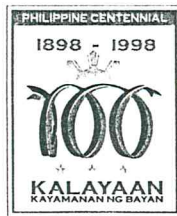




PHILIPPINES 2000



DEPT. OF SOCIAL WELFARE & DEVT.
15P ROAD, CONSTITUTION HILLS, Q.C.

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Department
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 1
Series 2002

IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES OF THE PGMA-PAYATAS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

I. Brief Description

The "President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo (PGMA) Payatas Scholarship Program" aims to provide educational assistance to the children of families who were victims of the Payatas landslide tragedy in Quezon City last July 10, 2000.

The program is funded by the President's Social Fund (PSF) of Her Excellency Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, who committed to release to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) the amount of four million pesos for the scholarship program, which covers the provision of tuition and school fees, stipend or monthly allowance, transportation, books, uniform, and other incidental expenses to 300-500 children for the School Year 2001-2002. Focused primarily on elementary and high school students, the project complements the "PGMA Scholarship Program," which supports the college, vocational, or technical education of youth from urban poor families in Metro Manila.

II. Background/Rationale

To date, the nation is hounded by images of the July 10, 2000 landslide at the Payatas dumpsite, which killed hundreds and left thousands of families homeless. A year after the incident, the pain and injustice felt by the victims of the tragedy remain as deep as ever. On July 10, 2001, as a symbolic gesture of their feeling of helplessness, the victims, who had formed themselves into three people's organizations (POs) - the July 10 Payatas Victims Organization (J10PVO), the Samahang Tunay ng Phase II Lupang Pangako (Samahang Tunay), and the Samahang Magkakapit-bahay ng Payatas (SANKAP) - asked their children to float letters turned into paper boats along the Pasig River, hoping that their appeal for help would somehow reach the government.

The POs' commemoration of the anniversary of the Payatas tragedy was reported in a major daily newspaper and three of the children who floated paper boat letters became the faces, the unofficial representatives of the countless victims of the tragedy. These children are: Jayson Banagoon, Erwin Dolera, and Jomer Pabalan. Jason and Jomer are both 10 years old, while Erwin is 9.

The families' appeal for help reached the government and was answered by the President of the Republic herself, Her Excellency Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, who instructed DSWD Secretary Corazon Juliano-Soliman to locate the children and their families. In the process, Secretary Soliman located not just Jason, Jomer, Erwin and their families, but three other children who floated paper boat letters -- Rachel

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
KAGAWARAN NG KAGALINGANG PANLIPUNAN AT PAGPAPAUNLAD
(DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT)
BATASAN PAMBANSA COMPLEX, CONSTITUTION HILLS
QUEZON CITY

Manadong (13), Christian Custodio (12), and Riccadona Sayson (13) – their families, and hundreds of victims of the tragedy represented by the three POs. The six children had been given educational assistance, and their parents or caretakers, livelihood assistance. The remaining families are being given socio-economic assistance through the POs' livelihood projects under the government's 'Kapit-Bisig laban sa Kahirapan' or KALAHI Program and the 'Self Employment Assistance-Kaunlaran' or SEA-K Program of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

Clearly, financial assistance for the education of children from families affected by the Payatas landslide is a concrete translation of redistributive justice that is the multi-sectoral focus of national development priorities of the current administration. On July 23, 2001, in her First State of the Nation Address (SONA) before Congress, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo announced the provision of scholarship assistance to the six children and the hundreds of children from families who were victims of the Payatas landslide. In support of the covenant signed by DSWD Secretary Soliman with the three POs representing the victims of the Payatas landslide tragedy, the President also committed to release funds from her PSF for this purpose.

III. Objectives

This project aims to upgrade the socio-economic conditions of the families-victims of the Payatas landslide tragedy by providing their children educational assistance to enable them to become responsible and productive individuals, capable of supporting their respective families and serving as change agents in their communities.

The specific objectives of the program are as follows:

1. Provide educational assistance to 300-500 children of families-victims of the Payatas landslide tragedy.
2. Assist the beneficiary-scholars and their families through proper monitoring, evaluation and guidance.

IV. Beneficiaries and Eligibility Requirements

The beneficiaries are 300-500 children of families who are members of three peoples organizations representing the victims of the tragedy:

- July 10 Payatas Victims Organization (J10PVO);
- Samahang Tunay ng Phase II Lupang Pangako (Samahang Tunay); and
- Samahang Magkakapit-bahay ng Payatas (SANKAP).

A common set of criteria for the identification and prioritization of beneficiaries had been agreed upon with these peoples' organizations and their support group of NGOs. These are as follows:

A. For the 1st Priority:

1. The child must belong to a family who is a direct victim of the tragedy. "Direct victims" include those who lost loved ones, were injured, and lost properties as a direct result of the July 10, 2000 landslide in Payatas.
2. The parents, guardians or caretakers of the child must be active members of any of the three peoples' organizations.

