International Education Guide FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATION FROM THE PHILIPPINES

Welcome to the Alberta Government's International Education Guides

The International Qualifications Assessment Service (IQAS) developed the International Education Guides for educational institutions, employers and professional licensing bodies to help facilitate and streamline their decisions regarding the recognition of international credentials.

These guides compare educational systems from around the world to educational standards in Canada. The assessment recommendations contained in the guides are based on extensive research and well documented standards and criteria. This research project, a first in Canada, is based on a broad range of international resources and considerable expertise within the IQAS program.

Organizations can use these guides to make accurate and efficient decisions regarding the recognition of international credentials. The International Education Guides serve as a resource comparing Alberta standards with those of other countries, and will assist all those who need to make informed decisions, including:

- employers who need to know whether an applicant with international credentials meets the
 educational requirements for a job, and how to obtain information comparing the applicant's
 credentials to educational standards in Alberta and Canada
- educational institutions that need to make a decision about whether a prospective student meets the education requirements for admission, and who need to find accurate and reliable information about the educational system of another country
- professional licensing bodies that need to know whether an applicant meets the educational standards for licensing bodies

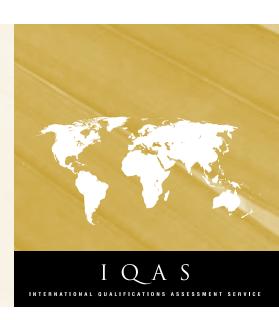
The guides include a country overview, historical educational overview, description of school education, higher education, professional/technical/vocational education, teacher education, grading scales, documentation for educational credentials and a bibliography.

The guides also include credential placement recommendations on how credentials compare to educational standards in Alberta. Canada.

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International Education Guide

FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATION FROM THE PHILIPPINES



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COUNTRY OVERVIEW

GEOGRAPHY

The Republic of the Philippines is an archipelago of 7,107 islands located at the western edge of the Pacific Ocean, just east of mainland Southeast Asia. Neighbouring countries and regions include Taiwan and China to the north, Vietnam to the east and Malaysia, Brunei and Indonesia to the south.

MAP OF THE PHILIPPINES



The total land area of the Philippines is 300,179 square kilometres, scattered over a global area of more than one million square kilometres. The nine largest islands of Luzon, Mindanao, Palawan, Panay, Mindoro, Samar, Negros, Leyte and Cebu account for over 90 per cent of the land mass. Only about 4,000 of the islands are named and between 1,000 and 2,000 are inhabited.

The Philippines has a mountainous terrain of volcanic origin, with fertile plains and valleys and many streams and lakes throughout the country. The irregular coastline stretches for over 36,000 kilometres.

Alberta's 661,190 square kilometres, stretching from the 49th parallel to latitude 60, measure just over twice the size of the Philippines.

The Philippines has one time zone—eight hours ahead of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC, formerly known as Greenwich Mean Time, GMT).

Alberta is seven hours behind UTC and therefore 15 hours behind the Philippines.

The capital city of the Philippines, Manila, is located on the island of Luzon.

CLIMATE

The predominant wind of the time strongly influences the Philippines' tropical marine climate throughout the year. From June to November, the summer monsoon's northeast winds bring heavy rains to much of the country. The winter monsoon, with winds blowing from the southwest, brings drier air from December to May. Annual temperatures range from 25 to 35 C, with cooler temperatures at higher elevations.

The country experiences its share of natural disasters, being exposed to frequent storms and damaging typhoons from June to November. Landslides are brought on by the combination of heavy rains and deforestation. Earthquakes and eruptions from one of 18 active volcanoes (out of a total 37) also bring devastation to the Philippines.

POPULATION

The last census data (May 2000) indicated a population of 76.5 million people, but the current number from the Philippine National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB, 2005), based on an estimated population growth rate of more than two per cent, suggests a population of over 85 million people. Approximately 90 per cent of the population lives on the five largest islands: Luzon, Mindanao, Samar, Negros and Palawan.

Alberta's population of 3,183,312 equates to around four per cent of the population of the Philippines (2000), illustrating extremes in population density—Alberta stands at 4.6 people per square kilometre and the Philippines at 255.

(Statistics Canada, 2001; National Statistical Coordination Board, 2000)

As of September 2004, the Philippines is divided into 17 regions: Regions I through XII (including IV-A and IV-B), Caraga (sometimes referred to as Region XIII),

the National Capital Region (NCR), the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) and the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). The regions are divided into 73 provinces comprising 116 cities and 1,501 municipalities which, in turn, are divided into 41,874 barangays (from the Spanish word for "district"). A barrio is the smallest local government division in the Philippines, similar to a village.

The metropolitan region of Manila, with a population of over 10 million people, is one of the most populated cities in the world.

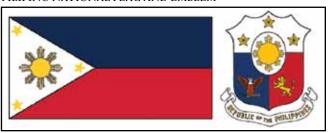
PEOPLE

The first people to inhabit the Philippines are thought to have been ancestors of the people known today as Negritos or Aeta—a short, dark-skinned people of Australonesian origin who came to the area as early as 40,000 years ago, when the sea level was lower and allowed foot travel from mainland Asia. Groups of Indonesian and Malaysian migrants followed after 1500 and 1000 BC. Those early settlers introduced agriculture and trade with China and India. Attracted by this trade, many Chinese people settled in the Philippines and intermarried with Filipinos.

The vast majority of people in the Philippines (95 per cent) are Malay. The Chinese are the largest minority group in the country, representing about two per cent of the population. The rest of the population is composed of people of various origins. Many indigenous tribes also live throughout the country, some remaining in their native settlements, others integrating into neighbouring communities and adopting locally spoken languages. All these tribes, however, still retain their rich individual culture, costumes and religious rituals.

The children of mixed marriages between Filipinos and foreigners are referred to as *mestizo* (as in, "American mestizo" or "Chinese mestizo").

FILIPINO NATIONAL FLAG AND EMBLEM



LANGUAGES AND DIALECTS

Filipino and English are the two official languages of the Philippines. Filipino (formerly called Pilipino) was introduced in 1973 by the government in an effort to have one official native language spoken throughout the country. A variation of Tagalog, which is spoken mainly in the NCR and central Luzon, Filipino belongs to the Malay family of languages, borrowing words from Spanish, English and Chinese.

The general population still makes wide use of English (introduced by the American colonial government), especially in commerce and government, but also in everyday life. English is also the language of instruction of most subjects in all levels of education.

Other than Filipino and English, over one hundred regional languages are spoken in the Philippines, the eight main ones being Tagalog, Cebuano, Ilocan, Hiligaynon or Ilonggo, Bicol, Waray, Pampango and Pangasinense.

According to the National Statistics Office (2003), the Philippines enjoys very high literacy rates:

- simple literacy rate (defined as the ability to read and write a simple message) is reported at over 92 per cent of the population. Rates vary
 - from a high of 98 per cent in the NCR
 - to a low of just under 69 per cent in the ARMM
- functional literacy rate (reading, writing and making simple computations) is lower, at 84 per cent for the country as a whole, varying:
 - from a high of 95 per cent in the NCR
 - to a low of 63 per cent in the ARMM

RELIGION

The main religion in the Philippines is Roman Catholicism. First introduced by Spanish colonialists, between 70 per cent and 85 per cent of Filipinos now adhere to the Catholic religion.

The remainder of the population is divided amongst Islam (especially in the Mindanao region), Protestant denominations of Christianity, and other sects and religions. Traditionally taught in schools, religion remains an important part of Filipino culture.

