



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

CHED MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 20
Series of 2002

TO : CHED Central Office Directors
CHED Regional Directors/Officers-In-Charge
Presidents of Colleges and Universities

SUBJECT : RULES AND REGULATIONS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE STUDY GRANT PROGRAM AT THE TERTIARY
LEVEL FOR SOLO PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN

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In accordance with the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 7722, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994" Republic Act No. 8972, "An Act Providing for Benefits and Privileges to Solo Parents and their Children" and pursuant to Commission Resolution No. 021-2001, dated 5 February 2001, the rules and regulations implementing the Study Grant Program at the tertiary level for Solo Parents and their Children is hereby provided.

I. Coverage

This study grant program shall cover all solo parents and their children qualified under the set criteria of the Study Grant Program at the tertiary level. However, due to financial constraints only one beneficiary per family shall enjoy scholarship privileges under the approved scholarship program ~~at~~ any given school year.

II. Definition of Terms

1. Solo Parent - any individual who falls under any of the following categories:
 - (a) A woman who gives birth as a result of rape and other crimes against chastity even without a final conviction of the offender: *Provided*, That the mother keeps and raises the child;
 - (b) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to death of spouse;

- (c) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood while the spouse is detained or is serving sentence for a criminal conviction for at least one (1) year;
- (d) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to physical and/or mental/incapacity of spouse as certified by a public medical practitioner;
- (e) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to legal separation or *de facto* separation from spouse for at least one (1) year, as long as he/she is entrusted with the custody of the children;
- (f) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to declaration of nullity or annulment of marriage as decreed by a court or by a church as long as he/she is entrusted with the custody of the children;
- (g) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to abandonment of spouse for at least one (1) year;
- (h) Unmarried mother/father who chooses to keep and rear her/his child/children instead of having others care for them or giving them up to a welfare institution;
- (i) Any other person who solely provides parental care and support to a child or children;
- (j) Any family member who assumes the responsibility of head of family as a result of the death, abandonment, disappearance or prolonged absence of the parents or solo parent.

2. Children - individuals living with and dependent upon the solo parent for support who are unmarried, unemployed and not more than eighteen (18) years of age, or even over eighteen (18) years but are incapable of self-support because of mental and/or physical defect/disability.

III. Qualification Requirements

A. For Solo Parents

- 1. Any individual who falls under any of the categories of solo parent as defined;
- 2. With income in the place of domicile falling below the poverty threshold as set by the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA);
- 3. Filipino citizen of good moral character;
- 4. Not more than 40 years old at the time of application;

5. With a general average grade of 80% or higher in 4th year high school, if incoming college freshman, or a weighted average grade of 2.5 or higher in the last semester in college;
6. Enrolled or intending to enroll/transfer in any of the CHED-priority courses in a state university/college or CHED-selected school;
7. Not presently enjoying any government scholarship grant;
8. Physically fit; and
9. Has passed the admission requirements of the school where applicant intends to study.

B. For Children of Solo Parents

1. Individuals who fall under the definition of "children" of solo parents;
2. With parents having an income falling below the poverty threshold in the place of domicile as determined by NEDA;
3. Not more than 18 years of age at the time of application;
4. Filipino citizen of good moral character;
5. Enrolled or intending to enroll/transfer in any of the CHED-priority courses in a state university/college or CHED-selected school;
6. Not presently enjoying any government scholarship grant; and
7. Has passed the admission requirements of the school where applicant intends to study.

IV. Documents Required

1. Income Tax Return (ITR) or Certificate of Exemption to file ITR from BIR;
2. An affidavit duly executed by the applicant that he/she is a solo parent or a child of a solo parent with an attached certification from a DSWD worker in the area;
3. Certification of good moral character from the *Barangay* Chairman of the place of domicile;
4. Certification of good health;-
5. Birth certificate;
6. Notice of admission from the school where the applicant intends to enroll;
7. Form 138 (Report Card), if in-coming college freshman, or transcript of records if applicant already earned academic units in college; and
8. I.D. of solo parent.

N.B. To include regular documentary requirements of existing financial assistance programs of Office of Student Services.

V. Application Procedure

1. Secure application form from the CHED Regional Office (CHEDRO) or any DSWD Office;

2. Submit the accomplished application form together with the required documents to the CHEDRO or any DSWD Office.

NOTE: The filing of application for the incoming school year is from January to the 15th day of May. The accomplished application form together with the required documents including those submitted to DSWD should reach the CHEDRO within the specified period.

VI. Scholarship Benefits

Each qualified grantee shall enjoy the scholarship privileges per semester under the existing scholarship program that the grantee is qualified at any given school year.

VII. Scholarship Conditions

To continuously enjoy the privileges and benefits under the program, the qualified grantee must meet the conditions as required in the specific scholarship program applied for.

NOTE: A change in the status or circumstance of the parent claiming benefits under R.A. 8972, such that he/she is no longer left alone with the responsibility of parenthood, shall terminate his/her eligibility for these benefits and that of his/her children.

VIII. Effectivity

This program shall commence effective the 1st Semester of AY 2001-2002.

For proper guidance and strict compliance of all concerned.

Pasig City, Philippines, September 18, 2001


ESTER A. GARCIA
Chairperson