



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



MEMORANDUM FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CHAIRPERSON

TO : **ALL HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS
CHED REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS-IN-CHARGE**

SUBJECT : **CLARIFICATION ON CONCERNS REGARDING ELIGIBILITY TO
ENROLL IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (HEIs)**

DATE : **18 NOVEMBER 2020**

This is to provide clarifications and reiterations of the policies of the Commission regarding (a) the eligibility graduates of the Old Basic Education Curriculum (BEC) to enroll in HEIs, and (b) concerns regarding the admission of Senior High School (SHS) graduates to HEIs.

On Graduates of the old BEC:

1. Graduates of the old BEC, are not required to go through Senior High School. For this purpose, all graduates of the old BEC, including completers and passers of the Alternative Learning System (ALS) and Accreditation and Equivalent (A&E) assessment, are eligible to enter college and will continue to be eligible by virtue of being high school graduates¹.
2. However, taking into consideration the new and enhanced Higher Education Curriculum (HEC), Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), in exercising their own institutional admissions policies, may ensure college readiness for the general education component through bridging programs²; subject to the conditions in the succeeding section on Bridging Programs.

On Bridging Programs:

1. Bridging programs, in this context, are to be defined as courses and/or programs that have been designed to ensure college readiness, in light of the changes brought about by the shift from the old BEC and old HEC, to the new BEC and new HEC.
2. Bridging programs are **not required** but may be an option for HEIs, depending on each institutions' admissions policies.
3. Taking into consideration the academic freedom of the HEIs, the HEI, in its discretion may require bridging programs for admitted students, subject to the following conditions:

¹ Section 81, Manual of Regulations for Private Higher Education (MORPHE)

² CHED Memorandum Order No. 10, s. 2017 and CHED Memorandum Order No. 10, s. 2018

- a. The student has graduated from secondary education under the old curriculum way before the K to 12 transition program and may have not taken subjects that are needed for the course or program he or she has enrolled in;
 - b. The student enrolled in a course or program belonging to a different discipline area from the track that he or she has taken during senior high school, considering that the student might have not taken up subject/s needed for his/her course; and
 - c. The student is a graduate of Alternative Learning System (ALS) of the DepEd.
 - d. **No student shall be subject to excessive bridging programs in order to continue to higher education.**
4. Bridging programs for students enrolled in SUCs and qualified LUCs shall be covered by the Free Higher Education (FHE) program of Republic Act (RA) No.10931, otherwise known as the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act of 2017.

On Admission of Senior High School (SHS) Graduates:

1. All Grade 12 graduates are eligible to enter college **regardless of the track or strand taken in Senior High School**. Further, no Grade 12 student or graduate shall be denied acceptance in applying for college entrance examinations in HEIs³.
2. Further, HEIs are enjoined and encouraged to review their admissions requirements for scholars whose SHS strands are not directly aligned with their chosen college degree programs.

All CHEDROs and HEIs are directed to the following relevant issuances:

1. **Memorandum from the Chairperson dated 13 June 2017** - Accommodation of Lifelong Learners in College for SY 2017-2018 and SY 2018-2019;
2. **CHED Memorandum Order (CMO) No. 10, s. 2017** or the Policy on Students Affected by the Implementation of the K to 12 Transition Program and the New General Education Curriculum;
3. **CMO No. 105, s. 2017** or the Policy on Admission of Senior High School Graduates to the Higher Education Institutions Effective Academic Year 2018-2019; and
4. **CMO No. 10, s. 2018** or the Policy on Alternative Learning System Completers and Passers of the A&E Test in Relation to the Implementation of the K to 12 Basic Education Program.

For inquiries or concerns, they may be addressed to the Office of Executive Director through chedk12.com/inquiry.

Wide dissemination of this memorandum is desired.



J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III, DPA
Chairman

³ CHED Memorandum Order No. 105, s. 2017