ECONOMY AND TRADE WITH CANADA

The currency is the Philippine peso (PHP). One Canadian dollar is worth about 46 PHPs (January 2005).

Canada is the Philippines' 13th most important trading partner for exports and 21st most important for imports. The United States and Japan are first and second respectively, for both imports and exports.

Trade between Canada and the Philippines:

- Major exports from Canada to the Philippines include wheat and lumber
- Major imports to Canada from the Philippines include laptops, mechanical appliances and clothing

The Philippines is one of the world's major labour exporting countries. In 2003, close to 900,000 Overseas Filipino Workers (commonly referred to as OFWs) around the world contributed over US\$7.5 billion to the Philippine economy in income remittances sent back to their families. The number of OFWs is expected to continue rising.

CHALLENGES

- Poverty remains a major issue: 34 per cent of Filipinos lived below the poverty line in 2000, an increase since 1997 of one percentage point. Other sources estimate the poverty rate to be as high as 40 per cent.
- Perceptions of corruption remain high; the Philippines was rated as the 11th most corrupt among 146 countries in 2004.
- Muslim separatism in the Mindanao province has led to peace problems for the past few decades. In 1989 the Aquino government created the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). The current government is working on a peace plan with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), the largest Muslim guerrilla group.
- The army continues to battle against the New People's Army (NPA), a communist rebel group at work in parts of the country.

BRIEF HISTORY

The first European to land in the Philippines was Portugal's Ferdinand Magellan in 1521. Spanish conquistador Miguel Lopez de Legaspi named the islands *Las Filipinas* in honour of Crown Prince Don Felipe (later King Philip II) of Spain. The Spaniards remained in the Philippines for over 300 years, their legacy including the introduction of Catholic religion and formal education.

Throughout the Spanish occupation Filipinos staged several uprisings. Important figures in Philippines' revolutions include José Rizal, Andres Bonifacio and Emilio Aguinaldo. Rizal's importance in history is reflected in the fact that a course, "The Life and Works of Rizal," is included in the curriculum of all undergraduate programs. For his part, Aguinaldo proclaimed the Philippines' independence from Spain on June 12, 1898 and went on to become the country's first president.

The Spanish-American war broke out in an attack of a Spanish fleet in Manila Bay in April 1898. After the Spanish surrender, the December 10, 1898 Treaty of Paris gave the Philippines (along with Guam and Puerto Rico) to the United States for \$20 million. The Filipino-American War of Resistance ensued, ending with the surrender of the Filipinos in 1901. The Americans' official purpose in the Philippines was said to be the well-being, prosperity and happiness of the Philippine people and their elevation and advancement among the most civilized peoples of the world. The Philippines gained American Commonwealth status in 1935.

Japan attacked the Philippines on December 12, 1941. They occupied the country for the next three and a half years, during which many thousands of Filipinos perished. General Douglas MacArthur of the United States Army led a war of liberation from Japan, which ended on July 5, 1945.

The independent Republic of the Philippines was officially inaugurated on July 4, 1946. A series of presidents worked to develop and diversify the economy, as well as to make peace with various rebel groups. The current (as of March 2007) president, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, won re-election to a second term in 2004.

HISTORICAL EDUCATION OVERVIEW

SPANISH PERIOD (1521-1898)

Before the Spanish arrived in 1521, there was no organized, formal education in the Philippines. Many people, however, could read and write Tagalog in its original script, *baybayin*. Parents and tribal tutors provided children with mostly vocational training.

The Catholic Church controlled education throughout the Spanish period. Upon their arrival, Spanish missionaries spread out to convert the native population to Catholicism and became the first teachers, lecturing in churches in the local languages.

The Augustinians opened the first school in 1565, followed by the Franciscans, the Dominicans and the Jesuits. In 1778, the governor of the islands established a system of primary education that encouraged native Filipinos to learn Spanish in order to gain access to government employment. The primary grades curriculum included religion, religious doctrine, sacred history and ethics, reading, writing, Spanish language, arithmetic, Spanish history and geography, manners, music and practical local agriculture.

In 1863, the Philippine government opened a normal school to train men as primary school teachers. A royal decree made primary education compulsory for all children and required the establishment of two free primary schools in each *barangay*, one for boys and one for girls. However, factors such as insufficient funding, lack of qualified teachers and little interest in education among Filipinos made it difficult to enforce the decree. Despite those problems, just over 2,000 primary schools (145 of which offered upper primary classes), and between 50 and 60 high schools and colleges, were opened. Attendance had risen to about 200,000 students by the end of the 19th century.

The 19th century also saw the development of vocational education in response to the demands of growing business and trade. Nautical (1820), commercial (1840), fine arts (1849), trade (1861) and agricultural (1889) schools all opened during that period.

THE FIRST HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Toward the end of the 16th century and at the beginning of the 17th century, Jesuits and Dominicans opened the first higher education institutions.

- Jesuits opened the College of San Carlos and the College of Manila in 1595 and San José College in 1601.
- Dominicans followed with the College of Santo Thomas in 1611 (which became a university in 1645) and San Juan de Letrán College in 1620.

Boys studied subjects such as Latin, Greek, sciences, philosophy, theology and law.

Girls were trained in proper decorum and Christian doctrine at two colleges for girls in Manila:

- the College of Santa Potenciana (founded by the Franciscans in 1597)
- the College of Santa Isabel (founded in 1632)

By 1896, all students could earn degrees in such programs as Arts, Philosophy and Theology, Civil and Canon Law, Spanish Law, Medicine and Pharmacy, Philosophy and Letters, and Sciences.

AMERICAN PERIOD (1898–1946)

When the Americans took control in 1898 their goal was to prepare the Philippines for independence, so they quickly installed a new education system to pacify the population and restore order. Intent on teaching Filipinos how to become citizens of a democratic state, military officers and chaplains initially took on the role of teacher.

The First and Second Philippine Commissions, led by Schurman and Taft in 1899 and 1900 respectively, installed a centralized, free public school system that came under the newly created Department of Instruction. More than a thousand schools were opened throughout the country to bring wider access to education. The resulting shortage of teachers prompted the importation from the United States of more than a thousand teachers (called *Thomasites* after the transport vessel *S.S. Thomas* that brought them over) between 1901 and 1902.

The first change the Americans made to the education system was to eliminate the teaching of religion in schools. They also associated education with patriotism, through

- teaching respect for the flag
- · implementing the singing of the national anthem
- teaching students about the lives of Filipino and American national heroes such as José Rizal, Emilio Aguinaldo and George Washington

Filipinos quickly learned the benefits of democracy with such policies as equal opportunity for education, in which the schools built across the country were open to everyone. Filipinos also became increasingly aware of the benefits of education: getting an education in English provided an opportunity to get "a good paying job" in the government and in expanding commerce. The nationalism taught in school and democratic access to education made many Filipinos eager to follow the "American way."

English became the language of instruction, in part to eradicate the influence of the Spanish, but also because American teachers did not speak Spanish. As well, books imported from the United States were written in English.

To help local economies, American teachers emphasized labour skills and started teaching industrial arts in all grade schools. Vocational schools opened and were popular for a time, but Filipinos preferred academic studies. Academic qualifications leading to a diploma and giving access to more lucrative employment were (and still are) seen as a status symbol in Philippine society.

