



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
SOCCSKSARGEN REGION

23 Jul 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
NEAP-2026-071

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE LEARNING INITIATIVE FOR NURTURING
GUIDANCE ASSOCIATES AND COUNSELORS PROGRAM (LINGAP)**

TO: Schools Division Superintendents
Chiefs, Functional Divisions

1. Relative to DepEd Memorandum DM-OULS-2026-298 titled, "*Call for Nominations to the Learning Initiative for Nurturing Guidance Associates and Counselors Program (LINGAP)*," this region announces the opening of nominations for qualified teaching and non-teaching personnel who intend to avail of the LINGAP Scholarship Program.

2. The Learning Initiative for Nurturing Guidance Associates and Counselors Program (LINGAP), implemented by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in partnership with the Department of Education (DepEd) through the National Educators Academy of the Philippines (NEAP), aims to strengthen the capacity of the education sector by providing scholarship opportunities to qualified DepEd personnel pursuing graduate studies in Guidance and Counseling or Psychology. The program seeks to develop competent guidance professionals who will contribute to the promotion of learners' mental health, well-being, and inclusive education.

3. The scholarship program is open to permanent teaching and non-teaching personnel of the Department of Education who are either incoming or currently enrolled in a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling or Master's Degree in Psychology offered by CHED-recognized Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).

4. The scholarship coverage shall be subject to the following provisions:
- Scholars shall undertake and complete their graduate studies in eligible programs offered by CHED-identified HEIs.
 - Incoming graduate students may receive scholarship support for a maximum of **three academic years**.
 - Applicants currently enrolled in a master's degree program shall receive scholarship support proportionate to their remaining coursework, provided that the total scholarship duration shall not exceed three academic years.
 - Applicants already in the thesis writing stage may receive scholarship support for a maximum of **one academic year**.

5. Successful applicants who comply with the provisions of the DepEd-CHED Joint Memorandum Circular shall be entitled to the following scholarship benefits:

Tuition and Other School Fees	Actual tuition and other fees
Stipend	Php 30,000.00 x number of months per term
Thesis Allowance	Php 150,000.00

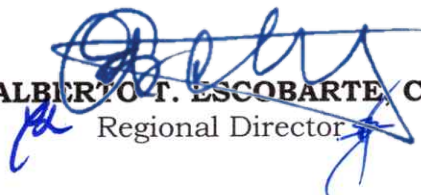


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The thesis allowance shall be released in two tranches:

- **80%** upon approval of the thesis proposal; and
- **20%** upon submission of the approved thesis and approval sheet.

6. In this connection, all Schools Division Superintendents are directed to:
 - a. Disseminate the information to all qualified personnel within their respective divisions;
 - b. Identify and endorse qualified nominees in accordance with the eligibility requirements and slot allocation prescribed in DM-OULS-2026-298; and
 - c. Ensure the completeness and timely submission of documentary requirements.
7. Attached to this Memorandum are the following documents for guidance and compliance:
 - Enclosure 1 – List of Delivering HEIs under LINGAP
 - Enclosure 2 – Slot Allocation per Schools Division Office
 - Enclosure 3– Eligibility Criteria
 - Enclosure 4 – Documentary Requirements for the LINGAP Application
 - Enclosure 5 – Application and Nomination Procedures
 - Enclosure 6 – Selection Criteria
 - Enclosure 7 – Requirements for Successful Applicants
8. The application templates may be accessed through:
<https://tinyurl.com/59r8pw2m>.
9. The Participants' Nomination Form may be accessed through the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/ye2xmkc8>. All required supporting documents, duly accomplished and compiled in **PDF format**, shall be uploaded on or before the prescribed deadline through <https://forms.gle/GMQZM8hoNAMnmBu89>. All submissions must be made using the applicants' official DepEd email accounts.
10. Applicants selected for the LINGAP Scholarship Program shall be considered final and no appeal or request for reconsideration shall be entertained. Applicants who are not selected may submit a new application in future scholarship cycles, subject to the prescribed selection process.
11. For inquiries and clarifications, contact Arjay C. Raborar, Education Program Specialist II, NEAP-XII, via email at arjay.raborar@deped.gov.ph.
12. For immediate dissemination and compliance.


