



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City

DepED

Tanggapan ng Kalihim
Office of the Secretary

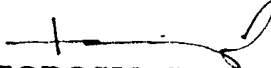
DepED Memorandum
No. 44, s. 2007

MAR 30 2007

**PROMOTING ACCESS TO SECONDARY EDUCATION
THROUGH THE EDUCATION VOUCHER SYSTEM- Year 2
AND THE EDUCATION SERVICE CONTRACTING UNDER GASTPE**

To : Bureau and Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Heads of Public Elementary and Secondary Schools

1. Pursuant to the goal of democratizing and improving access to basic education at the secondary level, DepED announces the **continuing implementation of the Education Voucher System, Yr. 2 and the Education Service Contracting under GASTPE**. These programs provide financial assistance to poor but deserving elementary school graduates who wish to pursue their secondary education in private schools.
2. Allocation of slots for the two programs shall be determined by the Division Offices on the basis of the data on Red/Black coded areas by Regions, earlier faxed to the Regional Offices to be relayed to division offices and to schools concerned.
3. The **public elementary school principals** whose schools have been identified by the DepED Division Offices as feeder schools to red-coded public secondary schools (i.e., with big class sizes, teacher shortage and limited classrooms) **shall select the beneficiaries of the Education Vouchers for the school year 2007-2008 and issue Certification for the qualified EVS/ESC grantee** (see Enclosure 1) **based on the criteria and program guidelines** (see Enclosure 2)
4. The Fund for Assistance to Private Education (FAPE) shall continue to manage the program for the Department, in coordination with DepED's Field Units.
5. **The Regional Program Coordinators of FAPE, in coordination with the DepED Regional and Division Offices, shall orient the school heads of the public feeder elementary schools and the school heads of participating private high schools** within the region's catchment area re the objectives, requirements and implementing guidelines of the program.
6. In view of the urgency of this program, **immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum** to all concerned is requested.


TEODOSIO C. SANGIL, JR.
Undersecretary
Officer-in-Charge

Encls.: As stated

References: DepED Order: Nos. 14, 16, 23 s. 2006
and 31, s. 2005

Allotment: 1---(D.O. 50-97)

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

SECONDARY EDUCATION
STUDENTS
PROGRAMS
RULES & REGULATIONS

_____ Region
Division of _____

(Name of Feeder Elementary School)

(Address of School)

CERTIFICATION FOR A QUALIFIED EVS GRANTEE

This is to certify that the bearer, _____ with home
(Name of student)
address at _____, is a graduate of this school. He/She is
qualified to be a grantee / beneficiary under **DepED's EDUCATION
VOUCHER SYSTEM** and is entitled to a Six Thousand Pesos (PhP6000) subsidy as
financial support from the government for tuition and other school fees for the SY 2007-
2008. The private high school that enrolls the said student shall be paid by government
through the DepED after submission of required documents.

Enclosed is a xerox copy of the student's report card (F 138) in Gr. VI.

Elementary School Principal/Head

Date Issued: _____

**Note: This certification is to be presented to the Private High School
principal/registrar.**

**Note: Detach this portion and submit back to the Elementary School Principal.
Student shall have this portion Xerox copied as his/her own copy.**

(Name of Participating Private High School)

(Address of Private High School)

CERTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF EVS GRANTEE

This is to certify that _____, a qualified EVS
grantee who graduated from _____ has been **accepted and
enrolled in this school**. This entitles him/her to a subsidy of Six Thousand Pesos
(PhP6000) (payable to this school for the SY 2007-2008) as an **EDUCATION VOUCHER
SYSTEM (EVS) grantee**.

(Private School Principal/Registrar)

Date issued _____

Enclosure No. 2 to DepED Memorandum No. 144, s. 2007

EDUCATION SERVICE CONTRACTING (ESC)
and
THE EDUCATION VOUCHER SYSTEM (EVS)
Program Information and Guidelines
School Year 2007-2008

I. Introduction

A. Constitutional Basis

Art. XIV, Sec. 1 of the Constitution mandates that "the State shall protect and promote the rights of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all."

