laboratory at the San Antonio City of Ilagan Hospital to facilitate Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) testing as part of the COVID-19 response and mitigation initiatives;

WHEREAS, the City Government of Ilagan provides the required testing services for returning Overseas Filipino Workers, Locally Stranded Individuals, suspected COVID-19 positive cases and patients who are constituents of the City of Ilagan free of charge;

WHEREAS, as part of the social responsibility and commitment to prevent and control COVID-19 transmission, the City Government of Ilagan extends the RT-PCR testing services of the SACIH Molecular Laboratory to requesting private individuals, business enterprises, and other government and non-government health facilities in the absence of other laboratories providing this much-needed services within the Region;

WHEREAS, this August Body deems it necessary to collect fees to cover the expenses for test kits, reagents and other costs associated with the operation of the RT-PCR machine;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code explicitly provides power to Local Government Units to create its own sources of revenue and to levy taxes, fees, and charges (Section 129), exercised by the Sanggunian concerned through the enactment of an appropriate ordinance (Section 132);

NOW, THEREFORE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Ilagan in its Regular Session assembled, that:

Section 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be known as Tax Ordinance 017-2020, otherwise known as "Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) Fee Ordinance".

Section 2. Definition of Terms. The following terms in this Ordinance shall mean:

- a. Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) Test – laboratory test used to detect the presence of viral RNA through molecular testing to accurately diagnose COVID-19 infection.
- b. Testing Centers – the authorized testing centers to collect swab specimens accredited by the Department of Health.

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- c. Clinical Specimen – nasal swab containing biological sample for COVID-19 testing.

Section 3. Conduct of Tests. Collection of specimens may be administered at the designated testing centers in the City of Ilagan, which includes the City Health Office I, City Health Office II, and the at the San Antonio City of Ilagan Hospital.

The SACIH Molecular Laboratory shall also process specimens for testing administered by other accredited testing centers in the Region provided that:

- a) The testing center shall ensure that the collection and handling of samples strictly follow the required guidelines prescribed to avoid contamination or spoilage of samples for testing.
- b) The testing center shall provide a viral transport medium for swab specimen approved and recommended by the Department of Health.
- c) The testing center shall transport the samples and endorse the same at the SACIH Molecular Laboratory with proper identification and under strict storage temperature and packaging in observance of the standard protocol for COVID-19 specimen acceptance criteria.
- d) The collected specimens for testing must be submitted with the following forms:
 - Line list form
 - Laboratory Request Form for COVID-19 PCR Testing
 - Case Investigation Form
 - PhilHealth CF2 or MDRF form of patients

Section 4. Collection of Fees. The City Government shall collect the following fee for RT-PCR test as follows:

- a) Three Thousand Four Hundred Nine Pesos (P 3,409.00) for each RT-PCR test conducted, inclusive of the test kits, services, and certification to be issued by the attending physician.
- b) Two Thousand Seventy-Seven Pesos (P 2,077.00) if the test kits used is from donation or provided by the requesting party.

Section 5. Separability Clause. If for any reason, any part or provision of this Ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid by a competent Court, other parts or provisions hereof, which are not affected thereby, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 6. Repealing Clause. All existing laws, ordinances, or rules and regulations contrary to the provision of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 5. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after fifteen (15) days following its publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality.

ENACTED: November 09, 2020.

I HEREBY CERTIFY the correctness of the foregoing Tax Ordinance No. 017-2020.

ATTESTED:

KIRYLL S. BELLO
Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer

MARIA ROSARIO I. YUMUL
Secretary, Sangguniang Panlungsod

APPROVED:

JOSEMARIE L. DIAZ/DMD, MBA
City Mayor