ATTY. ALBERTO T. ESCOBAR, CESO II
Regional Director



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Encl.: As stated
Reference: As stated
Allotment:
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following Subject:

SCHOLARSHIPS

ACR/HRDD-NEAP/RM-CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE LEARNING INITIATIVE FOR NURTURING GUIDANCE ASSOCIATES AND
COUNSELORS PROGRAM (LINGAP)
070/July 23, 2026

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Enclosure 1 to Regional Memorandum NEAP-2026-071

LIST OF DELIVERING HEIS UNDER LINGAP

Region	Name of DHEI	Program Offering
CAR	University of the Cordilleras	Master of Science in Guidance and Counseling; Master of Science in Psychology
I	Saint Louis College - La Union	Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling
	Pangasinan State University	MASTER OF ARTS IN COUNSELING
	University of Northern Philippines	Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling
II	Saint Mary's University	Master of Arts in Education major in Guidance and Counseling
III	Pampanga State University	Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling (Professional and Academic Track)
	La Consolacion University Philippines	Master of Arts in Education major in Guidance and Counseling; Master of Science in Psychology
	Wesleyan University-Philippines	Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling; Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling
IV	University of Batangas	Master of Arts in Psychology; Master of Arts in Counseling; Master of Psychology with Specialization in Clinical/Counseling Psychology
V	Ateneo de Naga University	Master of Arts in Education major in Guidance and Counseling; Master of Arts in Psychology major in Counseling Psychology
	Bicol University	Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling
	University of Nueva Caceres	Master of Arts in Education major in Guidance and Counseling
VI	University of San Agustin	Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling (Academic and Professional tract)
	Colegio de la Purisima Concepcion	Master of Arts in Education major in Guidance and Counseling



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VII	Siliman University	Master of Arts in Education major in Guidance and Counseling
	Cebu Institute of Technology University	Master of Arts in Psychology - Clinical Psychology
IX	Ateneo de Zamboanga	Master of Arts in Psychology, Master in Psychology, Master in Guidance and Counseling
X	Capitol University	Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling
	Misamis University	Master of Arts in Education major in Guidance and Counseling
	Mindanao State University - IIT Campus	Master of Arts in Counseling Program
	Bukidnon State University	Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling
XI	University of the Immaculate Conception	Master of Arts in Counseling, Master in Counseling
	Ateneo de Davao University	Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling, Master in Guidance and Counseling, Master of Science in Psychology, Master in Psychology
NIR	University of Negros Occidental - Recoletos	Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling, Master of Arts in Psychology
NCR	Marikina College	Master of Arts in Psychology major in Developmental Psychology, Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling
	Centro Escolar University	Master of Science in Guidance and Counseling, Master of Science in Psychology
	Assumption College	Master of Guidance and Counseling, Master of Arts in Psychology
	Far Eastern University	Master of Arts in Psychology (specialization: Clinical), Master of Arts in Psychology (Specialization: Industrial), Master in School Guidance and Counseling (Professional Track)
	Asian Theological Seminary	Master of Arts in Pastoral Counseling



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Enclosure 2 to Regional Memorandum NEAP-2026-071

SLOT ALLOCATION PER SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE

SDO	ALLOCATION
COTABATO	6
GENERAL SANTOS CITY	4
KIDAPAWAN CITY	3
KORONADAL CITY	3
SARANGANI	5
SOUTH COTABATO	5
SULTAN KUDARAT	5
TACURONG CITY	3



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Enclosure 3 to Regional Memorandum NEAP-2026-071

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

A nominated applicant shall be deemed eligible provided that all of the following conditions are met:

