

SSS eyes 32M web transactions in 2020

12 September 2019

The state-run Social Security System on Thursday said it eyes to draw more of its members into using its online platforms in transacting with the pension fund as it targets about 32.3 million web transactions by 2020.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Aurora C. Ignacio said the pension fund will further enhance its electronic service delivery through additional transactions that can be made online and expand payment channels for the convenience of its paying members.

"We're headed towards the direction of making SSS transactions easy and accessible for our members through the utilization of agile technology. We'd like to make sure that through the digitalization of our core service deliveries, we will be able to provide faster, easier, and accessible services for our members. Electronic services are beneficial to both SSS and our members and pensioners. SSS saves on overhead expenses while our members save time, money, and effort when they use our electronic facilities," Ignacio said during the press conference held in celebration of the 62nd anniversary of the pension fund.

SSS data showed that from January to June 2019, out of 37.16 million transactions, 26.63 million or 72 percent were over-the-counter while only 10.54 million or 28 percent were done through electronic channels.

"We recognize that it is a continuing challenge for us to shift our members and pensioners to use the self-service online facilities of SSS. We're looking to turn the tables and make more members transact through online facilities instead of over-the-counter transactions. By 2020, we are targeting to triple the current 10.54 million web transactions to 32.2 million," Ignacio said.

Data also showed that out of 14.95 million paying members of SSS for January to June 2019, only 37 percent or 5.49 million individual members are registered on the website as of June 2019.

"We hope to increase this number to about 8 million in 2020 or an additional of more or less 3 million web-registered members," Ignacio added.

The paying employers of 396,686 for January to June 2019, on the other, were all registered to the SSS web facility.

At present, SSS has six electronic channels accessible to members and pensioners. These six service facilities are: (1.) SSS Website - My.SSS, (2) SSS Mobile App, (3.) Self-Service Express Terminal (SET), (4) Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS), (5) Text-SSS and (6) Contribution payments through GCash.

"Usage of these electronic facilities has increased by 8 percent reaching 10.54 million compared to Jan to June data of last year. We're hoping to further improve these numbers by 2020." Ignacio said.

According to Ignacio, the SSS eyes to eliminate the use of checks for disbursement of benefit claims through PESONet transactions and its thru-the-bank program. She also mentioned that as part of its initial digitalization implementation, 33 branches of the SSS will be renovated with larger e-Center areas.

SSS contribution condonation program for delinquent employers benefits nearly 500,000 employees

24 September 2019

The state-run Social Security System (SSS) announced that nearly 500,000 employees of more than 55,000 employers who availed of the recently concluded Contribution Penalty Condonation Program (CPCP) will soon enjoy their benefits and privileges as active members of the pension fund.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Aurora C. Ignacio said the pension fund has so far collected P1.81 billion worth of contributions from the full and initial payments of employers who availed of the CPCP from March 6 to September 6, 2019. Meanwhile, the total amount of contribution delinquencies collected under the CPCP amounts to P7.88 billion.

“We’re very happy that nearly half a million Filipino private workers will soon enjoy the seven benefits being offered by the pension fund as well as its short-term loan privileges as soon as their employers have fully remitted their contributions to SSS,” Ignacio said.

Active paying SSS members may avail of sickness, maternity, unemployment, disability, retirement, funeral, and death/survivor benefits.

SSS data showed that of the P7.88 billion delinquencies of the 55,750 employers who availed of the CPCP, P3.88 billion were condoned penalty.

Employers who availed of the CPCP with less than 100 employees stood at 55,275 with more than P3.28 billion condoned penalties and P1.58 billion initial contribution collection. Large Accounts or employers who have more than 100 employees who availed of the program, on the other, were recorded at 475 with more than P597.64 million waived penalties and P227.74 million initial contribution collection.

“Some of the employers who availed of the program paid in full while most of them chose to pay their obligations in installment of up to 48 months. We’re hoping that they will be responsible enough this time to pay their dues on time not only to regain their good standing with the SSS but also for their employees to reap the benefits of being a member of SSS,” Ignacio said.

“We will closely monitor those who have availed of the CPCP so that we can immediately notify them at the first instance of non-payment of their obligation,” she added.

Moreover, SSS reminded employers who have received their latest statements of account but did not avail of the CPCP that they will be referred to the SSS Operations Legal Department for filing of case or for serving of Warrants of Distraint, Levy and Garnishment (WDLG).

The CPCP was offered to SSS delinquent employers following the effectivity of Republic Act 11199 or Social Security Act of 2018 on March 6, 2019.