



Balikbayans

The following are considered Balikbayans:

1. A Filipino citizen who has been continuously out of the Philippines for more a period of at least one year;
2. A Filipino overseas worker;
3. A former Filipino citizen; and
4. The alien spouse and children of balikbayans as defined in categories 1,2 and 3 travelling with them unless the spouse is an excludable alien.

Balikbayans enjoy the following benefits:

1. Exemption from travel tax;
2. Visa-free entry to the Philippines for a period of one year for foreign passport holders;
3. Duty free shopping privilege of up to US\$2000.00 with the following limitations:
 - Shopping must be done within 2 days upon arrival and
 - Purchases must be made personally by the Balikbayan

These benefits are available to Balikbayans every time they enter the Philippines, regardless of their frequent travel.

Balikbayan privileges are extended to the alien spouse and children of Filipinos and former Filipino citizens. This allows visa-free entries into the Philippines for the alien spouse and their children travelling with the Filipino or former Filipino citizen for a stay in the Philippines of up to one year.