3. The family income of the beneficiary-scholar must not exceed PhP 7,500 per month for those belonging to small families (with 1-3 children), or must not exceed PhP 10,000 per month for those belonging to large families (with 4 or more children).
4. The child must be enrolled in elementary or high school (public and private) for the school year (SY) 2000-2001.
5. The child must be a full-time student to avail of the PGMA-Payatas scholarship program. Neither must he/she be a beneficiary of any other scholarship or educational assistance program.
6. The child must be of good moral character, as certified by the principal/guidance counselor of the school he/she is currently enrolled in, or by the barangay captain of his/her locality.
7. Only 1-3 children per family can avail of the scholarship program. All children must meet the eligibility requirements specified above.

B. For the 2nd priority:

1. The child meets all the eligibility requirements to be included among the 1st priority beneficiaries, except that he is not enrolled for SY 2000-2001, but plans to enroll for SY 2001-2002.
2. The child must belong to a family who is an indirect victim of the tragedy. "Indirect victims" include those who were affected by the demolitions undertaken when the Payatas dumpsite was declared a "danger zone."
3. The parents, guardians or caretakers of the child must be members of any of the three peoples' organizations, although they are on "inactive" status.
4. The family income of the beneficiary-scholar must be PhP 7,501-10,000 per month for those belonging to small families (with 1-3 children), or PhP 10,001-15,000 per month for those belonging to large families (with 4 or more children).
5. The child is the 4th or 5th child of a beneficiary-family under Section IV-A, and meets all the eligibility requirements of the scholarship program.

V. Funding

As initial fund for the project, the President shall release PhP 4,000,000 from her PSF to assist the scholars for the SY 2000-2001. Each scholar shall be given educational assistance amounting to PhP 10,000.00 per year, to cover:

1. Payment of school fees
2. Provision of stipend or monthly allowance
3. Provision of transportation allowance
4. Provision of books, uniforms and other incidental expenses

The PSF shall be given to the DSWD to be put in a special account devoted solely for the project. The DSWD shall coordinate with the POs in the selection, identification, and prioritization of scholars, and shall directly release the educational assistance to the beneficiaries in two tranches, at 50% of the total assistance or PhP 5,000.00 per tranche per child.

VI. Implementation Arrangements

To ensure the successful and sustained implementation of the project, close coordination shall be undertaken by the DSWD with the Presidential Management

Staff (PMS), the representatives of the three POs and their support network of NGOs. Their respective roles and responsibilities shall be as follows:

A Department of Social Welfare and Development:

1. Undertake information dissemination on the project;
2. Receive and manage funds from the PSF and maintain a separate trust account for the project;
3. Coordinate with the POs in the identification and prioritization of scholars/beneficiaries;
4. Validate scholarship applicants based on the recommendations of the POs;
5. Release funds to qualified scholars/beneficiaries;
6. Monitor and evaluate the progress of scholars, and provide needed interventions/support mechanisms to the scholars and their families whenever necessary;
7. Ensure the continued provision of educational assistance to qualified beneficiaries by coordinating with the PMS and other agencies, and explore alternative sources of funding support for the project; and
8. Submit report to the Office of the President.

B. Presidential Management Staff:

1. Release project funds from the PSF to the DSWD; and
2. Conduct regular monitoring/evaluation and audit on project accomplishments and fund disbursements.

C. Peoples' Organizations (J10PVO, Samahang Tunay, SANKAP):

1. Assist the DSWD in the conduct of information dissemination on the project;
2. Coordinate with the DSWD in the identification and prioritization of scholars/beneficiaries, and assist/guide the applicants in meeting the requirements for availment of the project;
3. Submit to the DSWD the list of prospective beneficiaries and assist in the conduct of validation sessions based on project guidelines;
4. Recommend and certify qualified applicants; and
5. Assist the DSWD in the monitoring of scholars and their families, including the provision of needed interventions as the need arises.

D. Non-Government Organizations (Kristong Hari Foundation, KADAMAY):

1. Support the POs in the monitoring of scholars and their families and in coordinating with the DSWD; and
2. Assist the DSWD in the provision of support services to the scholars and their families, e.g., conduct of values formation seminar, facilitate the provision of tutorial services, among others.

VII. Procedural Requirements

1. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shall be signed among the DSWD, the POs, and the NGOs to formalize their partnership and spell out the delineation of responsibilities in accordance with Section VI hereof.


