TESDA CIRCULAR

SUBJECT: Implementing Guidelines on the Deployment of Competency Standards (CS) for Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)		Page 1 of 5 pages Number 042 series of 2024
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In the interest of the service and to provide quality and uniform program delivery, the following guidelines in the deployment of the **Competency Standards (CS) for Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)** is hereby issued:

I. BACKGROUND/LEGAL BASIS

A. By virtue of Republic Act No. 7796, otherwise known as the "TESDA Act of 1994", TESDA is accorded the authority in the "establishment and administration of National Trade Skills Standards (NTSS)." The NTSS eventually evolved into the present-day training regulations (TRs) following the reforms instituted by the agency for the country's TVET, particularly along competency-based, education and training. As such, TESDA is mandated by law to develop and update the competence of the country's industry workers to enhance their employability and ensure long-term economic development.

B. TESDA Circular No. 009 series of 2024 on *Implementing Guidelines on Adopt- Adapt Strategies for Competency Standards/ Training Review and Development* states that the adopt-and-adapt strategy allows the faster development of standards, and strengthens the quality assurance mechanisms for immediate program delivery. It focuses on the skills needs as characterized by the industries/employers in the area. Industry, participation and thus, a direct relationship, is established with these industry partners keeping TESDA informed on the workforce needs and development;

C. Furthermore, the same TESDA Circular provides the implementation of the adopt-adapt mechanism ensures the development of competency standards that are acknowledged/recognized at the national/local, regional, and global levels. This would be crucial in providing valuable support to the emerging needs of the industries and catering to the needs of the workforce for it to become workplace-ready;

D. With its new tagline, "Sa TESDA, Lingap ay Maasahan", that shows compassion to the Filipinos by empowering people by means of accessible and relevant technical education and skills training. TESDA assists individuals, particularly those from marginalized communities, to improve their skills and employability by providing a variety of vocational courses and certification programs. This caring approach improves people's lives by giving possibilities for employment and personal development, ultimately contributing to the nation's socioeconomic progress. TESDA's focus to developing talent and potential reflects a compassionate commitment to the well-being and advancement of all Filipinos.

E. The Competency Standards (CS) for Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) was developed through the adopt and adapt process, benchmarking various international standards and in collaboration with the National Industry Board (NIB) Analytics and Artificial Intelligence Association of the Philippines (AAP). The said CS is validated with various industry stakeholders and practitioners in the field of Artificial Intelligence.

II. OBJECTIVES

A. The CS is a practical guide for training providers and individuals on the skills and knowledge required to effectively Utilize Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI).

B. The IG is to provide guidelines in the implementation of the CS which can be offered in two ways:

- as an inclusion in new and existing registered programs in relevant and applicable qualifications in the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Sector; or
- as a stand-alone micro-credential program to be registered.

III. SCOPE/COVERAGE

This Circular shall cover:

A. New or existing training programs registered under the With Training Regulations (WTR) in relevant and applicable qualifications in the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Sector; and

B. Recognition and certification of micro-credential program

IV. IMPLEMENTATION MECHANICS

A. Utilization of the Developed CS

1. To ensure utilization of the CS, all Regional/Provincial/District Directors shall immediately advocate the recognition and certification of micro-credential program and/or the inclusion of the CS in the curriculum of the new or existing registered programs, as applicable; and

2. A copy of the CS shall be made available must be downloaded from the TESDA website.

B. Training Delivery Modality

Training providers may deliver the program using flexible learning delivery modalities or pure online programs.

C. Program Registration

1. **As an inclusion in a new or existing registered WTR programs**, the CS may be considered as an additional topic to relevant and applicable qualifications in the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Sector, as applicable:

2. **As a stand-alone program to be registered**, the CS can be offered as a separate micro-credential program for Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI):

   - The registration of micro-credential program for Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) shall follow the Implementing Guidelines on Recognition of Micro-Credentials for Lifelong Learning and Upskilling/Reskilling of Learners in Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) (TESDA Circular No. 48, s. 2021) and Supplemental Guidelines to TESDA Circular No. 48 (TESDA Circular No. 58, s. 2022) and/ or existing program registration guidelines.

3. The following codes shall be applied for this CS:

TITLE OF CS	**Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)**
CODE	CS-ICTGAI024
UNIT OF COMPETENCY	
Utilize Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)	CS- ICT251121

D. Trainer's Qualifications

1. **As an inclusion in a new or existing registered WTR programs,** holder of NTTC Level I of the qualification the CS will be added; or

2. **As a stand-alone program to be registered**, the qualifications of Micro-Credential Course Trainer stipulated in Section V of TESDA Circular No.

58, s. 2022 "Supplemental Guidelines to TESDA Circular No. 48 s. 2021" and/ or existing program registration guidelines shall apply.

E. Institutional Assessment of Graduates

1. The education and training providers shall ensure the conduct of institutional assessment after the completion of the training program; and

2. The education and training providers (including the enterprises where trainings are conducted) shall issue the Training Certificate or Micro-credential Certificate of Achievement (MCA) after completing the training and passing the institutional assessment of graduates.

V. SCHOLARSHIP PROVISION

1. A scholarship training subsidy shall be allocated/provided to enrollees of the registered training program; and

2. Training cost shall be computed based on the submitted curriculum where the training hours and list of tools, materials, and equipment are indicated.

VI. RISK MANAGEMENT

The wide implementation of this program has potential risks, such as but not limited to the following:

1. Standard implementation of the competency standard across all regions.

2. Limited number of recognized providers to offer the CS.

3. Lack of policy to address the migration of No Training Regulations (NTR) programs to NTR with Competency Standards (CS)

To mitigate, if not eliminate the risks, the following measures shall be undertaken:

1. Deploy the competency standards and its implementing guidelines for common understanding and uniform implementation.

2. Through the Regional Offices, Provincial Offices and/or District Offices (ROPODO) extensively encourage providers to utilize the CS as an inclusion in new program registration or to existing programs of relevant and applicable qualifications.

3. Promote the CS as a micro-credential program.

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VII. MONITORING AND FEEDBACK SYSTEM

A. The ROPODOs shall closely monitor the implementation of the registered programs under the CS;

B. The ROPODOs shall require the education and training providers with registered programs on the identified qualifications and sectors to submit periodic reports on the integration of this CS in the program delivery on the enrolled, graduates and employed in the T2MIS as part of the regular monitoring and feedback system; and

VIII. EFFECTIVITY

This Circular shall take effect immediately and all previous issuances inconsistent with the provisions herein are automatically superseded, amended, and/or revised, as applicable. Likewise, wide dissemination and strict compliance with this Circular is enjoined.

SUHARTO T. MANGUDADATU, Ph.D.
Secretary/Director General, TESDA