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DepED MEMORANDUM
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**ORIENTATION TRAINING OF SCHOOL NURSES ON PREVENTIVE
HEALTH CARE IN THE SCHOOL SETTING**

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents

1. In line with the Department's strategic plan to attain the goals set for Education For All (EFA) 2015, more particularly the provision of early childhood preventive health and nutrition services to reduce drop-out rate and increase participation and cohort survival rates, the Health and Nutrition Center (HNC) will conduct a series of Orientation Training of School Nurses on Preventive Health Care in the School Setting starting October this year to May 2005.

2. The training aims to:

- a. orient the school nurses on the proposed road map for health care delivery in schools starting CY 2005 to 2010;
- b. increase their working knowledge and understanding on ECCD and on the EFA goals, and their roles and responsibilities towards goal attainment by EO 2015;
- c. equip them with the skills to screen, treat/refer specific learning disabilities and various forms of malnutrition among school children; and
- d. empower them as health service providers and advocates in the school setting.

3. The school nurses are the frontliners in the delivery of basic health and nutrition services, and the present ratio of one nurse to 3,000-5,000 students somehow ensures that each school child, including teachers and non-teaching personnel, will be attended to by the nurses. This one-time investment to train the school nurses and put them in a unified mind-set will be cost-effective in a way that early childhood care and management of learning disabilities (specifically visual and hearing impairments) will be provided and drop-out interventions shall be instituted with more effectiveness and efficiency.

4. The participants are the division school nurses working in the public elementary and secondary schools nationwide.

5. The training will be conducted in batches, wherein some regions will be clustered. The 1st two batches consisting of nurses from Luzon will be trained at the Teachers Camp, Baguio City tentatively scheduled as follows:

Regions	Inclusive Dates	Proposed Venues
Regions I, II, III and CAR	October 19-21	Teachers Camp, Baguio City
Regions IV-A, IV-B and NCR	November 23-25	Teachers Camp, Baguio City

The schedule and composition of the other batches will be announced later through letter to the concerned regional directors.

6. Expenses for travel, board and lodging of participants, speakers, resource persons, staff and secretariat, professional fees/honoraria/payment of overtime/extra essential services of speakers, trainers, staff and secretariat, supplies and materials and other operational costs incurred during the training shall be drawn from the Health and Nutrition Center (HNC) funds, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations. HNC may seek assistance from UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO and other government and non-government agencies for the activity.

7. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

R. C. Bacani
RAMON C. BACANI
Undersecretary
Officer-in-Charge

Reference: None

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

HEALTH EDUCATION
TRAINING PROGRAMS
SCHOOLS

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