2. The POs shall submit to the DSWD a list of prospective beneficiaries for the project. The list submitted by the POs shall be subject to validation by the DSWD in accordance with these guidelines.
3. The POs shall assist the DSWD in the conduct of the validation session, and shall certify as to the eligibility of the applicant for the scholarship program. A sample certification is herewith attached as *Annex-A*.
4. Applicants to the scholarship program shall be required to submit a Certificate of Enrolment and Good Moral Character from the school he/she is currently enrolled in (Sample attached as *Annex-B*).
5. Qualified applicants shall be required to sign a contract with the DSWD to acknowledge receipt of the educational assistance and their undertakings under the scholarship program. (Form attached as *Annex-C*.)
6. Each scholar and their families shall be regularly and closely monitored by the DSWD, in coordination with the POs and the local social workers in the area. Proper and immediate intervention will be undertaken as the situation requires.

VIII. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation

The DSWD Field Offices shall submit written progress reports to the Office of the Secretary on a monthly basis, for transmittal to the PMS. A comprehensive evaluation of the program shall be undertaken at the end of every school year.

This Order takes effect immediately.

Quezon City, 16 January 2002.


CORAZON JULIANO-SOLIMAN
Secretary

A CERTIFIED COPY:

RENATO F. GILERA
Records Officer III

KATUNAYAN

Sa kinaaukulan:

Ito ay nagsisilbing patunay na si _____, _____ taong gulang at nakatira sa _____ ay pumasa sa mga panununtunan na itinakda para maging benipisyaryo ng programang "PGMA-Payatas Scholarship Program:"

1. Ang kanyang pamilya ay kabilang sa mga nabiktima ng trahedya ng pagguho sa Payatas noong Hulyo 10, 2000;
2. Ang kanyang mga magulang at/o tagasubaybay na sina _____, nakatira sa _____, ay aktibong miyembro ng aming asosasyon;
3. Ang buwanang kita ng kanilang pamilya ay –
 - hindi tataas sa P 7,500 kada buwan para sa maliit na pamilya (may isa hanggang tatlong anak)
 - hindi tataas sa P 10,00 kada buwan para sa malaking pamilya (may apat o mahigit pa na anak)
4. Ang bata ay kasalukuyang nag-aaral sa eskwelahan (full-time), may good moral character, at hindi benepisyaryo ng kahit anong pribado o pampublikong scholarship program;
5. Ang bata ay una hangang ikatlong miyembro ng pamilya na tatanggap ng educational assistance mula sa "PGMA Scholarship Program."

Pangulo ng Asosasyon
Petsa

PINAGTIBAY:

Registered Social Worker

INAPRUBAHAN:

Regional Director, DSWD

**CERTIFICATE OF ENROLMENT
AND GOOD MORAL CHARACTER**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that _____ is a bonafide student of this school, and that the undersigned knows said student to be of good moral character with no record of any misdemeanor whatsoever.

This certification is issued upon the request of the above-named student for purposes of availment of the project "Educational Assistance to the Children-Victims of the Payatas Landslide Tragedy," also known as the PGMA-Payatas Scholarship Program.

Issued this _____ day of _____ 2002 in Quezon City, Philippines.

Principal

School

Address

KATIBAYAN NG PAGTANGGAP AT PAGSANG-AYON

Ako si _____, _____ taong gulang na nirerepresenta ng aking mga magulang/tagasubaybay na sina _____ at _____, at nakatira sa _____ ay nagpapatunay na tinanggap ko ang halagang limang libong piso (P 5,000.0) bilang unang bahagi ng kabuuang sampung libong (P 10,000.00) kabuuang tulong pinansyal sa ilalim ng "PGMA Scholarship Program" para sa aking pag-aaral sa School Year 2001-2002.

Na ako at ang aking pamilya ay sumasangayon at tutupad sa mga sumusunod na kasunduan:

I. Mga responsibilidad ko sa gabay ng aking mga magulang:

1. Ako ay mananatiling naka-enroll bilang full-time na mag-aaral sa paaralang pampubliko o pribado;
2. Ang perang natanggap ko sa ilalim ng programang ito ay gagamitin ko lamang para sa gastusin ng tuition fees at iba pang bayarin sa eskuwelahan, pambili ng school projects, pamasaha at baon sa pagpasok, pamili ng uniporme at iba pang may kinalaman sa aking pag-aaral;
3. Na ako, sa tulong ng aking mga magulang ay gagawa at magsusumite ng listahan ng mga pinaggastuhan ng perang aking tinanggap kada-ikatlong buwan;
4. Na ipapasa ko ang lahat ng aking mga subjects sa eskwela at bibigyan ko ng kopya ng aking report card ang DSWD;

II. Mga responsibilidad ng DSWD:

1. Magbibigay ng pondo para sa pag-aaral ng iskolar na may kabuuang halagang Sampung Libong Piso (P 10,000.00); at
2. Magsasagawa ng regular na pagbisita sa bahay at paaralan ng iskolar, sa pakikipagtulungnan sa asosasyong kinabibilangan ng kanyang mga magulang at/o tagasubaybay at sa lokal na opisina ng DSWD upang masubaybayan ang pag-unlad ng bata.

Mga Magulang ng Benepisyaryo

Regional Director, DSWD