

Joint Information Center - JIC Release No. 130 May 18, 2020, 5 p.m. (ChST)

COVID-19 Heroes Annual Leave Measure; Economic Impact Payment Updates

COVID-19 test results are reported from multiple labs at varying times of the day. Cumulative test results will be provided this evening once all tests from today are finalized.

To date, there have been **154 cases** confirmed through COVID-19 testing provided with **5** deaths and **126** released from isolation. As this is an evolving situation, information is subject to change with little to no notice.

For updated information on COVID-19 cases on Guam, visit the COVID-19 Dashboard at <u>http://dphss.guam.gov/covid-19/</u>.

COVID-19 Heroes Annual Leave Measure

Today, Governor Lou Leon Guerrero announced her support of Bill 359-35, a legislative measure that will compensate classified workers called to work during the COVID-19 pandemic. Bill 359-35 was a joint effort in collaboration with the Guam Federation of Teachers, Speaker Tina Muna-Barnes, Senator Pedo Terlaje, Senator Clynt Ridgell, Senator Wil Castro, and Senator Mary Torres.

Under Bill 359-35, any classified employee that worked during the emergency period of March 20th to May 10th, 2020 will be entitled to one hour of additional annual leave—for every hour worked—not to exceed 240 hours of annual leave, provided that the classified employee:

- 1. was required to physically report to work during the emergency period; and
- 2. did not receive any additional compensation, administrative leave, or compensatory time off aside from what was provided in Executive Order 2020-08 or any applicable hazardous, night, or overtime differential pay.

In addition, up to 120 hours of the COVID-19 Heroes Annual Leave may be paid in lump sum compensation at the request of the employee before October 1, 2020.

Economic Impact Payment (EIP) Updates

The Guam Department of Revenue and Taxation (DRT) has processed and released over 50,000 Economic Impact Payments (EIP) totaling \$95.9 million in the last week. DRT is expected to process additional payments this week.

DRT's FAQ on the Guam EIP Program is available at <u>www.guamtax.com</u>. DRT's call center numbers are 635-1840/41/42/57 and 635-7603/04/06. DRT recommends e-mailing any questions regarding the Guam EIP Program to <u>guameip@revtax.guam.gov</u>.

For inquiries on COVID-19, contact 311 through a local number, or call the Joint Information Center at (671) 478-0208/09/10.