Art. XIV, Sec. 2-3 provides that it is the policy of the State to "establish and maintain a system of scholarship grants, student loan programs, subsidies, and other incentives which shall be available to deserving students in both public and private schools, especially to the underprivileged."

Art. XIV, Sec. 4-1 further provides that "the State recognizes the complementary roles of public and private institutions in the education system."

B. Education Service Contracting (ESC)

Republic Act 8545 (amending R.A. 6728), otherwise known as the "Expanded Government Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education (GASTPE)," stipulates that it is the declared policy of the State, in conformity with the mandate of the Constitution, to promote and make quality education available to all Filipino citizens. Through this law, the State also recognizes the complementary roles of public and private schools in the education system; especially the latter's invaluable contribution to education. In its 24 years of operation, the ESC program has become a symbol of government's continued support for private education at the secondary level.

C. Education Voucher System (EVS)

The program was launched in March 2006 as a pump-priming program of the Office of the President and is geared towards reducing the class size in public high schools in red/black-coded areas where there are shortages of classrooms and teacher items by providing vouchers to graduates of feeder public elementary schools to enable them to enroll in private high schools of their choice.

D. The Goals of the ESC and EVS Programs

Both programs are systems of financial assistance aimed at democratizing and improving access to quality basic education at the secondary level through government extension of financial assistance to poor but deserving elementary school graduates that wish to pursue their secondary education in a private school.

Program beneficiaries are awarded certificates (ESC) and vouchers (EVS) as evidence of Government's commitment to support their education in a private high school they choose for as long as they meet the entrance requirements as well as those for regular promotion to each of the succeeding school years until they graduate.

II. General Guidelines for SY 2007-2008

For both ESC and EVS programs, the following guidelines shall apply:

1. **For all grantees of ESC and EVS (1st to 4th Year levels), the maximum subsidy shall be Php6,000 per grantee** or the private schools' actual tuition and other fees. In cases where tuition fees charged by the schools are lower than P6,000., the difference in the amount should be given to the student grantees by way of subsidizing their textbooks/instructional materials fee.
2. The acceptance of freshman grantees is **limited** to participating private schools whose tuition and other fees **do not exceed P12,000 per year**.
3. There shall be no replacement of dropouts and transferees.

The following guidelines are specific for each of the two programs:

ESC

1. Incoming **First Year ESC slots** for participating private schools shall be equal to the number of their **Fourth Year ESC graduates in SY 2006-2007**. Allocation of slots starting this year shall be redefined by DepED and FAPE as a way of providing equitable distribution to schools in terms of priorities.

EVS

1. **Slot allocation will be limited to private schools in red/black-coded areas where public high schools are located.**
2. EVS slots are exclusively for grantees that come from public elementary schools in DepED red/black-coded areas.
3. EVS slots shall also include PEPT and ALS qualifiers who are seeking enrolment to private schools.

A. Private Schools that may Participate in the ESC and EVS Programs

ESC Program:

The following schools shall be allowed to participate in the program:

1. Government-recognized private secondary schools that have **passed** the ESC Certification.
2. Night schools or branches of existing ESC participating private institutions that have **obtained separate government recognition** and passed the ESC Certification.

EVS Program:

1. Same as those listed above for the ESC program except that it is limited to private schools operating in DepED red/black-coded areas.
2. Schools that do not have Government recognition or were only given permit to operate for the year but who accepted beneficiaries last school year, shall not be

- allowed to accept new beneficiaries or until such time when they shall have secured Government recognition. Only then shall they be allowed to graduate their grantees.
3. Private high schools that are recognized by the government should meet the certification standards for the program.

Participating schools in both ESC and EVS should have drop-out reduction intervention program in place to improve and sustain achievement and student retention.

B Grantee Selection

1. New Grantees (1st Year level) for ESC

Grantees for the ESC shall come from public elementary schools, preferably in red/black coded areas.