The American education model comprised three levels:

- seven years of elementary school
- four years of secondary school
- · four years of post-secondary education

The Americans also supported private schools and added to the ones built by the Spanish. The National University and Silliman Institute (which later became a university) were among the first, opening their doors in 1900 and 1901 respectively. In 1906, a new law came into effect requiring colleges and universities to get approval from the Secretary of Public Instruction in order to grant diplomas. A few years later another law was passed, requiring private schools to continue teaching the virtues of citizenship and to meet minimum quality standards.

Due to the new democratic education policies, the first half of the 20th century saw a dramatic increase in school enrolment. The number of students in public elementary schools increased from around 250,000 in 1903 to over 3 million by 1948, and still many had to be refused enrolment for lack of accommodation. This rapid increase led to the Education Act of 1940 that eliminated Grade 7 in an attempt to control costs, a measure that was meant to be temporary but remains in effect today. At the same time, education was made compulsory up to Grade 6. The retention rate from Grade 1 to Grade 6, however, was only about 18 per cent.

Public secondary school attendance grew more slowly in comparison to primary school attendance. In 1909 just over 2,000 students were enrolled. By 1947, approximately 185,000 students were enrolled in public high schools, with almost as many in private secondary schools. (There were approximately 370,000 secondary school students in 1947.)

Americans held the position of Secretary of Public Instruction until the Philippines gained American Commonwealth status in 1935. The Secretary was responsible for regulating all schools and preparing educational standards, thus insuring that Filipinos would be taught the "American System" of democracy before the country was made independent. Another consequence of having an American in charge of education was the retention of English as the medium of instruction, even though surveys conducted in 1925 and 1940 showed that less than three per cent of the population used English outside of school.

Education was briefly disrupted during World War II. The Japanese created the Ministry of Education, Health and Public Welfare to supervise schools at the beginning of their rule, renaming it the Department of Instruction in 1944 toward the end of their regime.

POST-INDEPENDENCE PERIOD (1946-PRESENT)

Since gaining independence in 1946, the Philippines has maintained an American model of education with one important exception: strong national control of all the schools in the country. Direct funding for education was to be provided by the national government rather than local governments, although some municipalities continued

to contribute to local schools. The 1987 Constitution reaffirmed the full responsibility of the national government for making education available to all and provided for free and compulsory public elementary education.

The Free Secondary Education Act of 1988 followed, decreeing free high school education. Highest budgetary priority for education was also mandated by the 1987 Constitution, but high interest payments on foreign debt continue to take up the bulk of the budget.

As of 2000, the Department of Education reported deficits of:

- 10 million textbooks
- 2.6 million desks
- + 29,000 teachers
- + 37,000 classrooms

For the 2004–05 school year, the Department of Education reported an even greater backlog of classrooms, with a deficit of 51,947 (DepED Order No. 62, s). The government has set targets to close the gap between supply and demand.

Since independence, numbers of students and schools have continued to rise at both the primary and secondary levels and the number of higher education institutions has also increased. During the period of martial law (1972 to 1982), a \$100 million loan from the World Bank subsidized the Program for Decentralized Education Development (PRODED). This grant funded:

- a massive textbook writing project
- instructional materials
- new facilities
- teacher training
- creation of a new curriculum

The National College Entrance Examination (NCEE) was also introduced during that period as a requirement for admission to post-secondary education. It was abolished in 1994 to make higher education more accessible to students from poorer areas, who did not have the same quality of resources available in their schools and did not perform as well on the NCEE. Removing the NCEE as an application requirement was thought to equalize access.

The National Secondary Achievement Test replaced the NCEE as the examination administered to high school students at the end of Year 4. Unlike the NCEE, the NSAT is not meant to be used to determine post-secondary admission.

NAMES OF THE GOVERNMENT EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITY

- 1947—The colonial Department of Instruction was renamed the Department of Education; all levels of education came under the Bureau of Public and Private Schools.
- 1972—A Presidential Proclamation created the Department of Education and Culture to oversee all matters relating to education.
- 1978—The name was changed to the Ministry of Education and Culture. To help administer education throughout the country, 13 regional offices were created.
- 1982—The name changed to the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports (MECS).
- 1987—It became the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS).

The 1994 "Tertiary Education" report by the Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM) led to the creation of a trifocal education system with two new educational agencies:

- the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), which supervises both public and private higher education institutions and all other tertiary-level degree programs
- the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), which oversees non-degree technical-vocational programs

The education mandate of the DECS was refocused to basic education, including primary and secondary education. In 2001, the DECS was renamed the Department of Education (DepED)(see Table 1).

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

The language of instruction in the Philippines has been strongly influenced by its colonial past. Some effort was made during the Spanish era to teach in the vernacular, especially in the beginning, but the main language of instruction was Spanish. Because education was not universally accessible, however, Spanish did not spread to the general population and remained the language of the educated elite.

With the arrival of the Americans, English became the language of instruction. English and Spanish remained the official languages of the Philippines until the 1973 Constitution declared both Pilipino (later renamed

TABLE 1. OFFICIAL NAMES OF THE GOVERNMENT EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITY OVER THE YEARS

YEAR	OFFICIAL NAME	OFFICIAL TITULAR HEAD	LEGAL BASIS
1863	Superior Commission of Primary Instruction	Chairman	Educational Decree of 1863
1901–16	Department of Public Instruction	General Superintendent	Act. No. 74 of the Philippine Commission, January 21, 1901
1916–42	Department of Public Instruction	Secretary	Organic Act Law of 1916 (Jones Law)
1942–44	Department of Education, Health and Public Welfare	Commissioner	Renamed by Japanese Executive Commission, June 11, 1942
1944	Department of Education, Health and Public Welfare	Minister	Renamed by Japanese Sponsored Philippine Republic
1944	Department of Public Instruction	Secretary	Renamed by Japanese Sponsored Philippine Republic
1945–46	Department of Public Instruction and Information	Secretary	Renamed by Commonwealth Government
1946–47	Department of Instruction	Secretary	Renamed by Commonwealth Government
1947–75	Department of Education	Secretary	E.O. No. 94, October 1947, Reorganization Act of 1947
1975–78	Department of Education and Culture	Secretary	Proc. No. 1081, September 24, 1972
1978–84	Ministry of Education and Culture	Minister	P.D. No. 1397, June 2, 1978
1984–86	Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports	Minister	Education Act of 1982
1987–94	Department of Education, Culture and Sports	Secretary	E.O. No. 117. January 30, 1987
1994–2001	Department of Education, Culture and Sports	Secretary	RA 7722 and RA 7796, 1994 Trifocalization of Education Management
2001 to present	Department of Education	Secretary	RA 9155, August 2001 (Governance of Basic Education Act)

 $(Historical\ Perspective\ of\ the\ Philippine\ Educational\ System.\ Retrieved\ January,\ 2005,\ from\ www.deped.gov.ph/about_deped/history.asp)$

Filipino) and English the official languages of the country for communication and instruction.

The Bilingual Education Policy, first implemented in 1974 under martial law, made Filipino the medium of instruction for

- social studies or social sciences
- music
- arts
- physical education
- home economics
- practical arts
- character education

while English became the medium of instruction for

- science
- mathematics
- technology subjects

These same language-subject divisions were reaffirmed in the 1987 Policy on Bilingual Education.

In 1993, however, citing the decline of English literacy and the danger of the Philippines losing its competitive edge in the international labour market, then-president Macapagal-Arroyo directed the DepED to restore English

as the primary medium of instruction in schools while still allowing the use of Filipino as the language of instruction for some subjects.

Thus, English is used to teach English language, science and mathematics from at least Grade 3, while Filipino is the medium used for Filipino language and values education. Regional languages continue to be used as auxiliary mediums of instruction in Grades 1 and 2. Institutions of higher education are also encouraged to use English as the primary medium of instruction.