1. Must be a Filipino citizen;
2. Teaching or non-teaching personnel employed on a full-time basis and who rendered **at least 2 years of service** in DepEd. The minimum service period is imposed to ensure that scholarship support is extended to personnel with demonstrated commitment to public education and who are in a position to render meaningful return service upon completion of the program;
3. Must have obtained at least a **Very Satisfactory** performance rating for the last two (2) rating periods preceding the date of application.
 - 3.1 Must be admitted and enrolled in graduate degree programs identified in the Scope and Coverage of these Guidelines within the term of application;
 - 3.2 Must provide evidence of being physically fit to undertake and complete the scholarship program, as attested by a medical certificate issued by a licensed physician; and mentally fit to undertake and complete the scholarship program, as issued by a licensed psychiatrist or psychologist;
 - 3.3. Must execute a Return Service Agreement with DepEd, represented by the appropriate Regional Director concerned;
 - 3.4. Must be no more than 50 years old within the next six (6) months from the date of application, to ensure sufficient time to render and complete the return service obligation and imparting their acquired knowledge to the education sector;
 - 3.5. Must be cleared of any pending obligations from all previously government-awarded grants or scholarships, as attested by a Clearance or equivalent, including those in which the applicant was engaged as team members in research grants, or grants of similar nature; and
 - 3.6. Must be attested by the Sending SDO that the endorsement to the scholarship is part of the manpower development of the Division Office or its equivalent.



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3.7. Must execute a written agreement to take the Licensure Examination for Guidance Counselors or Psychologists, as applicable, upon completion of the program.

4. Additional requirement for applicants currently enrolled in ongoing master's degree programs:

4.1 Must be in good academic standing and not on extension of study at the time of application.

5. Ineligibility

5.1 Applicants with existing government-funded grants/scholarships, whether in partial or full, including those with an approved or received Notice of Award and/or executed scholarship/ grant contract at the time of application;

5.2 Applicants without clearance from previous awarded grants/scholarships, including those who served as team members on a funded grant;

5.3 Applicants who have been found guilty of administrative or criminal charges, or those with pending administrative or criminal cases;

5.4 Applicants enrolled in more than one graduate program at the time of application;

5.5 Applicants who have been terminated from a government scholarship due to non-completion, breach of contract and other analogous reasons;

5.6 Applicants who are unable to fulfill all of the eligibility requirements provided in these Guidelines, including, but not limited to, non-compliance or incomplete submission of documentary requirements.



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Enclosure 4 to Regional Memorandum NEAP-2026-071

DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LINGAP APPLICATION

Stage	List of Documentary Requirements
Preliminary Process Nomination from different schools to SDO	1. Application Form* 2. Photocopy of CSC Appointment, with attached Service Record • If the Service Record is not yet available, proof of request for its issuance shall be accepted. 3. Photocopy of Individual Performance Commitment and Review Form (IPCR) for the last two (2) rating periods preceding the date of application. 4. Original copy of Certificate of physical fitness and medical certificate or clinical certificate of mental fitness to undertake and complete the program, as certified by a licensed physician and by a licensed psychiatrist or psychologist.* 5. Photocopy of Certificate of clearance from previous grants, certificate copies of trainings attended, published works or research presented, if applicable
Nomination process from SDO to DepEd RO	In addition to the nomination package endorsed by the schools to SDO: 1. Sending SDO Endorsement Form* 2. Approved Scholarship on Official Time signed by the School Head and endorsed by SDO* 3. Certified True Copy of Proof of Admission to the Delivering HEI 4. Return Service Agreement and Draft Workplace Application Plan*

*Using prescribed template



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Enclosure 5 to Regional Memorandum NEAP-2026-071

APPLICATION AND NOMINATION PROCEDURES

Step	Responsible Office	Process	Output	Timeline
1. Allocation of Slots	Regional Office (RO)	Determine and allocate the number of slots for each Schools Division Office (SDO) based on equitable distribution, identified needs, and available allocation.	Regional allocation of slots issued to SDOs	July 14-16, 2026
2. Call for Applications	Schools Division Office (SDO)	Disseminate the call for applications and receive documentary requirements from eligible applicants.	List of applicants with complete documentary requirements	July 17-27, 2026
3. Screening and Evaluation	Schools Division Office (SDO)	Screen and evaluate applicants based on the prescribed eligibility requirements and selection criteria. Certify the completeness and eligibility of recommended nominees.	Certified list of qualified nominees with supporting documents	July 28-31, 2026



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4. Validation and Approval	Regional Office (RO)	Receive, review and evaluate applications through SDO nomination. Applications shall be shortlisted based on completeness, accuracy, and compliance with the eligibility criteria as prescribed in the policy.	Regional endorsed list of nominees	August 4-6, 2026
5. Consolidation and Submission	Regional Office (RO)	Consolidate and submit the approved applications to the DepEd Central Office, which shall be responsible for the consolidation and subsequent transmission of the same to the CHED CO. The endorsement shall be accompanied by a formal certification attesting that all endorsed applicants have been duly evaluated and found compliant with the	Consolidated regional endorsement submitted to DepEd CO	August 7-11, 2026



