

Republika ng Pilipinas
(Republic of the Philippines)
MINISTRI NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS
(MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS)
Maynila

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MECS O R D E R
No. 23, s. 1983

GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE RATES
AND APPLICATIONS OF TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL
FEES FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 1983-1984

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Superintendents
Presidents, State Colleges and Universities
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

Pursuant to Sections 38, 42, 54, 57(3) and 70 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 232, otherwise known as the Education Act of 1982, the following guidelines and regulations governing the collection and application of tuition and other school fees by all educational institutions during the school year 1983-1984 are hereby promulgated:

1. Declaration of Policy

It is the policy of the Government to promote and safeguard the interests of both pupils and students, and of schools or institutions, in the maintenance and improvement of instructional, training, and research programs of reasonable academic or professional quality.

It is likewise the policy of Government that the benefits of economic prosperity, and the burdens of economic costs, be shared as broadly and equitably as possible.

Pursuant to law and the above policies, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports shall regulate the collection and application of tuition and other school fees.

2. School Fees: Definition

School fees shall be classified into tuition and other fees, which are defined as follows:

- 2.1. Tuition fee - This is the fee to be collected to cover the direct costs of instruction, training, and related research, and of the students' use of instruction/training/research facilities, including laboratories.

2.2. Other fees - These are the fees collected to cover other necessary costs supportive of instruction/training/research such as testing, athletic, library, and diploma fees; and miscellaneous fees related to extra or co-curricular activities and to membership in the school community, such as registration, identification, medical and dental, student organization, student publication, CMT, and other fees authorized by the MECS.

3. Tuition and Other School Fees in Public Schools

Public secondary and post-secondary schools, whether national or local, chartered or non-chartered, may charge tuition and other school fees, and apply the same, as authorized by law, towards their operational and maintenance costs, and in order to improve facilities or to accommodate more students.

4. Tuition and Other School Fees in Private Institutions

Pursuant to Section 42 of the Education Act of 1982, each private school shall determine its rates of tuition and other school fees.

Such rates or fees so determined and duly adopted for the school year 1983-1984, if not higher than those collected in the immediately preceding school year, or if higher do not exceed a five per cent (5%) increase over the rates or fees collected in the immediately preceding school year, are hereby authorized, without the need for application therefor by the school, to be collected and applied or used for the relevant purposes in the operation of the school, which should primarily be the purpose or objects of expenditure in Paragraph 2 above, subject to the provisions of Presidential Decree No. 451 in respect of the sixty per cent (60%) of the increase to be reserved for increases in faculty and/or other personnel compensation or allowances, pursuant to the school's policy and/or as mandated by law or government requirements.

Should, however, the said rates or fees exceed the previous rates or fees by more than five per cent (5%), they shall not be collectible without the prior approval of the MECS. The procedure for obtaining this approval shall be governed by the following:

- 4.1. The school shall file an application to collect its adopted rates or fees with the appropriate MECS regional office not later than 15 July 1983. The Regional Director shall act on each application by approving or disapproving, or modifying the subject rates or fees. As a general rule, the Regional Director's decision on each application shall be promulgated not later than thirty (30) days after the date of filing of the application.

- 4.2. Subject to 4.7 hereunder, no application for increase exceeding a ten per cent (10%) increase over the rates actually collected in 1982-1983 shall be entertained by the MECS regional office, and if filed shall not be approved: Provided, however, that in cases where the cumulative increase in rates or fees over the two school years 1981-1982 and 1982-1983 did not exceed ten per cent (10%) over the rates or fees during 1980-1981, an application for a fifteen per cent (15%) increase may be considered.
- 4.3. In view of the strict injunction on the MECS regional offices to act promptly on each application for rate or fee increases, the Ministry discourages private schools from collecting increased rates or fees on a provisional basis in advance of the MECS decision on the application, and said provisional collections of increased rates or fees is hereby disallowed and prohibited: Provided, that it may be permitted as an exception where the school undertakes to apply a reasonable part of the increase to faculty and staff salaries and other monetary benefits effective not later than 1 July 1983, and the application categorically stipulates that undertaking. In any event, the disapproval or downward modifications of the increases applied for shall hereby impose upon the school that has collected provisional increases, the obligation to reimburse to the students, the corresponding amounts, and this obligation shall be specifically expressed to students by each school collecting provisional increased rates or fees.
- 4.4. No application shall be acted upon by the MECS unless it is accompanied by a statement under oath listing the (a) rates for fees collected by the school or institution in 1982-1983 for which increases are applied, by college or faculty, degree, or program, (b) the corresponding rates of increase applied for, (c) the allocation of the proceeds of the increases applied for based on the priority needs of the school or institution, and (d) the justifications for the increases, including projects or activities designed to improve instructional/training/research standards.
- 4.5. Paragraph 5.1 of MEC Order No. 21, s. 1980, as amended by Paragraph 1(g) of MEC Order No. 33, s. 1981, is hereby reiterated, with the necessary changes of the dates, as follows: "1980" shall be changed to "1983," "1980-1981" shall be changed to "1982-1983."

4.6. Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of MEC Order No. 21, s. 1980, are likewise hereby reiterated.

4.7. Paragraph 1(a) of MEC Order No. 22, s. 1982 on De-Regulated status is hereby reiterated; the date "August 10, 1982" is however hereby changed to "August 1, 1983;" "MEC" shall read "MECS," and "Ministry of Education and Culture" shall read "Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports."

5. Non Citizenship Fee

The provision of Paragraph 4 of MEC Order No. 21, s. 1980, on Non-Citizenship Fee is hereby reiterated.

6. Paragraphs 6 and 7 of MEC Order No. 21, s. 1980, are hereby reiterated.

7. All provisions of previous MECS or MEC Orders not consistent with this Order are hereby rescinded.

8. Strict compliance with the guidelines and regulations herein prescribed is enjoined upon all concerned.

(SGD.) ONOFRE D. CORPUZ
Minister

References:

MEC Orders: Nos. 21, s. 1980, 33, s. 1981 and
22, s. 1982

Allotment: 1-2-3-4---(D.O. 1-76)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
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