The choice of English as the language of instruction has been debated over the years. As the country gained more independence, a movement developed to promote the "Filipinization" of education and to reject English as a national language. Some argue that one must first learn his or her mother tongue properly before learning a second language and that learning two languages concurrently leads to the mixing of the two in what is commonly referred to as "Taglish" in the Philippines. Teaching in a second language can also encourage "superficial learning," that is, learning how to give correct answers on tests without having indepth understanding of concepts (Constantino, 2000, p. 428).

The debate continues today; some even question the use of Filipino as a national language or as a language of instruction. The issue is proving difficult to resolve in a country with so much diversity in the languages and dialects proper to each region and island.

CHALLENGES

(QUANTITY VERSUS QUALITY)

- The question of quality in education is a major issue in the Philippines, especially regarding the short 10-year cycle of basic education.
- The education system is not reaching all children of elementary school age: 10 per cent were not enrolled in 2002.
- Class size in elementary and secondary schools ranges from 33 to more than 65 students per class.
- Results of the high school readiness test administered to 1.3 million Grade 6 students in 2003 showed a very low rate of success: 18 per cent passed the competency level for English, 8 per cent passed math and 10 per cent passed science.
- Insufficient schools, classrooms, textbooks, desks and qualified teachers are available, especially in rural areas.
- Issues of quantity versus quality exist in higher education due to the rapid expansion of the system and the proliferation of private institutions.

Education Completion Rates

- The Philippines (2002): approximately 67 per cent in primary schools and 60 per cent in high schools
- Alberta (2002–03): 75 per cent

School Education

The colonial history of the Philippines has influenced education. Strong national control of the education system has been maintained since it began in the Spanish era. The more recent American occupation left a democratic approach to education modeled on the American system. The result is a very accessible, non-elitist education system administered by the central government, with near-universal enrolment at the elementary level. The country also has very high gender parity at all levels of school education.

School education—referred to as basic education in the Philippines—consists of six years of primary education (compulsory) and four years of secondary education, for a total of ten years. The average Filipino child starts school at the age of six, entering directly into Grade 1, and graduates from high school at the age of 16 (see Table 2).

The academic year starts in June and ends in March, for a total (excluding holidays) of 200 to 220 instructional days. The summer break is from March to May, corresponding to the warm, dry season. The school year was lengthened from 185 days to a minimum of 200 days in School Year (SY) 1993–94.

Alberta schools offer between 185 and 190 instructional days per year.

The total of yearly instruction hours is also relatively high in the Philippines compared to other countries. In the elementary grades, Filipino children have

- 1,067 hours of instruction per year in Grades 1 and 2
- 1,200 hours in Grades 3 and 4
- 1,267 hours in Grades 5 and 6

In the secondary grades, students have a minimum of

1,320 hours of instruction each year

Alberta offers

- 950 hours of instruction per year in grades 1 through 9
- 1,000 hours per year in grades 10 through 12

Two parallel systems of basic education are available: public and private. Within the private system, schools are either sectarian (religious) or non-sectarian (not affiliated with a religious group).

Unable to fund the entire basic education system, the government has historically allocated the greater part of the education budget to the elementary level. Reflective of that funding situation:

- 93 per cent of children are enrolled in public schools at the elementary level
- only 71 per cent attend public schools at the secondary level (although that proportion is growing)

AGE	GRADE	PUBLIC EDUCATION	PRIVATE EDUCATION	
17	12			Grade 12*
16	11			
15	10			
14	9	Secondary Education	Secondary Education	
13	8	Year 1 to Year 4		
12	7			
11	6			
10	5			
9	4	Elementary Education	Elementary Education	
8	3	Grade 1 to Grade 6	Grade 1 to Grade 6 (or 7)	
7	2			
6	1			
5	Pre-primary/	Kindergarten (optional)	Kindergarten**	
4	Preschool	Nursery School (entional)	Nursery School**	
•		Nursery School (optional)	Nulsely solloul	

TABLE 2. STRUCTURE OF BASIC EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINES

Private school students generally come from families whose income is almost double that of public school students' families. Access to private school is also greater in urban areas than in rural areas (Jimenez & Lockheed, 1995).

ADMINISTRATION

All elementary and secondary level education is the responsibility of the Department of Education. The DepED issues memoranda and orders throughout the year to update or modify education policies and regulations. Three separate bureaus administer basic education:

- the Bureau of Elementary Education (BEE) for preschhol/pre-primary and primary education
- the Bureau of Secondary Education (BSE) for the four years of high school
- the Bureau of Nonformal Education (BNFE)

The DepED also issues Special Order numbers to all private secondary schools to certify that the education program has been approved and is recognized by the government. That SO number normally appears on the graduating student's diploma and permanent record (Form 137-A). Private elementary schools do not require SO numbers.

The basic education curriculum is developed at the national level by the Curriculum Development Divisions of the BEE and BSE. Learning competencies, curricular policies and structure, credit points and time allotments, as well as subjects areas offered, are defined at this level in consultation with other concerned parties (such as school administrators, teachers, parents, students, professional organizations, industry).

Implementation guidelines are issued by the national government, but teachers are responsible for actual implementation. They determine which resources will be used, as well as how teaching and assessments will be conducted. Schools may also adapt the national curriculum to local needs by modifying the content, sequence or teaching strategies. They are encouraged to innovate and enrich the curriculum as long as basic requirements are met.

The 2002 Basic Education Curriculum for elementary and secondary education, implemented in SY 2002–03, emphasizes the following:

- five core learning areas
 - Filipino
 - English
 - science
 - mathematics

^{*} Some private high schools offer education up to Grade 12.

^{**} Most private schools require (and offer) some pre-primary/preschool education

- Makabayan (defined below, but essentially social studies)
- strong integration of competencies and values within and across learning areas
- emphasis on the learning process and integrative modes of teaching
- increased time to gain mastery of competencies of the basic tool subjects (Filipino, English, science and math)

A DepED regional office is located in each of the country's 17 regions. A list of all government-approved schools, both public and private, can be found on the DepED website:

- public schools: www.deped.gov.ph/public/public.asp
- private schools: www.deped.gov.ph/private/private.asp

PRE-PRIMARY/PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Although optional for most children, some pre-primary/ preschool schooling is usually required for admission to private elementary schools. Children may attend nursery school between the ages of three and five and then one year of kindergarten between the ages of five and six. Both generally consist of half-day programs combining play and structured activities that aim to develop all aspects of the child (physical, social, moral, spiritual, cognitive and emotional) in preparation for primary school and future life.

The preschool curriculum includes the following areas of development:

- physical, including motor coordination and physical fitness
- personal—social, including health habits, independence skills and the ability to interact with individuals and groups
- affective, which entails love for God, self and others along with awareness of feelings and a sense of right and wrong
- cognitive, including communication (oral expression, pre-reading and writing), sensory-perceptual and numeracy skills
- creative—aesthetic, including exploration of music and movement, visual arts, drama, and poetry and prose

The language of instruction at this level may be Filipino, English and/or the language spoken by the children attending the school, but Filipino and English are also taught as communication subjects.