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		program's eligibility criteria.		
6. Final Endorsement	CHED Central Office (CHED CO)	Endorse the approved applications to the DepEd Central Office, which shall be responsible for the consolidation and subsequent transmission of the same to the CHED CO. The endorsement shall be accompanied by a formal certification attesting that all endorsed applicants have been duly evaluated and found compliant with the program's eligibility criteria.	Official list of accepted nominees/awardees	August 12-14, 2026



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Enclosure 6 to Regional Memorandum NEAP-2026-071

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants who have already earned units in the applied degree program shall be given priority in the evaluation.

The following criteria shall be used by DepEd RO in the ranking of nominees:

Criteria	Points	Validation Documents
A. Documentary Evaluation		
A.1. Relevance of the Program to the office/unit's mandate	20	A. Personal Data Sheet (PDS) and Work Experience Sheet (WES) B. IPCRF C. Other documents, as necessary
A.2. Relevance to career development and length of study plan	20	A. IDP in the IPCRF B. Application Form C. Proof of Earned Units in the Degree Program (if applicable)
A.3. Performance	10	IPCRF in the last two (2) rating periods
A.4. Length of Service in DepEd	10	Service Period
A.5. Outstanding Accomplishment Award/s	10	Any of the following:



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		A. Certificate of Award B. Official memo/letter granting the award
B. Potential (Relevance and Feasibility of Workplace Application Plan)		
B.1. Context & Depth	10	Draft Workplace Application Plan
B.2. Intervention, Innovation, and Strategy	5	
Relevance of the Proposed Intervention, Innovation, and Strategy	5	
Feasibility of the Workplace Application Plan	10	

As determined and approved by DepEd and CHED, additional requirements for applicants to qualify for scholarship may be imposed to ensure meritocratic selection process.



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Enclosure 7 to Regional Memorandum NEAP-2026-071

REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

1. Successful applicants must formally communicate their acceptance of the scholarship and confirm their enrollment in the approved graduate program through written acknowledgement addressed to the CHED CO on or before the prescribed deadline.
2. CHED CO shall allow the submission of unaltered and electronically signed, generated and/or validated documents except the Application Form, Workplace Application Plan and Scholarship Contract and other documents requiring wet signatures, in accordance with applicable government accounting rules and issuances of the Commission on Audit (COA).
3. All LINGAP Scholars must obtain a Travel Clearance from DepEd and must submit a notarized Affidavit of Undertaking for both personal and official foreign travel. Failure to comply will result in automatic suspension.
4. During the suspension period, no scholarship benefits or financial assistance shall be released to the scholar until the suspension is lifted by the Graduate Scholarships Committee (GSC) upon full compliance with the prescribed requirements and clearance from the Program Management.
5. All LINGAP Scholars shall commit to complete their degree program within their approved study plan.
6. A LINGAP scholar must take a full academic load in line with the institutional policy and program study of the Delivering HEI (DHEI).
7. A LINGAP scholar may only take less than the minimum required units of academic load under any of the following conditions:
 - a. The remaining academic load in the curriculum prior to the thesis stage is under six (6) units;
 - b. The remaining term for thesis stage is under six (6) units as indicated in the program curriculum design or institutional policy; and



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- c. The term is designated to be enrolled under residency for the Comprehensive Exam, other similar exams, or during the Thesis Stage.
 - d. Scholars already enrolled in a graduate program before the commencement of the scholarship
8. Scholars are expected to complete their degree program, according to the approved study plan of the program.
9. The approved study plan is the study plan submitted by the DHEI to CHED upon admission to the program. Any changes to this study plan cannot be used as a basis for determination of financial privileges.
10. Scholars must undertake a return service obligation of two (2) years per year of scholarship received, or a fraction thereof upon completion of the scholarship program.
11. Scholars, SDO, and DHEIs must maintain up-to-date profiles and provide all information required by DepEd and CHED in support of the smooth implementation of the scholarship