

TESDA CIRCULAR

Subject: Amended Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) Guidelines under the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act (UAQTEA) for FY 2022		Page 1 of 3 page/s Number <u>027</u> , series of 2022
Date Issued: April 22, 2022	Effectivity: Immediately	Supersedes:

In the interest of the service and in order to maximize the limited budget of UAQTEA for FY 2022, the following guidelines are hereby issued:

I. BACKGROUND/RATIONALE

1. Section 19 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of R.A. 10931, or the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act (UAQTEA), provides that the funding requirement to carry out the Free TVET component shall be based on the projected number of enrollees for each registered TVET program in the State-run technical-vocational institutions (TVIs).
2. Section 22 of the UAQTEA IRR provides that the coverage of the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) program to support Filipino students enrolling in TESDA-recognized TVIs **shall be subject to prioritization and availability of funds.**
3. In view of the limited budget of the UAQTEA for FY 2022, TESDA shall first allocate the UAQTEA scholarship funds for Free TVET to comply with Section 19 of the UAQTEA IRR. Meanwhile, the remaining UAQTEA funds shall be allocated for the TES, and shall be utilized to accommodate and sustain priority scholars based on available funds.

II. SCOPE AND COVERAGE

These guidelines shall cover the selection of scholars for Diploma Programs under the UAQTEA-TES for FY 2022. The salient provisions of the Omnibus Guidelines for TESDA Scholarship Programs under the New Normal that are not inconsistent with these guidelines shall also be adopted, if any.

III. DEFINITION OF TERMS

In order to provide a common frame of reference in understanding the key terminologies used in this circular, the following terms are hereby operationally defined:

1. **Student Financial Assistance Program (StuFAP)** - refers to a system of Scholarships, Grants-in-Aid, Student Loans, subsidies, and other incentives which are or shall be made available to eligible students;
2. **UniFAST Registry of Programs and Institutions** - refers to quality-assured academic research programs and tertiary institutions certified by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and/or TESDA as compliant with acceptable standards. During the Transitory Period, the Registry for TES shall be subjected to the TESDA UTPRAS.

IV. PRIORITIZATION OF UAQTEA-TES SCHOLARS

Scholars under the TES program shall be prioritized as follows:

1. Existing/continuing scholars of Diploma programs under the TES shall be prioritized;
2. The eligibility of continuing scholars of Diploma programs under the TES shall be re-evaluated to ensure compliance with the following criteria.

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- 2.1. Requirements for Admission:
 - 2.1.1. Filipino Citizen;
 - 2.1.2. Ten (10) years basic education, including those who graduated from high school through the Alternative Learning System, and other entry requirements as stipulated in Section III of existing Training Regulations;
 - 2.1.3. Learner's Profile encoded in the TESDA Training Management Information System (T2MIS) or Biometric-Enabled Scholarship Registration System (BSRS);
 - 2.1.4. Has passed all resultant qualification/s in the previous semester; and
 - 2.1.5. Other TVI entry requirements if applicable.
- 2.2. Submission of the required documents:
 - 2.2.1. Completed Learner's Profile Application Form;
 - 2.2.2. Photograph of the applicant;
 - 2.2.3. Proof of residency;
 - 2.2.4. Document(s) of proof of income, which include any of the following:
 - 2.2.4.1. Income Tax Return (ITR), if applicable
 - 2.2.4.2. Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) Form 2316, if applicable
 - 2.2.4.3. Certificate of Indigency, if applicable, provided that it is also certified by the City or Municipal Social Welfare Development, whichever the case may be;
 - 2.2.5. TES learners with special needs shall submit a Copy of their PWD ID;
- 2.3. The following learners are not eligible to avail of the TES benefits:
 - 2.3.1. Learners enrolled in TESDA-registered/recognized programs in any TVI who availed of government-funded StuFaps other than Free TVET provision;
 - 2.3.2. Learners who did not undertake and/or qualify under the TVI's screening/assessment procedure, or skills competency evaluation
 - 2.3.3. Learners enrolled in TVET programs not included in the UTPRAS or in the UniFAST Registry of Programs and Institutions, subject to the transitory provisions in Section 57 of the UAQTEA IRR.
3. The following shall be additional grounds for ineligibility to TES:
 - 3.1. Learners who were enrolled in the previous academic semester but with no record/profile encoded in the T2MIS or BSRS;
 - 3.2. Learners who fail to enroll for one (1) academic semester with no leave of absence (LOA);
 - 3.3. Learners who fail to enroll for at least two (2) academic semesters within an academic year;
 - 3.4. Learners suspended by the TVI for one (1) semester or more;
 - 3.5. Learners expelled from the TVI;
 - 3.6. Learners who fail to qualify under the admission and retention requirements of the TVI;
 - 3.7. Learners who fail to complete the diploma program a year after the prescribed period;
 - 3.8. Learners who submitted falsified documents.
4. The support of the TES program to eligible learners shall be prioritized as follows:
 - 4.1. Learners included in the most recently updated DSWD Listahanan;

The National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP), Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPPAP), Department of Agriculture (DA), and other government agencies that provide need-based scholarships to disadvantaged groups shall work with the DSWD to develop an expanded Listahanan that can be used for the TES.

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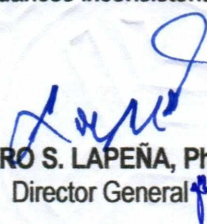
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- 4.2. Learners not included in the updated DSWD Listahanan ranked according to their estimated per capita household income based on the submitted document/s of proof of income (e.g. Income Tax Return or DSWD Certificate of Indigency)
- 4.3. The prioritization shall not apply to learners in the cities and municipalities with no existing SUCs, LUCs, and LGU-run institutions.
5. Learners who are NOT ELIGIBLE to avail of the TES benefits including those learners who shall not be included in the prioritization based on available funds shall be charged the corresponding training cost and other training-related costs subject to the transitory provisions in Section 54 of the UAQTEA IRR

V. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE

If, for any reason, any part or provision of these guidelines is declared invalid or unconstitutional, any part or provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

This Circular shall take effect immediately and shall supersede all issuances inconsistent herewith


SEC. ISIDRO S. LAPENA, Ph.D., CSEE
Director General

