



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



CHED MEMORANDUM ORDER (CMO)

No. 7

Series of 2023

SUBJECT: LIST OF IDENTIFIED PRIORITY PROGRAMS FOR CHED MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (CMSP) FOR ACADEMIC YEARS (AY) 2023-2024 TO 2027-2028

In accordance with Section 8(i) and 8(n) provisions of Republic Act (RA) No. 7722, otherwise known as the “Higher Education Act of 1994”, the provision of the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA), the existing guidelines of CMSP, and by virtue of the Commission en banc (CEB) Resolution No. 134, Series of 2023 dated March 28, 2023, the Commission hereby issues these guidelines providing the list of identified national priority programs for CHED Merit Scholarship Program (CMSP) for AYs 2023-2024 to 2027-2028.

I. RATIONALE

The priority programs aim to direct/steer higher education qualified applicants for financial assistance under the CMSPs to enroll in public or private higher education institutions (HEIs) offering **recognized/authorized undergraduate** priority programs.

The determination of the priority programs was the result of the discussions and deliberations conducted by the Technical Working Group (TWG) Members composed of representatives from CHED and UniFAST Secretariat in coordination with the Resource Persons from the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), in line with the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028 on manpower demands based on the Labor Market Information (LMI) Report of DOLE.

Scholars who are enrolled in any of the priority programs listed in this CMO may avail of the benefits under the CMSP provided that the financial assistance under the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES)-UniFAST will not be duplicated. In the case of scholars with financial assistance under the CMSP who are already enrolled in SUCs and LUCs and enjoying the benefits of Free Tuition and Other School Fees (TOSF) under R.A. No. 10931, they can still be granted financial assistance in the form of stipend the amount of which would depend on the type of CMSPs they were able to qualify.

II. ALLOCATION OF PRIORITY PROGRAMS

Percentage allocation based on national and regional cluster are as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| ● NATIONAL | 95% |
| STEM | |
| ○ Science and Mathematics | - 15% |
| ○ Engineering and Technology | - 15% |
| ○ Information Technology Education | - 20% |
| NON-STEM | |
| ○ Business and Management | - 10% |
| ○ Multi and Interdisciplinary | - 10% |
| ○ Other Disciplines | - <u>25%</u> |
| ● REGIONAL | 5% |
| (a separate Memo shall be issued) | 100% |

III. CRITERIA USED BY THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG)

The following **NATIONAL** programs are identified using the following parameters:

- Annual GAA which provides that CHED shall prioritize programs aligned with global innovation platforms of Science, Technology, Engineering, Agri-Fisheries and Mathematics (STEAM) as well as the priorities of the government in key growth areas such as semiconductor and electronics, business process outsourcing, tourism, general infrastructure and other priority manufacturing industries;
- Priority needs of the country as to the emerging jobs, In-demand and hard to fill occupations, 21st Century Skills and jobs of the future and/or green jobs as provided in the Labor Market Information (LMI) Report of DOLE;
- Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028;
- In-demand and hard to fill occupations, and jobs of the future and/or green jobs as identified by DOLE, and TESDA; and
- CHED's data on oversubscribed and undersubscribed programs.

IV. LIST OF PRIORITY PROGRAMS

A. National Priority Programs

1. Science and Mathematics Education

- a. Applied Physics/Physics
- b. Applied Mathematics/Mathematics
- c. Applied Statistics/Statistics
- d. Biochemistry
- e. Biology
- f. Botany
- g. Chemistry
- h. Environmental Science
- i. Geology
- j. Human Biology
- k. Marine Biology



- l. Marine Science
- m. Meteorology
- n. Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
- o. Volcano and Seismology Related Fields

2. Information Technology

- a. Computer Science
- b. Cyber Security
- c. Entertainment and Multimedia Computing/Game Development and Animation
- d. Information Technology
- e. Library and Information Science

