

LAW & POLICY GROUP | [GRIST](#)

PHILIPPINES: PHILHEALTH MUST COVER PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

By Mercer's Pauline Cardenas, Stephanie Rosseau and Fiona Webster

11 Mar 2019

The Philippine Health Insurance Corp. (PhilHealth) must cover all “persons with disability” (PWDs) under legislation signed into [law](#) on 22 Feb 2019. Highlights include the following:

- PWDs are automatically covered under PhilHealth’s National Health Insurance Program.
- PhilHealth will develop exclusive packages for PWDs to address their specific health and development needs.
- The premium contributions of PWDs in the formal economy sector will be shared equally by their employers and the national government. Premium contributions for all other PWDs will be paid by the national government through increased taxes levied on tobacco and alcohol products.
- The Department of Health, in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Labor and Employment, the National Council for Disability Affairs, local government units and other relevant government agencies will issue implementing rules and regulations within three months of the law’s enactment and will monitor and evaluate implementation efforts.

RELATED RESOURCES

- [Republic Act 11228](#) (Philippine government, 22 Feb 2019)

Note: Mercer is not engaged in the practice of law, accounting or medicine. Any commentary in this article does not constitute and is not a substitute for legal, tax or medical advice. Readers of this article should consult a legal, tax or medical expert for advice on those matters.