According to 1998 data, access to pre-primary/preschool education was limited and enrolment remained low, reaching only about one-fifth of children from birth to age six (1998 data); by the age of five, around 30 per cent of children were enrolled in kindergarten, a marked increase over what it had been a decade earlier. Access to pre-primary/preschool education is generally higher in urban areas than in rural areas. In SY 2001–02, more than half a million children were enrolled in preschool, over half of them in the government's public preschools. The availability of public preschools has increased dramatically since 1970, when only about 1,000 children (two per cent) were enrolled in publicly funded schools. Total attendance has also increased, from just over 51,000 in 1970 to almost 650.000 in 2001.

According to government regulations, the qualifications required to teach pre-primary/preschool school can be acquired through the following paths:

- Bachelor of Science degree with specialization in Family Life and Child Development or Early Education or Kindergarten; or
- Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education with 28 units (credits) of Preschool Education and 54 hours of preschool class practicum; or
- Bachelor of Arts or Science degree in a discipline allied to education, arts, nursing or anthropology, with 18 units of preschool education.

Teacher-aides, helpers and assistant teachers must be high school graduates and attend a minimum of 20 hours of training in a preschool to receive a certificate from a recognized training institution or professional organization (DepED (DECS) Order No. 107, s. 1989).

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

The principal goals of elementary education are assisting students in "learning how to learn" (DepED Order No. 43, s. 2002) and providing each one with the basic preparation to become "an enlightened, disciplined, nationalistic, self-reliant, God loving, creative, versatile and productive member of the national community" (DepED).

In public schools, elementary education lasts six years, reduced from seven years by the 1940 Education Act. Although some private schools do offer Grade 7, the government has not re-established it in public schools. The

first four years of elementary education are termed primary grades while the last two are referred to as intermediate grades. Over 92 per cent of children aged six to 11 are enrolled in elementary school.

Most Filipino children enter Grade 1 at the age of six or seven. At the elementary level, in SY 2003–04, 93 per cent of students attended public schools while only seven per cent attended private institutions. These enrolment proportions have been stable for several years, even as the total number of elementary school students continues to increase. In SY 2003–04, almost 13 million students were enrolled in the country's elementary schools.

The government's school building program has been effectively reducing the number of *barangays* (villages) not served by an elementary school. Teacher:student ratio in public elementary school was 1:36 in SY 2003–04.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION CURRICULUM

The 2002 Elementary Basic Education Curriculum focuses on five subjects:

- English
- science and health
- mathematics
- Filipino
- Makabayan

Some subjects are integrated into others at certain levels. For example, science and health concepts are used as content in English for Grades 1 and 2 and values education, one of the components of *Makabayan*, is integrated into all learning areas. At the elementary level, *Makabayan* serves as practice environment for holistic learning to develop a healthy personal and national self-identity. Ideally, *Makabayan* entails the adoption of modes of integrative teaching, enabling the learner to personally process and synthesize a wide range of skills and values (cultural, aesthetic, athletic, vocational, politico-economic and ethical).

The languages of instruction in elementary schools vary by grade and by subject. In Grades 1 and 2, in addition to teaching Filipino and English as second languages, the vernacular (local) language is used as an auxiliary medium of instruction. From Grade 3 on, Filipino is the medium of instruction for Filipino and *Makabayan*, while mathematics, science and English are taught using English (see Table3).

Grading takes place four times a year in each subject using a cumulative rating system, with a passing grade of 75 per cent determining promotion to the next grade. The lowest failing grade that may appear on the report card is 65 per cent. Students are promoted on a yearly basis upon meeting the achievement standards of the grade.

Assessment methods include quizzes, participation, projects and periodical tests. According to DepED, the composition of assessment tests should address varying levels of difficulty:

- 60 per cent basic items
- 30 per cent more advanced
- 10 per cent for distinguishing honour students

After successfully completing Grade 6, students receive a Certificate of Graduation (referred to as Katunayan in the local language) from the elementary school they attended.

A National Achievement Test, similar to the previous National Elementary Achievement Test, is normally administered to Grade 6 students toward the end of that school year. The test is designed to assess the abilities and skills of all public and private Grade 6 students in five subject areas:

- English
- Filipino
- science
- social studies
- mathematics

The NAT is not always administered, however, and a variety of other achievement or diagnostic tests may be given in any given year, as per DepED orders. The last reported NEAT for Grade 6 students (SY 2000–01) showed a mean performance score of 51.73 per cent (the percentage of those who passed has not been reported).

Elementary education teachers require at least a bachelor's degree. They may have a bachelor's degree in elementary education or they may opt for an equivalent degree or another baccalaureate degree that includes 18 units of professional education along with practice teaching in elementary schools.

TABLE 3. WEEKLY TEACHING MINUTES PER SUBJECT IN THE 2002 ELEMENTARY EDUCATION CURRICULUM

	WEEKLY TIME ALLOCATED TO EACH SUBJECT (IN MINUTES)					
SUBJECT	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5	GRADE 6
Filipino	400	400	400	300	300	300
English	500	500	500	400	400	400
Science (1)			200	300	300	300
Mathematics	400	400	400	300	300	300
Makabayan:(2)	300	300	300	500	600	600
Civics and Culture	300	300	300			
Social Studies (3)				200	200	200
Home Economics & Livelihood				200	200	200
Music, Arts and Physical Education (4)				100	200	200
Values Education, Good Manners and Right Conduct (5)						
Total Weekly Minutes	1,600	1,600	1,800	1,800	1,900	1,900

International Bureau of Education. Retrieved February, 2005, from www.ibe.unesco.org/International/Databanks/Dossiers/mainfram.htm

Notes

(1) In grades 1 and 2, Science is integrated into English and Makabayan (Civics and Culture); in Grades 3 to 6, Science includes basic health concepts.

(2) In grades 1 to 3, Makabayan competencies and topics are developed through Civics and Culture. Children engage in character-building activities, develop good behaviour and are taught values like love for the country, good citizenship and respect for one's cultural heritage. Children are also introduced to basic health knowledge, healthy practices and simple scientific skills. Civics and Culture also nurtures creative expression through music, arts, physical exercise and games. In Grade 3, Civics and Culture focuses on the development of a work ethic.

(3) Social Studies covers geography in Grade 4, history in Grade 5 and government and civics in Grade 6.

(4) Integrated into Civics and Culture in Grades 1 to 3.

(5) Values Education and Good Manners and Right Conduct are integrated into all learning areas

Equivalent degrees include:

- BSc in Education with a major in Elementary Education
- BA with a major in Elementary Education
- Bachelor of Pedagogy
- a degree received for successful completion of a fouryear course in a school of Agriculture, Arts and Trades or Fisheries
- BSc in Home Economics
- BSc in Early Childhood Education, Preschool or Kindergarten

Other admissible bachelor's degrees, with 18 units in professional education, include:

- BSc in Music
- BSc in Mathematics Teaching
- Bachelor in Music
- BSc in Geography
- BSc in Speech Pathology
- + BA in Christian Education
- BSc in Industrial Arts
- BSc in Agricultural Education
- BSc in Religious Education

SECONDARY EDUCATION

According to the DepED Bureau of Secondary Education, the main objectives of secondary education are "to continue to promote the objectives of elementary education" and to discover and enhance the different aptitudes and interests of the students so as to equip them with skills for productive endeavour and/or prepare for tertiary education. Secondary education generally lasts for four years—Years 1 to 4; students normally start high school at the age of 12 or 13 and graduate at the age of 16 or 17.

The entry requirement for public high schools is the completion of primary education; some private high schools require competitive entrance examinations. Public secondary education is tuition free, as provided for in the Free Public Secondary Education Act of 1988, but not compulsory. A full public secondary system is being put into place. In the meantime, the government offers assistance programs (scholarships) to help students access private secondary education when there aren't enough spaces available in public schools.