3. Engineering and Technology

- a. Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering
- b. Ceramic Engineering
- c. Chemical Engineering
- d. Civil Engineering
- e. Computer Engineering
- f. Electrical Engineering
- g. Electronics Engineering/Electronics and Communications Engineering
- h. Food Engineering
- i. Geodetic Engineering
- j. Industrial Engineering
- k. Manufacturing/Production Engineering
- l. Materials Engineering
- m. Mechanical Engineering
- n. Mechatronics Engineering
- o. Metallurgical Engineering
- p. Mining Engineering
- q. Petroleum Engineering
- r. Robotics Engineering
- s. Sanitary Engineering
- t. Structural Engineering
- u. Aircraft Maintenance Technology
- v. Aviation Related Programs
- w. Engineering Technology
- x. Industrial Technology
- y. Mechatronics Engineering Technology

4. Architecture and Related Programs

- a. Architecture
- b. Fine Arts
- c. Interior Design
- d. Landscape Architecture
- e. Environmental Planning

5. Business and Management

- a. Accountancy
- b. Business Analytics (straight or major)



- c. Hospitality Management/Hotel and Restaurant Management
- d. Tourism Management/Tourism

6. Health Profession Education

- a. Doctor of Dental Medicine
- b. Doctor of Optometry
- c. Medical Technology/Medical Laboratory Science
- d. Midwifery
- e. Pharmacy
- f. Physical Therapy
- g. Public Health
- h. Occupational Therapy
- i. Nursing
- j. Nutrition and Dietetics
- k. Respiratory Therapy
- l. Radiologic Technology
- m. Speech Language Pathology

7. Maritime Education

- a. Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering

8. Social Sciences

- a. Community Development
- b. Human Services (Guidance and Counselling)
- c. Indigenous Peoples Studies/Education
- d. Peace Studies/Education
- e. Psychology
- f. Social Work

9. Teacher Education

- a. Secondary Education Majors in Science and Mathematics
- b. Culture and Arts
- c. Early Childhood Education
- d. Special Needs Education
- e. Sports and Exercise Science

10. Multi and Interdisciplinary Cluster

- a. Agribusiness
- b. Agro-Forestry
- c. Data Science and Analytics
- d. Disaster Risk Management/
- e. Climate Change
- f. Renewable/Sustainable Energy

B. Regional Priority Programs

For the effective implementation of this CMO, the CHED Regional Offices (CHEDROs) shall ensure that the Priority Programs listed in the Memorandum from the Chairperson which shall be issued separately, are vetted by the respective Regional Development Council (RDC), properly distributed according to the regional needs and availability of slots.



In order to ensure maximum utilization of slots, the Regional Director may exercise discretion in the distribution of slots among national and regional priority areas provided that it is within the percentage allotted to the region.

V. Career Guidance

The CHED, in collaboration with the Department of Education (DepEd) and DOLE, shall intensify the promotion of identified priority programs through Career Guidance Advocacy Program (CGAP). For this purpose, all graduating beneficiaries of CHED StuFAPs are encouraged to register in the *PhilJobNet* (www.philjobnet.gov.ph), a government online job portal, in order to avail of the job search assistance and other employment facilitation services. The *PhilJobNet* also provides career information advice and other featured articles that the students may use as tools in making career choices.

VI. Repealing Clause

All other existing Orders and Memoranda issued by the Commission, which are contrary to or inconsistent with any of the provisions of this CMO are hereby deemed repealed or modified.

VII. Separability Clause

If any part or provision of this CMO is declared invalid the remaining clauses/provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and enforceable.

VIII. Effectivity

This CMO shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation, and after filing the required copy thereof with the Office of National Administrative Register (ONAR) at the UP-Law Center, UP Diliman, Quezon City and shall remain in force and effect until revoked or amended.

For proper guidance and strict compliance of all concerned.

Issued this 9th day of June 2023, Quezon City, Philippines


J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III, DPA
Chairman

