

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

May 23, 1994

DECS Order No. 26, s. 1994

**PLACEMENTS OF TRANSFEREES FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES SEEKING ADMISSION
TO PHILIPPINE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

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

1. Statement of Policy. It is DECS policy that as much as possible individual schools, especially private schools, shall be responsible for matters which were previously referred to DECS but which are capable of resolution by the schools themselves. Accordingly, effective this forthcoming school year 1994-95, it will no longer be necessary for elementary and secondary schools, whether public or private, to refer to DECS those pupil applicants transferring from foreign countries for grade placement purposes by DECS.

2. Placement Principles. Each accepting school shall have the discretion to determine the appropriate elementary grade in which to place the transferee. In general, except as otherwise indicated, the appropriate grade level should be the next curriculum year following that completed abroad by the applicant. For example, a pupil who has completed Grade IV in a foreign school abroad should be considered for admission to Grade V here. The following guidelines from DECS Order No. 67, s. 1993 are given below, for the sake of completeness:

(a) Those who have completed the Sixth or Seventh Grade abroad are eligible for admission to the First Year of High School; however, graduates of a five-year elementary curriculum are eligible only for admission to Grade VI.

(b) Those who have completed the Eighth Grade abroad are eligible for admission to the Second Year of High School, but shall take Filipino I and Social Studies I (Philippine History and Government).

(c) Those who have completed the Ninth Grade abroad are eligible for the Third Year of High School, but shall take Filipino I and Social Studies I and then take Filipino II in the Fourth Year of High School.

(d) Those who have completed the Tenth Grade abroad are eligible for the Fourth Year of High School, but shall take Filipino I and Social Studies I. They need not take Filipino II, III or IV in order to graduate.

(e) Those who have completed the Eleventh or Twelfth grades abroad may be eligible for admission to the tertiary level, depending on the course they will pursue. In case they opt for baccalaureate degree courses, they will have to qualify in the National College Entrance Examination (NCEE) for as long as such is still required by law.


3. The foreign educational system concerned should have a first or elementary level of at least six years, a secondary or high school level system of at least four years, and a total basic education

(elementary plus secondary) of at least ten years. The specifics for each country are provided in the attached Annex, obtained from the latest (1993) Unesco World Education Report.

4. The accepting school shall have the discretion to accelerate their pupil to a higher Grade/Year, or conversely to a lower Grade/Year, depending upon the subsequent performance of the pupil in the accepting school. The accepting school shall also be responsible for the appropriate supplementary programs as may be necessary in order that facility in Filipino may be hastened, should it appear inadequate.

5. Pending requests with DECS for placement classification will be considered referred back to the schools for appropriate action, consistent with the above policies.

6. All previous DECS issuances inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are rescinded or modified accordingly. DECS Order No. 67, s. 1993 remains valid in its entirety.


ARMAND. V. FABELLA
Secretary

Incl.: As stated

Reference: DECS Order: (No. 67, s. 1993)

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

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

- ADMISSION or ENROLLMENT
- Course of Study, ELEMENTARY
- Course of Study, SECONDARY
- RULES & REGULATIONS
- SCHOOLS
- TRANSFER

Annex to DECS Order No. 26, s. 1994: Years of basic education by country (excluding pre-school)

	<u>Country</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>1st level</u>	<u>Lower 2nd level</u>	<u>Upper 2nd level</u>	<u>Total basic</u>
1	Afghanistan	Asia	8	.	4	12
2	Albania	Europe	8	.	4	12
3	Algeria	Africa	6	3	3	12
4	Angola	Africa	4	4	3	11
5	Antigua and Barbuda	N America	6	3	2	11
6	Argentina	S America	7	3	2	12
7	Armenia	Asia	...	...	...	...
8	Australia	Oceania	6	3	3	12
9	Austria	Europe	4	4	4	12
10	Azerbaijan	Asia	...	...	...	...
11	Bahamas	N America	6	3	3	12
12	Bahrain	Asia	6	3	3	12
13	Bangladesh	Asia	5	5	2	12
14	Barbados	N America	6	3	3	12
15	Belarus	Europe	6	3	2	11
16	Belgium	Europe	6	3	3	12
17	Belize	N America	8	.	4	12
18	Benin	Africa	6	4	3	13
19	Bhutan	Asia	6	2	2	10
20	Bolivia	S America	8	.	4	12
21	Botswana	Africa	7	3	2	12
22	Brazil	S America	8	.	3	11
23	British Virgin Islands	N America	7	3	2	12
24	Brunei Darussalam	Asia	6	5	2	13
25	Bulgaria	Europe	8	.	4	12
26	Burkina Faso	Africa	6	4	3	13
27	Burundi	Africa	6	4	3	13
28	Cambodia	Asia	6	4	3	13
29	Cameroon	Africa	6	4	3	13
30	Canada	N America	6	3	3	12
31	Cape Verde	Africa	6	3	2	11
32	Central African Republic	Africa	6	4	3	13
33	Chad	Africa	6	4	3	13
34	Chile	S America	8	2	2	12
35	China	Asia	6	3	2	11
36	Colombia	S America	5	4	2	11
37	Comoros	Africa	6	4	3	13
38	Congo	Africa	6	4	3	13
39	Costa Rica	N America	6	3	2	11
40	Cote d'Ivoire	Africa	6	4	3	13

