



Press release
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HEI frontliners, personnel elevated in COVID-19 vaccination priority list - CHED

Frontliners and the skeleton workforce in public and private higher education institutions (HEIs) are now classified under the A4 category by the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) in recognition of the essential services they provide amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

This new classification was approved by the IATF today upon the lobbying of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) to make sure HEI personnel can receive submitted student requirements, compute grades, process clearances, and issue transcript of records, diplomas and other credentials this school year.

“CHED lauds the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-MEID) for recognizing the valuable and critical role of our higher education personnel as “frontliners” and upgrading their classification from B1 to A4,” said CHED Chairman J. Prospero E. De Vera III.

De Vera stressed that HEI personnel need to be prioritized since the current semester is about to end and there should be no delay in the processing of the documents of students who will continue their studies or will graduate.

“If we don't vaccinate our education frontliners, we run the risk of students not being able to enroll next school year or having graduates who can't take their licensure examinations or are unable to look for employment because of missing credentials,” he said.

“HEI personnel who are required to report in our HEIs must be assured of protection so they can confidently provide essential education services to the more than 3 million students in higher education,” De Vera added.

Currently, the country has secured more than 3 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines developed by Sinovac and AstraZeneca, of which, around 1.14 million have been provided mostly to the country's health workers, who top the priority list.

Vaccination in the country started March this year, with the government targeting to vaccinate up to 70 million individuals to achieve herd immunity against COVID-19.

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