In June 2011, UP Manila launched a Return Service Program that requires students of its seven health colleges to sign a contract that requires them to work in the Philippines for a period of not less than two years within five years after graduation.

The Return Service Agreement (RSA) covers the following colleges: College of Allied Medical Profession, College of Dentistry, College of Nursing, College of Pharmacy, College of Public Health, College of Medicine and School of Health and Sciences (SHS). Also covered are students with student number 2011- onwards who are shiftees or transferees to courses offered by the above colleges.

Under the RSA, graduates are mandated to serve the two-year minimum period within five years, preferably in accordance with the roles and nature of their respective professions and along the three major functions of the university, but not limited to education/training, research, and direct service.

In conducting the RSA work, preference shall be given to government agencies, non-governmental entities, and cause-oriented organizations and in underserved communities.

An RSA signatory who fails to fully serve the terms of the contract after five years will pay twice the cost of his/her education at the prevailing rate at the time of entry plus interest. Cost will be computed based on total subsidy of UP/government and donations made to specific colleges that enhance the education and training of students in the University. Enrollment in second degrees, such as Masters, MD, LIB, or other programs will not be considered as return service.

The following are the General RSA Policies:

1. Return service agreement is an absolute admission requirement for the CHW Program (SHS), baccalaureate health sciences programs (CAMP, CN, CP, CPH, SHS), DDM and MD programs.
2. The agreement states that the student shall serve in the Philippines within 5 years after graduation.
3. The agreement is signed by the Chancellor of UP Manila for the University and the prospective students and the parents, witnessed by the Dean/Director.
4. The graduate shall serve for a period specified by his/her college - the period of which should not be less than 2 years.
5. The graduate shall serve, preferably, in accordance with the role of the defined profession or health-related profession along three functions, but not limited to, direct service, education/training, and research. Return service shall preferably be an employment with government agencies/institutions, underserved towns/provinces, non-government and cause-oriented organizations.
6. The graduate is expected to serve fully within 5 years. If after 5 years, the graduate has not fully complied with the RSA, he/she will pay double the cost of his/her education at a prevailing rate from the time of entry, plus interest.
7. Cost of education shall be computed based on total subsidy of UP/government and donations made to specific colleges/units that enhance education/training of students in the university.
8. Enrolling for a second degree like a master's degree, Doctor of Medicine (MD) or Bachelor of Laws (LIB) or other programs cannot be considered as return service.
9. To facilitate serving of the RSA by graduates of UP Manila, the Philippine General Hospital and UP System shall give priority to UPM graduates for employment after requirements for employment are met.
10. UP Manila shall develop a placement process for implementation of the RSA with the Office of Alumni Relations as the implementing office for the program.

For further information, please call the Office of Alumni Relations at 525-38-02 or visit the UP Manila, Office of Alumni Relations website: http://alumni.upm.edu.ph/?q=node/5