

**[ DECS ORDER NO. 21, s. 1993, April 21, 1993 ]**

**GUIDELINES ON TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 1993-1994**

1. Declaration of Policy — It is declared policy of the State in conformity with the mandate of the Constitution, to promote and enhance the quality of education at all levels and to take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. The state also recognizes the invaluable contributions of the private institutions as well as their complementary role with public schools in the educational system. For the above purposes, the State shall provide resource generation mechanisms and institute deregulation techniques for school financing.

2. General and Specific Provisions — In pursuance of Section 42 of Batas Pambansa 232 otherwise known as the Education Act of 1982, which states that each private school shall determine its rate of tuition and other school fees or charges, the following guidelines covering tuition and/or other fees in all levels including the pre-school and vocational/technical schools are hereby promulgated for school year 1993-1994.

2.1 School Fees for Elementary Schools, including Pre-Schools — Each elementary school, including pre-schools, may determine its own tuition and other school fee rates, and are not covered by consultation and other requirements set forth under Para. 3.2 below.

2.2 School Fees for Secondary Schools — Each secondary school shall determine its own tuition and other school fee rates, subject to the provisions set forth in Section 3.2 below, as well as the following conditions:

(a) Where the tuition and other school fees are less than P1,900.00 per year during the school year 1992-1993, any high school may increase up to a maximum of P290.00 without the need of consultation. However, should the school increase its fees by more than P290.00 for the coming school year, a school may determine its own tuition fee rates, subject however to consultation.

(b) Where the tuition and other school fees are P1,900.00 or more, the amount of increase for the coming school year shall be determined by the school after consultation.

2.3 School Fees for Tertiary Schools — Each tertiary school, college or university, including vocational and technical schools, shall determine its own tuition and other school fees, subject to the conditions contained in Section 3.2 below.

(a) Where the semestral per unit tuition rate is P80.00 or less for the school year 1992-1993, the school may increase up to a maximum of P12.00 per unit without the need of consultations. However, should the school increase its tuition fees by more than P12.00 per unit for SY 1993-1994, the school may determine its own tuition fee increase, subject to consultations.

(b) Where the semestral per unit tuition rate is more than P80.00 for the school year 1992-1993, the school shall determine its own tuition fee rate, subject to consultations.

3. Documentation Required — All private schools, colleges and universities increasing their tuition and/or other school fees for the school year 1993-1994, shall submit, not later than June 15, 1993 the following documents for purposes of compliance with this Order:

3.1 Letter of advice to the appropriate DECS Regional Office, signed by the school head, indicating among others the school's intention to comply with the provisions of RA No. 6728 for the forthcoming SY 1993-94, where applicable;

3.2 A certification under oath signed by the school head that the following requirements of RA No. 6728 have been complied with, namely, that:

(a) Appropriate consultations for the forthcoming SY 1993-94 have been conducted by the school administration (1) with duly organized parents and teachers associations and faculty associations, or their equivalents in the absence of such organizations, with respect to secondary schools, and (2) with students governments or councils, alumni and faculty associations, or their equivalents in the absence of such organizations, with respect to tertiary institutions;

(b) Seventy percent (70%) of the amount subsidized allotted for tuition fee or of the tuition fee increase in SY 1992-93 went to the payment of salaries, wages, allowances and other benefits of teaching and non-teaching personnel except administrators who are principal stockholders of the school, including such increases as may have been provided for in collective bargaining agreements existing or in force at the time when R.A. 6728 was approved and made effective;

(c) At least twenty percent (20%) went to the improvement or modernization of buildings, equipment, libraries, laboratories, gymnasias and similar facilities and to the payment of other costs of operations; and,

(d) Full or half tuition waivers, or their equivalents, for five percent (5%) of incoming freshmen had been granted, or full or half tuition for all tertiary students in SY 1992-1993 had