Enrolment in the public secondary school system has been increasing steadily, bolstered by the Free Public Secondary

Education Act of 1988. In SY 2003–04, a total of 6,270,208 secondary school students were enrolled, 80 per cent of whom were in the public system, up from 61 per cent in SY 1995–96. The remaining 20 per cent of high school students in SY 2003–04 attended private schools. In the same school year, there were 8,091 secondary schools in the country, almost 60 per cent of which were public. Only six municipalities did not yet have a high school. The average teacher:student ratio in public secondary school was 1:42 in SY 2003–04.

There are two main types of secondary schools:

- general high schools, in which 90 per cent of students are enrolled
- vocational high schools

Both offer the general academic curriculum, but vocational high schools offer additional courses in five main vocational fields:

- agriculture
- fishery
- trade-technical
- home industry
- non-traditional fields

SPECIAL HIGH SCHOOLS

As of 2005, there were also eight Philippine Science High Schools (PSHS) throughout the country, the first one having opened in 1963. These schools are part of the Philippine High School System, an agency or service institute attached to the Department of Science and Technology (DOST). The curriculum consists of enriched science, technology, mathematics and English programs in addition to a more general curriculum. Students share a common freshman year and then specialize in either a science stream or a technology stream through electives in years two to four.

There is also one government-run residential school for students gifted in expressive or creative arts, the Philippine High School for the Arts (PHSA). A special secondary curriculum, combined with the general secondary curriculum, supports the development of gifted and talented students in the fields of creative writing, dance, music, visual arts and theatre arts.

Entry into the specialized high schools is highly competitive and only gifted students are admitted. Admission requirements for the PSHS involve being in the 90th percentile of a class or having a special aptitude for science and mathematics as attested by school authorities. Applicants also have to pass the PSHS National Competitive Exam, which is administered at designated testing centres throughout the country.

SECONDARY EDUCATION CURRICULUM PRIOR TO 2002

The first general secondary curriculum for public and private schools was implemented immediately following World War II. It was structured in such a way as to meet the needs of both students who intended to pursue their education and those who would end their education with high school, either to become homemakers or to seek employment.

The following basic courses, each taught for 40 minutes daily, were included in the curriculum:

- grammar and composition
- reading
- general science
- general mathematics
- world history and current events
- national language
- health and physical education
- exploratory vocational (for boys)
- general home economics (for girls)
- pre-military training (for boys) in the third and fourth years of high school

From 1957 to 1972 a similar curriculum was followed, but with a 2+2 plan that entailed common courses in the first two years and either a college preparation or a vocational track in Years 3 and 4.

The Revised Secondary Education Program was introduced in 1973, bringing the following major changes to the curriculum:

- elective courses for academic and vocational subjects in Years 2 to 4
- guidance and counselling programs
- class schedules changed to one hour three times weekly or one-and-a-half hours twice weekly
- addition of practical work experience for the vocational track
- English courses encapsulated into communication arts

- social science and social studies as required courses in Years 3 and 4
- health and physical education replaced by youth development training (YDT)
- scouting, citizen army training (CAT) and physical education taught for one hour weekly

A World Bank study of the Philippine secondary school system that found problems in management, evaluation and program quality brought about the next major changes to the curriculum in 1989. The New Secondary Education Curriculum that ensued was the first to be required in all schools across the country.

The single-track, general education curriculum included the following eight basic subjects:

- Filipino
- Social Studies (Araling Panlipunan): taught in Filipino and including Geography, History, Government, Economics, Development of Civilization, and Cultures of Philippines, Asia and the World
- Physical Education, Health and Music or PEHM (Edukasyon Pang Katawan, Kalusayan at Musika): taught in Filipino and including Arts and Citizen Army Training (for boys and girls) in the fourth year
- Values Education (Edukasyon sa Pagpapahalaga): taught in Filipino or English as a separate subject, as well as integrated into all teaching areas
- English
- Science and Technology: taught in English and consisting of basic Biology, Chemistry and Physics in Year 1, Biology and Technology in Year 2, Chemistry and Technology in Year 3, and Physics and Technology in Year 4
- Mathematics: taught in English
- Technology and Home Economics (THE): taught in English and including Home Economics, Industrial Arts, Fishery Arts and Agriculture, as well as Entrepreneurship Development

Each subject was generally taught for 40 minutes daily, except Physical Education, Health and Music, which was taught for 40 minutes three times a week, and Science and Technology, which was taught for 60 minutes a day in Years 1 and 2, and 80 minutes a day in Years 3 and 4.

CURRENT SECONDARY EDUCATION CURRICULUM

The current Secondary Education Curriculum, released in 2002, supports the goals set forth by the Education Act of 1982: to continue general education as started in the elementary grades, to prepare students for college and to prepare students for the world of work. These main goals are reflected in the curriculum.

The core learning areas of the Secondary Education Curriculum include: Filipino, English, Mathematics, Science and Makabayan (see Table 3). Each subject is taught for all four years of high school. English, Science, Math and Filipino are each taught for one hour every day, amounting to 300 minutes a week for each subject, whereas Makabayan subjects are taught for two and a half hours combined, for a total of 780 minutes per week. Teachers may organize their schedules in different ways to cover the prescribed amount of time for each subject. For example, one teacher may choose to teach Social Studies daily for 45 minutes while another may choose to teach it in 60-minute blocks, four times a week. (See Table 3 for an overview of secondary subjects with their corresponding weekly-allocated teaching minutes.)

The languages of instruction for secondary education are similar to those used for elementary education: Filipino is used to teach Filipino, Social Studies and Values Education, while English is the medium of instruction for English, Science, Mathematics, Technology and Livelihood Education (TLE), and Music, Arts, Physical Education and Health (MAPEH). According to President Macapagal-Arroyo's Executive Order No. 210, issued in 2003, English should be used as the language of instruction during no less than 70 per cent of the total time allotment for all learning areas at the secondary education level (DepED Memorandum No. 189, s. 2003).

TABLE 4. LANGUAGE OF EDUCATION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL SUBJECTS

ENGLISH	FILIPINO
English	Filipino
Science	Social Studies (Araling Panlipunan)
Mathematics	Values Education (Edukasyon sa
Technology and Livelihood	Pagpapahalaga)
Education (TLE)	
Music, Arts, Physical Education and	
Health (MAPEH)	

Secondary school students are rated four times a year on all subjects, as in elementary school, through various methods including quizzes, participation, projects and periodic tests. The government encourages the use of non-traditional assessment methods (open-ended questions, performance-based assessments and portfolio assessments) to complement traditional ones (multiple choice, completion and matching).

According to DepED, assessment tests should consist of items of varying difficulty: 60 per cent basic items, 30 per cent more advanced items and 10 per cent for distinguishing honour students. The passing grade is 75 per cent and the lowest grade that can be entered on the report card is 65 per cent.

Students are promoted on a subject-basis and automatically advance to the next grade. If a student fails three or more subjects during the year, however, and is unable to make them up during summer sessions, he or she will be retained in the same grade, but will need to repeat only the failed subjects.

Grades are reported on two standardized forms mandated by DepED: Form 137-A or the High School Permanent Record and Form 138-A or the High School Report Card.

- Form 137-A is essentially the student's transcript, listing all classes taken as well as grades earned for each class. It also indicates whether the student has graduated. For students graduating from private schools, Form 137-A should also state the Special Order number.
- Form 138-A is issued to students once they have left high school permanently, whether because of graduation or due to an interruption of studies of at least one year. The form lists the final grades on all courses taken by the student.

