

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS
Meralco Drive, Pasig, Metro Manila

March 16, 1994

DECS Order No. 18, s. 1994

**GUIDELINES FOR OFFSETTING INADEQUATE CLASS DAYS OR
LACK OF FINAL EXAMINATIONS DUE TO ACTIONS TAKEN
BY PROTESTING STUDENTS**

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

1. This Office expresses its concern over a series of recent student protest actions which have affected certain public and private colleges and universities in various regions of the country.
2. While the right to express student grievances is recognized by this Office, it is also important to stress that such right may not be exercised in order to prevent freedom of access into and exit from the premises of the school by other students, especially those attending classes. The act of putting up, manning or maintaining a barricade by any student or group of students in order to prevent entry or exit to or from the school premises shall be considered a serious infraction of school discipline for which disciplinary administrative sanctions ranging from suspension to exclusion may be imposed, at the discretion of the school concerned and in accordance with its existing rules and regulations.
3. Also in connection with such protest actions, the head of any private school, college or university affected by student protest actions and which have prevented the holding of classes is authorized (a) to allow absences even beyond twenty (20%) per cent of the prescribed number of class or laboratory periods prescribed in the DECS Manual of Regulations for Private Schools, especially if alternative schemes to enable completion of minimum class requirements are not possible, and (b) to grant final grades based upon individual student performances prior to final examinations, again should it not prove possible to hold final examinations, and provided no mass promotions are involved. In either case, the appropriate DECS Regional Office should be so notified.
4. State colleges and universities may adopt the above policies through appropriate action by their respective Boards of Regents, if such policies are not already reflected in their official rules and regulations.
5. For immediate dissemination.


ARMAND V. FABELLA
Secretary

References: DECS Orders: Nos. 35, s. 1993
and 92, s. 1992

Allotment: 1-2-3-4--(M.O. 1-87)

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

CLASSES ✓

SCHOOLS ✓

not for

STUDENTS ✓