Source of data: Unesco 1993 World Educational Report, updated for certain Asian countries.

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	<u>Country</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>1st level</u>	<u>Lower 2nd level</u>	<u>Upper 2nd level</u>	<u>Total basic</u>
41	Cuba	N America	6	3	3	12
42	Cyprus	Asia	6	3	3	12
43	Denmark	Europe	6	3	3	12
44	Djibouti	Africa	6	4	3	13
45	Dominica	N America	7	.	5	12
46	Dominican Republic	N America	8	.	4	12
47	Ecuador	S America	6	3	3	12
48	Egypt	Africa	5	3	3	11
49	El Salvador	N America	9	.	3	12
50	Equatorial Guinea	Africa	6	4	2	12
51	Estonia	Europe	...	...	...	...
52	Ethiopia	Africa	6	2	4	12
53	Fiji	Oceania	6	.	6	12
54	Finland	Europe	6	3	3	12
55	Former Czechoslovakia	Europe	8	.	4	12
56	Former USSR	Europe	6	3	2	11
57	Former Yugoslavia	Europe	4	4	4	12
58	France	Europe	5	4	3	12
59	Gabon	Africa	6	4	3	13
60	Gambia	Africa	6	5	2	13
61	Georgia	Asia	...	...	...	...
62	Germany, Federal Rep.	Europe	4	6	3	13
63	Ghana	Africa	6	4	3	13
64	Greece	Europe	6	3	3	12
65	Grenada	N America	7	.	5	12
66	Guatemala	N America	6	3	3	12
67	Guinea	Africa	6	4	3	13
68	Guinea - Bissau	Africa	6	3	2	11
69	Guyana	S America	6	5	2	13
70	Haiti	N America	6	3	3	12
71	Honduras	N America	6	3	2	11
72	Hong Kong	Asia	6	5	2	13
73	Hungary	Europe	8	.	4	12
74	Iceland	Europe	6	3	4	13
75	India	Asia	5	3	4	12
76	Indonesia	Asia	6	3	3	12
77	Iran, Islamic Rep. of	Asia	5	3	4	12
78	Iraq	Asia	6	3	3	12
79	Ireland	Europe	6	3	2	11

Source of data: Unesco 1993 World Educational Report, updated for certain Asian countries.

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	<u>Country</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>1st level</u>	<u>Lower 2nd level</u>	<u>Upper 2nd level</u>	<u>Total basic</u>
80	Israel	Asia	8	.	4	12
81	Italy	Europe	5	3	5	13
82	Jamaica	N America	6	3	4	13
83	Japan	Asia	6	3	3	12
84	Jordan	Asia	10	.	2	12
85	Kazakhstan	Asia	...	...	...	...
86	Kenya	Africa	8	.	4	12
87	Kiribati	Oceania	7	.	5	12
88	Korea, Dem. People's Rep.	Asia	4	.	6	10
89	Korea, Republic of	Asia	6	3	3	12
90	Kuwait	Asia	4	4	4	12
91	Kyrgyzstan	Asia	...	...	...	...
92	Lao People's Dem. Rep.	Asia	5	3	3	11
93	Latvia	Europe	...	...	...	...
94	Lebanon	Asia	5	4	3	12
95	Lesotho	Africa	7	3	2	12
96	Liberia	Africa	6	3	3	12
97	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Africa	6	3	3	12
98	Lithuania	Europe	...	...	...	...
99	Luxembourg	Europe	6	3	4	13
100	Madagascar	Africa	5	4	3	12
101	Malawi	Africa	8	2	2	12
102	Malaysia	Asia	6	3	4	13
103	Maldives	Asia	5	5	2	12
104	Mali	Africa	6	3	3	12
105	Malta	Europe	6	5	2	13
106	Mauritania	Africa	6	3	3	12
107	Mauritius	Africa	6	3	4	13
108	Mexico	N America	6	3	3	12
109	Monaco	Europe	5	4	3	12
110	Mongolia	Asia	3	5	2	10
111	Morocco	Africa	6	3	3	12
112	Mozambique	Africa	5	2	5	12
113	Myanmar	Asia	5	4	2	11
114	Namibia	Africa	7	.	5	12
115	Nepal	Asia	5	2	3	10
116	Netherlands	Europe	6	3	3	12
117	Netherlands Antilles	N America	6	.	5	11
118	New Zealand	Oceania	6	4	3	13

