



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

CHED MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 31
Series of 2007

SUBJECT : MORATORIUM ON THE OPENING OF ALL NEW GRADUATE PROGRAMS EXCEPT IN THE HEALTH RELATED PROFESSIONS INCLUDING NURSING, ENGINEERING, AND SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EFFECTIVE SY 2007-2008

In accordance with the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 7722, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994", and Commission En Banc Resolution No. 263 - 2007 dated April 16, 2007, a MORATORIUM on the Opening of New Graduate Programs, except in the Health Related Professions including Nursing, Engineering, and Science and Mathematics, is hereby declared by the Commission on the basis of the following:

- a. The result of the Evaluation of Graduate Education in the Philippines as reflected in the EGEP report showed the deteriorating quality of graduate programs in the country.
- b. There is already a proliferation of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) offering Graduate Programs.
- c. In the exercise of the constitutional mandate, there is an imperative need to declare a MORATORIUM on the opening of new Graduate Programs except in the Health Related Professions including Nursing, Engineering, and Science and Mathematics.

To ensure the uniform and proper implementation of this Order, the following guidelines shall be strictly observed:

1. This moratorium shall cover all public and private Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) except COEs and CODs in their respective disciplines.
2. All applications for permit to offer Graduate Programs received by the CHEDCO and CHEDROs on or before May 7, 2007 are considered "*in the pipeline*" and shall be given due course. The applicants shall be given up to May 30, 2007 to submit compliance report to the deficiencies noted. Failure to do so shall serve as substantial basis for the denial of the application.

3. All applications for permit to offer Graduate Programs received by the CHEDCO and CHEDROs after May 7, 2007 and before May 30, 2007 shall also be considered "*in the pipeline*" and shall be given due course. The said applicants shall be given up to June 30, 2007 to submit compliance report to the deficiencies noted in the evaluation. Failure to do so shall serve as substantial basis for the denial of the application.
4. Likewise, applications under appeal/reconsideration as of May 30, 2007 in the CHEDCO shall be acted upon by the Office of Programs and Standards (OPS), which shall conduct the appropriate processing and evaluation pursuant to the Commission's existing rules and regulations.

This CMO shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation and shall remain in force until otherwise revoked or superseded.

For strict compliance.

Pasig City, Philippines, May 17, 2007

For the Commission:



CARLITO S. PUNO, DPA
Chairman