Only schools recognized by DepED can legally issue Form 137-A or Form 138-A, or use the words "Form 137-A" (or "Form 137), or "Form 138-A" (or "Form 138") on their transcripts.

At the end of Year 4, students take a national achievement test (NAT). Previously called the National Secondary Achievement Test, the NAT is administered yearly by the National Education Testing and Research Center (NETRC). This test replaces the National College Entrance Examination, abolished in 1994, which was used

between 1974 and 1994 as an admission requirement by post-secondary institutions. The last NSAT scores reported by DepED, for SY 2000–01, show a mean performance score of 53.39 per cent. The percentage of those who passed was not reported.

Other diagnostic or achievement tests may be given to students according to DepED's orders. In 2005 for instance, both Year 1 and Year 3 students were tested to help the government evaluate the programs.

Upon successful completion of the four-year curriculum, students are awarded a Diploma (*Katibayan*) from their school, as well as a Certificate of Graduation (*Katunayan*) from DepED.

BRIDGE PROGRAM

A bridge program has been implemented by the government as a temporary measure to address the quality issue in Philippine education. As of 2004, incoming high school students take the High School Readiness Test (HSRT) to assess their preparedness for secondary education. The program is meant to address learning gaps in English, mathematics and science. The passing grade is 30 per cent. Students who do not pass the test (scoring 29 per cent and below) are strongly encouraged to enrol in the bridge program, a one-year remedial course, prior to entering regular high school.

In May 2004, the test was administered for the first time and half of the country's students failed. There has been opposition to this government program from various groups across the country, but support has been expressed by others who think the bridge program is the start of a solution to the education system's reported lack of quality.

Secondary school teachers are required to have a bachelor's degree in education or its equivalent, with a major and minor, or a bachelor's degree in arts and sciences, with at least ten units in professional education. They may also have any other bachelor's degree, with 18 units in professional education. Like all professional teachers in the Philippines, those with other degrees are required to have a certificate of registration and a license from the Board for Professional Teachers of the Professional Regulation Commission.

SECONDARY CURRICULUM ANALYSIS

Comparison of key subjects (English, mathematics and sciences) of the Philippine 2002 Secondary Education Curriculum with the current Alberta high school curriculum has shown both similarities and differences. Although thorough analysis is not possible in the absence of a more detailed curriculum document or recommended teaching materials, in general it appears that by the end of secondary Year 4 (Grade 10), the Filipino student's education is comparable to that of an Alberta Grade 11 student.

Analysis of the Philippine secondary Mathematics curriculum suggests that it is comparable to the Alberta secondary Pure Mathematics 20. The Philippine curriculum covers most of the Pure Mathematics 20 content and some of the Pure Mathematics 30 content, along with additional content not covered in the Alberta curriculum—some algebra and, especially, geometry concepts are covered with more depth in the Philippines. On the other hand, some topics are missing from the Philippine curriculum, such as permutations, combinations, conics and transformational geometry.

Analysis of the Biology curriculum, part of the second year of high school in the Philippines, suggests that most concepts of the Alberta Biology program are covered, including Biology 30.

Chemistry, taught in Philippine secondary Year 3, seems to address all the concepts covered in Science 10, part of Chemistry 20 and a bit of Chemistry 30. Solutions and gases (Chemistry 20) appear well covered in the Philippine curriculum, but stoichiometry and organic chemistry (also from Chemistry 20) are missing.

The physics program, covered in Year 4, addresses significant topics of Physics 20 with the following exceptions: kinematics, two-dimensional motion, simple harmonic motion, circular motion and mechanical waves. Some concepts of Physics 30 are also covered, but with the following significant omissions: conservation of momentum in two-dimensional interactions, Kirchhoff's rules, Lenz's law, electric charges in electric and magnetic fields, wave particle duality, DeBroglie hypothesis, Compton effect, the development of the atomic model and Balmer's series (hydrogen spectrum).

In addition to these three science subjects, the first year of high school in the Philippines includes a yearlong "Integrated Science" subject that covers general scientific concepts (that is, scientific method) as well as concepts specific to biology, chemistry and physics.

Examination of the English curriculum suggests a lower level of education and is estimated to be comparable to Alberta's English Language Arts 10-2, at best.

HIGHER EDUCATION

In 2001–02, almost 2.5 million students were enrolled in higher education programs in the Philippines, over two-thirds of them in private schools. While men and women enjoy quasi gender parity at the basic education level, women now slightly outnumber men in tertiary education. Over a fifth of the 16- to 21-year-old population enrols in higher education programs, but fewer than half of these make it to graduation.

TABLE 5. HIGHER EDUCATION STATISTICS (2001-02)

Higher education institutions	1,605 (1)
Total enrolment	2.4 million (2)
Students enrolled in private sector (2001–02)	67 %
Female enrolment (2001–02)	56 %
Gross participation ratio (among 16- to 21-year-olds)	22 %
Graduation rate	46 %
Total number of faculty	98,943

(1) 2004-05 data

(2) 2002-03 data

Filipinos generally regard education as the main avenue to improve their life socially and economically. Parents often make many sacrifices to provide education for their children, tuition representing a large portion (up to half or more) of the average annual family income. Through the Education Code of 1982, the government has deregulated tuition fees. Private higher education institutions (HEIs) generally charge at least double the tuition amount that public HEIs do. Different forms of financial assistance (such as student loans and scholarships) are available from the government, universities, corporations, individuals and various organizations.

Students normally enter higher education at the age of 16 or 17 after the completion of high school. Each HEI

has its own admission policy, which usually includes some form of entrance examination, such as the University of the Philippines' College Admissions Test (UPCAT). Some schools also include medical examinations or have an open admission policy with selective retention.

The number of HEIs had grown to over 1,600 in 2004–05. This is a huge number considering the size of the student population. In comparison, China, with almost eight times the number of students, has only 2,110 HEIs. This points to a difference in the size of institutions. Each of the country's regions has a minimum of 36 HEIs, but the National Capital Region, which includes Manila, has the greatest number of them (259).

The five most popular disciplines in higher education, representing over 75 per cent of all enrolments, are:

- 1. business administration and related disciplines
- 2. education and teacher training
- 3. engineering and technology
- 4. mathematics and computer science
- 5. medical and allied disciplines

ADMINISTRATION

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) administers and supervises all tertiary-level degree-granting institutions, in both public and private sectors. A department-level government agency, CHED is independent from and co-equal to the Department of Education (DepED). It was created in 1994 following the release of a congressional commission report on tertiary education that led to the Higher Education Act of 1994. Prior to 1994, responsibility for higher education rested with the Department of Education Culture and Sports (DECS), through its Bureau of Higher Education.

ACADEMIC YEAR

CHED issues a yearly memorandum stating the precise dates of the academic calendar for colleges and universities. Classes normally start in June and end in March, with collegiate school days (including examination days) covering a period of no less than 18 weeks per semester (6 weeks for summer classes). The minimum length of actual student contact time is 17 hours (including examinations) for every one unit of academic credit. Individual HEIs may choose to modify the calendar to observe school holidays as long as the total number of days remains unchanged.

Colleges or universities operating on trimestrial or quarterly systems and those using alternative instruction delivery modes may also modify the calendar as long as they have prior approval from CHED.

