



COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

FOR : PRESIDENTS/HEADS OF STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES
(SUCs) AND LOCAL UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (LUCs)

CHED REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPRESENTATIVES

SUBJECT : ZONAL PUBLIC HEARINGS/CONSULTATIONS ON GUIDELINES ON
THE ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE
(COPC) TO SUCs AND LUCs

DATE : November 20, 2018

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) through the Technical Working Group in the Grant of Certificate of Program Compliance (TWG-COPC) will conduct Zonal Public Hearings/Consultations on Guidelines on the Issuance of Certificate of Program Compliance to SUCs and LUCs on the following dates:

Regions	Date	Time	Venue
Luzon Regions Regions I, II, III, IV, V, CAR, NCR and MIMAROPA	December 3, 2018	9:00 am	Tagaytay City (exact venue to be announced)
Mindanao Regions Regions IX, X, XI, XII, CARAGA and ARMM	December 5, 2018	1:00 pm	General Santos City (exact venue to be announced)
Visayas Regions Regions VI, VII and VIII	December 10, 2018	9:00 a.m	Cebu City (exact venue to be announced)

Relative to this, heads/representatives of SUCs and LUCs are invited to attend the said activity. Funds for travel and other incidental expenses of participants from the CHED Regional Offices will be transferred by the CHED Central Office to their respective offices while participants from the CHED-ARMM shall have to charge their travel expenses against their local funds subject to usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations. Participants from SUCs and LUCs shall have to make arrangements regarding their travel expenses with their respective institutions.

Food during the zonal public hearings/consultations shall be provided by CHED. To ascertain logistic preparations, only two (2) representatives per HEI shall be allowed to attend this activity. CHED Regional Offices are requested to forward confirmations of participants from their respective regions to CHED-Office of Programs and Standard Development not later than five (5) days before the date of zonal public hearing/consultation. For confirmation or inquiries, please contact Ms. Shiela Jalbuena or Ms. Dedeth Talingdan at Telephone Numbers (02) 441-1253/441-1228.



J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III, DPA
Chairman
Commission on Higher Education

CHED MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. _____

Series of 2018

SUBJECT : POLICIES AND GUIDELINES IN THE ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE (COPC) TO STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (SUCs) AND LOCAL UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (LUCs)

In accordance with the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 10931, otherwise known as Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act” and by virtue of Commission en Banc (CEB) Resolution No. 558-2018 dated October 1-2, 2018, the Commission hereby issues this Policies and Guidelines in securing Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) to State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs).

Pursuant to Section 10 of Republic Act No. 10931, Quality Standards for SUC and LUC Budgets, Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) and Student Loan Programs, the CHED and the TESDA shall ensure quality standards in the review and consequent endorsement of the budget of State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs) and state-run Technical-Vocations Institutions (TVIs), respectively.

The Commission en banc during its meeting held on February 13, 2018 approved the inclusion of 78 Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs), which have undergone institutional and program evaluation by CHED since 2017, to be eligible to accept students who will avail of free tuition and other school fees under the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act or RA 10931 starting Academic Year 2018-2019. These LUCs are given 2 years to comply with all other institutional and program requirements in order to be part of RA 10931 and failure to do so will result in their exclusion from the list of LUCs to avail benefits under RA 10931.

Furthermore, on June 18, 2018, the Commission en banc approved the provision of financial assistance for capacity building of LUCs towards obtaining Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) as a requirement for continuous availment under RA 10931.

Guidelines in the Processing and Issuance of COPC

The Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) is a recognition that the specific degree programs being offered by SUCs/LUCs are fully compliant with the policies, standards and guidelines of CHED. To ensure that the existing programs of the SUCs/LUCs are quality assured, the issuance of COPC shall be requested from

CHED. For new program offerings, a preliminary assessment shall be conducted. The following guidelines shall be observed:

For New Undergraduate and Graduate Programs of SUCs/LUCs:

The Governing Board, shall request for CHED Preliminary Assessment (CPA). The CHED Preliminary Assessment (CPA) will ascertain the readiness and capability of the SUCs/LUCs to operate a new program in terms of:

1. Availability of qualified program head and faculty members
2. Presence of adequate library resources
3. Presence of adequate laboratory facilities/equipment
4. Whether the program/s to be offered is within their mandate (Copy of SUC charter and LGU ordinance, as the case may be)

Furthermore, there is a need to determine whether the program/s to be offered is already being offered within the province where the private HEIs, and main and satellite campuses of SUCs and LUCs are operating.

After the preliminary assessment, the CHED will communicate to the Governing Board the results indicating whether or not the SUCs/LUCs are ready and capable to operate a new program. If not ready, the SUCs/LUCs will be guided on the areas that need to be addressed. The SUCs/LUCs shall have two (2) years to secure Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC).

In case the SUCs/LUCs will not be able to secure the COPC within 2 years, the Governing Board may decide whether or not to continue offering the program.

If the SUCs/LUCs are found to be fully compliant with the policies, standards and guidelines (PSG) of CHED, a Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) will be issued.

For Existing Undergraduate and Graduate Programs of SUCs/LUCs:

1. For existing programs of SUCs/LUCs in the main and satellite campuses approved by the Governing Board, request for COPC shall be campus-specific.
2. For existing programs of SUCs/LUCs in the main and/or satellite campuses without approval of the Governing Board, the request for COPC shall be campus-specific and shall be supported by Governing Board's approval.

SUCs/LUCs shall be given two (2) years to comply with CHED requirements for issuance of COPC. COPC will be issued per program upon full compliance with CHED policies, standards and guidelines.

All requests for COPC per program shall be submitted to the concerned CHEDROs for processing. The COPC for all undergraduate programs shall be issued by the CHEDROs. For graduate programs, Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry, Maritime, Engineering, and programs without PSGs, requests for COPC shall be acted by the CHED Central Office upon favorable endorsement of the CHEDROs.

This CMO shall take effect immediately.

Quezon City, Philippines _____, 2018.

For the Commission:

J. PROSPERO E DE VERA III, DPA
Chairman
Commission on Higher Education

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