

[OWWA MEMORANDUM OF INSTRUCTIONS NO. 003, S. OF 2010, April 26, 2010]

ESTABLISHING THE OFW-DEPENDENTS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AND PRESCRIBING ITS IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES

In the interest of the service and in view of the Administration's continuing thrust to expand its educational scholarship program and make it accessible to the intended beneficiaries all over the country, an **OFW Dependent Scholarship Program or OFWDSP** is hereby established, subject to the following rules and procedures.

1.0 NATURE OF THE PROGRAM

The OFWDSP is a scholarship program that offers financial assistance to qualified dependents of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) who receive a monthly salary of not more than US\$400.00 and who shall enroll in any four-year or five-year baccalaureate course or associate course leading to a baccalaureate degree or associate degree in a state college or university.

The OFWDSP shall be implemented nationwide with each province, including the National Capital Region (NCR), given automatic scholarship slots.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

The Program shall have the following objectives:

- 2.1 To provide the opportunity to poor, but deserving students, to earn a baccalaureate degree or associate degree and become agents in community development;
- 2.2 To expand the number of beneficiaries in all regions of the country;
- 2.3 To expand program coverage to the provincial level.

3.0 PROGRAM COVERAGE

3.1 Beneficiary.

3.1.1 Legal dependent of an OWWA active member whose monthly salary is US\$400.00 or below. This shall be determined through the verified employment contract, overseas employment certificate (OEC) or OWWA OFW member verification sheet.

For the purpose of this program, an active member shall be defined as ***an OWWA-registered member who has a valid membership at the time of availment or whose membership had expired for not more than six-months.***

3.1.2 Each OWWA active member is entitled to only one (1) scholar-beneficiary.

3.1.3 OFW couples who are both eligible for the program shall be entitled to only one (1) slot.

3.1.4 Eligible OFWs who are previous avalees of the EDSP and the CMWSP, are no longer qualified under the OFWDSP;

3.1.5 The following are considered OFW legal dependents:

- Children (natural or adopted) of married OFWs/Single OFWs.
- Brother or Sister (half or full-blood) of Single/Childless Married OFW.

3.1.6 Qualifications of a Legal Dependent:

- Single, not more than 21 years old, at the time of application.
- High school graduate or about to graduate from high school, or already enrolled in college.
 - Physically, mentally and morally fit.
- Must pass the qualifying or entrance examination conducted by an OWWA-partner state college/university or any CHED recognized and accredited educational institution located in the region/province.

3.2 Entitlements Under the Program:

All selected scholars/grantees shall be entitled to the following benefits under the program:

3.2.1 Financial assistance of Php20,000.00/year or Php10,000.00/semester that shall cover tuition fees and other academic-related expenses;

3.2.2 The financial assistance shall be released on a semestral basis. There shall be no summer class/term disbursement of funds.

3.2.3 A group health and accident insurance coverage of Php100,000.00/scholar;

4.0 GENERAL POLICY

4.1 The program shall follow the regular schedule of qualifying examinations in state colleges or state universities, or any CHED recognized or accredited educational institution

4.2 The start of the regular program shall follow the official school year adopted by the Department of Education (DepEd).

4.3 Annual Scholarship Slots:

ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY (1,250) scholars shall be chosen per year from eighty (80) provinces nationwide;

- 20 scholars from each of the country's ten poorest provinces for a total of 200.

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| 1. Masbate | 6. Lanao del Norte |
| 2. Camarines Norte | 7. Zamboanga del Norte |
| 3. Agusan del Sur | 8. Zamboanga Sibugay |
| 4. Surigao del Norte | 9. Sarangani |
| 5. Mountain Province | 10. Maguindanao |

- 12 scholars from each of the country's 70 other provinces for a total of 840.
- 12 scholars for each of the 17 cities and municipalities of the NCR for a total of 204.
- 6 scholars whose cases are considered meritorious by the Scholarship Committee.

4.4 Venue of Study

4.4.1 The Scholar shall enroll and attend school preferably in a state university, state college or in any CHED-recognized or accredited educational institution located in his/her place of residency.

4.4.2 In no case shall a scholar, after passing the required qualifying examination in his/her region, be allowed to transfer to any state college or university located in another region.

4.4.3 Since not all provinces in the regions and municipalities and cities have state colleges and/or universities, prospective scholar may take the qualifying examination at the nearest CHED-recognized or accredited educational institution in their locality.

4.5 Scholarship Conditions

4.5.1 The scholar must not be a recipient of other OWWA educational benefit or similar grant from any government or private institutions.

4.5.2 The actual amount of tuition fee shall be paid directly to the school; the remaining balance, if any, shall be released to the scholar for his/her other academic expenses.

4.5.3 If the tuition fee is more than the financial grant, the scholar shall shoulder the difference in the amount.