Source of data: Unesco 1993 World Educational Report, updated for certain Asian countries.

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	Country	Group	1st level	Lower 2nd level	Upper 2nd level	Total basic
119	Nicaragua	N America	6	3	2	11
120	Niger	Africa	6	4	3	13
121	Nigeria	Africa	6	3	3	12
122	Norway	Europe	6	3	3	12
123	Oman	Asia	6	3	3	12
124	Pakistan	Asia	5	3	4	12
125	Palestine/Gaza	Asia	6	3	3	12
126	Palestine/West Bank	Asia	6	3	3	12
127	Panama	N America	6	3	3	12
128	Papua New Guinea	Oceania	6	4	2	12
129	Paraguay	S America	6	3	3	12
130	Peru	S America	6	2	3	11
131	Philippines	Asia	6	.	4	10
132	Poland	Europe	8	.	4	12
133	Portugal	Europe	6	3	3	12
134	Qatar	Asia	6	3	3	12
135	Republic of Moldova	Europe	...	...	...	...
136	Romania	Europe	8	.	4	12
137	Russian Federation	Europe	...	...	...	...
138	Rwanda	Africa	8	.	2	10
139	Samoa	Oceania	7	4	3	14
140	San Marino	Europe	5	3	5	13
141	Sao Tome and Principe	Africa	4	4	3	11
142	Saudi Arabia	Asia	6	3	3	12
143	Senegal	Africa	6	4	3	13
144	Seychelles	Africa	9	.	2	11
145	Sierra Leone	Africa	7	5	2	14
146	Singapore	Asia	6	4	3	13
147	Somalia	Africa	8	.	4	12
148	South Africa	Africa	...	...	...	...
149	Spain	Europe	5	3	4	12
150	Sri Lanka	Asia	5	6	2	13
151	St Christopher and Nevis	N America	7	4	2	13
152	St Lucia	N America	7	3	2	12
153	St Vincent and Grenadines	N America	7	5	2	14
154	Sudan	Africa	6	3	3	12
155	Suriname	S America	6	4	3	13
156	Swaziland	Africa	7	3	2	12
157	Sweden	Europe	6	3	3	12

Source of data: Unesco 1993 World Educational Report, updated for certain Asian countries.

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	<u>Country</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>1st level</u>	<u>Lower 2nd level</u>	<u>Upper 2nd level</u>	<u>Total basic</u>
158	Switzerland	Europe	6	3	4	13
159	Syrian Arab Republic	Asia	6	3	3	12
160	Tajikistan	Asia	...	...	...	...
161	Thailand	Asia	6	3	3	12
162	Togo	Africa	6	4	3	13
163	Tonga	Oceania	6	.	7	13
164	Trinidad and Tobago	N America	7	3	2	12
165	Tunisia	Africa	6	3	4	13
166	Turkey	Asia	5	3	3	11
167	Turkmenistan	Asia	...	...	...	...
168	Tuvalu	Oceania	7	.	6	13
169	Uganda	Africa	7	4	2	13
170	Ukraine	Europe	6	3	2	11
171	United Arab Emirates	Asia	6	3	3	12
172	United Kingdom	Europe	6	3	4	13
173	United Rep.of Tanzania	Africa	7	4	2	13
174	United States	N America	8	.	4	12
175	Uruguay	S America	6	3	3	12
176	Uzbekistan	Asia	...	...	...	...
177	Venezuela	S America	9	.	2	11
178	Viet Nam	Asia	5	4	3	12
179	Yemen (Former Dem. Yemen)	Asia	8	.	4	12
180	Yemen (Former Yemen Arab Re)	Asia	6	3	3	12
181	Zaire	Africa	6	2	4	12
182	Zambia	Africa	7	2	3	12
183	Zimbabwe	Africa	7	.	6	13

Source of data: Unesco 1993 World Educational Report, updated for certain Asian countries.