- a. A school committee composed of the school head as chairperson, and parents' association representative and faculty association representative as members shall carry out the process of selecting new grantees.
- b. The school committee shall observe the following criteria, listed according to the order of importance, in the selection of grantees:
 - (1.) Priority shall be given to applicants whose family income is not more than the poverty level as determined by the NEDA Annual Per Capita Poverty Thresholds-- 2006-2007
 - P16,936 per month in urban areas,
 - P14,103 per month in rural areas
 - P19,345 per month in Metro Manila
 - (2.) The applicant meets the admission requirements of the participating school.
 - (3.) A favorable assessment by the school committee of an applicant's and his/her parent's/guardian's commitment to pursue completion of high school under the program.

2. New Grantees (1st Year level) EVS

Grantees of the EVS are limited to those from public elementary schools in DepEd red/black-coded areas.

- a. EVS grantees are identified and certified by the elementary school principals from feeder elementary schools in red/black-coded areas. (Enclosed Certification Letter from the elementary school principal shall initially be given to the identified grantee for presentation to the private school where the grantee would enroll.)
- b. EVS grantees coming from these areas may include PEPT and ALS qualifiers who wish to seek enrolment in private schools and avail of the grant.
- c. EVS grantees belong to the top 50% of their graduating class.

3. Continuing Grantees (ESC 2nd to 4th Year level), (EVS 2nd Year level)

- a. Grantees shall be qualified to receive the subsidy (@PhP6,000) for the subsequent school year if they are promoted to the next academic level.
- b. Only students that have actually enrolled and attended classes up to the first week of August shall be considered grantees of the program. Grantees who are at risk of dropping out should be provided education interventions e.g. remedial teaching, tutorials, and/or

incentives such as supplementary school feeding, provision of instructional materials/school supplies, etc.

d. Qualified grantees may transfer to another ESC or EVS participating school only after completing and passing the entire school year level at his/her current school and obtaining valid transfer credentials.

III. Deadline for Submission of Program Forms---- August 15, 2007

An orientation for the programs shall be conducted by FAPE coordinator and DepED representative in every region in the months of April to early May where the school heads or their representatives from all participant ESC and EVS schools shall attend. Program forms consisting of the following will be distributed to all participating schools during the orientation.

- a. Form A - Certification of Tuition and other Fees
- b. Form B - Billing Statement
- c. Form C - Listing of all 1st year grantees
- d. Form D - Summary Report
- e. Form E - Year-end Report (continuing grantees)
- f. Computer printout of IMI 1 (for current account) or STI 1 (for savings account) of school bank account with Land Bank of the Philippines and/or other banks.

Note: School bank account name must be in the name of the school only.

IV. Processing of School Documents

School documents gathered by the FAPE regional coordinators/RPCs shall be submitted to the FAPE central office in Makati City, NCR for processing...

- Checking of accuracy and completeness of documents
- Release of the exact number of ESC certificates and EVS vouchers to the participating schools which will award same to grantees
- Inputting of grantees' data into the computer database
- Submission of summary of documents and summary report to DepED BSE and to DepED Accounting Division for payment.

V. Sanctions Against Schools Violating Program Guidelines

The following shall be grounds for suspension/termination of a school's participation in the programs:

1. Falsification of data or information in any of the program forms.
2. Padding and/or inclusion of "ghost students" in the list of grantees. Ghost students also refer to the following:
 - a. Grantees listed in the participating school's program forms that attend classes in another campus, branch, or unit with an address that is different from the one indicated in the program forms of the school.
 - b. Students that enrolled but have not attended the first 2 months of classes
3. Charging grantees in excess of P6,000 per year for schools with tuition and other fees above P12,000 per year.

4. Charging grantees in excess of a school's actual tuition and other fees in cases when these are below the grant amount.

a. Undue delay or non-reimbursement of tuition and other fees advanced by grantees to support school operating requirements while grants have not yet been paid the school.

5. Schools with ownership and/or management disputes.

Schools found to be in violation of the program guidelines shall be given due process. The DepED shall impose sanctions on a school based on the findings and recommendation of the Regional Program Committee and/or the Program Monitoring Team.