GRADING SCALES

CHED does not prescribe grading scales at the higher education level, so the country's HEIs use many grading scales. The most common grading system is a scale ranging from 1.0 to 5.0, where 1.0 is the highest grade, 5.0 the lowest and 3.0 is the passing grade. When a 4.0 or "conditional fail" grade is given, the student has the opportunity to retake the class or pass a make-up exam. If successful, the student receives a passing grade of 3.0; otherwise, a failing grade of 5.0 is assigned.

TABLE 6. MOST COMMONLY USED GRADING SCALE AT THE TERTIARY LEVEL

NUMERICAL GRADE	DESCRIPTIVE GRADE	PERCENTAGE
1.00	Excellent	95–100
1.25		
1.50	Very good	90–94
1.75		
2.00	Good	85–89
2.25		
2.50	Fair or Satisfactory	80–84
2.75		
3.00	Pass	75–79
4.00	Conditional Fail	70–74
5.00	Fail	Below 70
INC	Incomplete	

As noted, other grading systems may also be in use. Some institutions employ a shorter scale ranging from 1.0 to 3.0, others use a 4.0 to 1.0 reverse scale and still others mark with letter grades.

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

As the government spends most of its education budget on basic education, tertiary education is dominated by the private sector. In fact, almost 90 per cent of all HEIs in 2004–05 were in the private sector. Although public schools represent only 10 per cent of the total number of HEIs, they enrol almost a third of all tertiary-level students.

Table 7 shows the different categories of the country's public and private HEIs.

TABLE 7. DISTRIBUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION BY SECTOR AND TYPE OF INSTITUTION FOR AY 2004–05

PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS:	174	
1. State universities and colleges (SUCs)	111	
2. CHED-supervised institutions (CSIs)	1	
3. Local universities and colleges (LUCs)	47	
4. Other government schools (OGSs)	10	
5. Special higher education institutions	5	
PRIVATE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS:	1,431	
Non-sectarian	1,089	
Sectarian	342	
TOTAL	1,605	

PUBLIC SECTOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Public-sector tertiary institutions receive as much as 80 to 90 per cent of their operating budgets from government funding. In addition, they are allocated land to facilitate their development and further annual allocations for capital expenditures.

There are presently five recognized categories of public higher education institutions, as indicated in Table 7.

SUCs, also referred to as chartered institutions, are chartered CHED-autonomous institutions funded by the national government. Unlike all other types of HEIs, SUCs do not require CHED's approval to offer academic courses and degree programs, even though the budget for new programs must be approved by CHED. While CHED has representation on the boards of the SUCs, it has no direct responsibility or authority over them. Furthermore, SUC programs are not monitored or reviewed by CHED to ensure compliance with minimum academic standards. The quality of SUCs varies greatly, from internationally renowned institutions (such as the University of the Philippines, Philippine Normal University and Central Luzon State University) to high schools that have been "upgraded" to the SUC status without regard for academic quality. Until further notice, CHED has issued a moratorium on the establishment of new SUCs and on the conversion of other institutions to SUCs.

CSIs are non-chartered colleges, directly under the supervision and within the budget of CHED. In large part, CSIs were created from high schools, many of which were technical—vocational in nature and were

referred to as polytechnic, agricultural arts or trade schools. In recent years most CSIs were integrated—and a few were converted—into regional SUCs, while others were transferred to the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority and DepED. As of 2004–05, only one CSI remains in existence: the Canuto M.S. Enerio College of Arts and Trades.

LUCs, previously called community colleges, are established, operated, funded and supervised by local government units, such as municipalities. CHED maintains administrative authority over these HEIs. Some examples are:

- the City of Malabon University
- Ligao Community College
- New Lucena Polytechnic College

OGSs are public secondary and post-secondary education institutions (usually technical—vocational in nature) that offer at least one tertiary-level academic degree program. Most are agricultural or industrial arts and trades schools. CHED has administrative authority over these schools as well. OGS examples are:

- + Balabagan Trade School
- · Fortunato F. Halili National Agricultural School
- + Hadji Buto School of Arts and Trades

Special HEIs are institutions directly linked to the government agency that created them. They provide training in areas such as military science and national defence. Examples, both under the Department of National Defence, are:

- the Philippine Military Academy
- the National Defence College

PRIVATE SECTOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Private-sector HEIs are owned and administered by private individuals, groups or corporations. Their funding comes almost entirely from tuition fees and donations, with government funding representing only about one per cent of their total budget. All recognized private HEIs are under the administrative authority of CHED.

CHED recognizes two main types of private HEIs: sectarian and non-sectarian.

Sectarian colleges and universities are usually non-profit institutions owned and operated by religious congregations, mostly Catholic. A large part of their funding comes from their religious counterparts in Europe and the United States. Some examples of sectarian HEIs are:

- Ateneo De Manila University
- · Colegio De San Juan De Letran
- De La Salle University

Non-sectarian institutions—the largest category of HEIs—are owned by private corporations. Not affiliated with any religious group, the majority of non-sectarian institutions are for-profit stock corporations that distribute part of their income to shareholders. The remaining non-sectarian HEIs are non-stock non-profit corporations or education foundations that return most of their income into the operation of the educational programs and facilities. Some examples are:

- Jose P. Rizal University
- National University
- Philippine Women's University

Special Order numbers

In order to grant a certificate, diploma or degree to a student, private HEIs are required to get an SO number from CHED. CHED issues the SO number to the institution after verifying that the student has successfully completed all academic requirements. That number is noted in the student's transcript and on his or her diploma.

Public institutions (state universities and colleges) are not required to have a Special Order number and thus none will appear on their students' records. Private HEIs that have been accredited at Level II, III or IV (explained below) and those that have been granted Autonomous or Deregulated status are also exempt from the SO.

TABLE 8. APPLICABILITY OF SO NUMBERS TO VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS

TYPE OF INSTITUTION	SO NUMBER REQUIRED?
Elementary school (public and private)	No
Public secondary school	No
Private secondary school * Private secondary schools affiliated with higher education institutions and accredited at Level II or higher are exempted from the requirement for an SO number	Yes*
Public higher education institution (State universities and colleges, CHED-supervised institutions, local universities and colleges, other government schools and special higher education institutions)	No
Private higher education institution (sectarian and non-sectarian)	Yes with exceptions listed below*
* Private higher education institutions granted autonomy or deregulated status	No
* Private higher education institution granted Level II or higher accredited status	No
Public technical–vocational (TVET) programs	No
Private TVET programs	Yes

ACCREDITATION

"Accreditation, which imposes higher standards than those set by the government, is a voluntary continuous self-improvement mechanism [for both public and private HEIs] to ensure the public of compliance with, and even beyond, minimal required standards" (UNESCO, 2003). It is one of the quality assurance mechanisms in Philippine higher education.

The accreditation movement started in the early 1950s as an initiative of a group of educators from private colleges and universities who were concerned with the quality of higher education. They promoted a mechanism that would allow voluntary and continuous monitoring, implementation and self-assessment of HEIs according to an agreed-upon system of standards. Three accrediting bodies were thus formed between the 1950s and the 1970s, each with its own accrediting standards and instruments:

- the Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (PAASCU)
- the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities—Commission on Accreditation (PACU-COA)
- the Association of Christian Schools, Colleges and Universities—Accrediting Agency (ASCCU—AA)

To encourage a common approach and methodology to accreditation, an umbrella organization—the Federation of Accrediting Agencies in the Philippines (FAAP)—was created in 1976 to coordinate the three accrediting agencies.

A fourth accrediting agency—the Accrediting Association of Chartered Colleges and Universities of the Philippines (AACCUP)—followed to serve the public state universities and colleges.

While AACCUP is mainly used by members of the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges, PAASCU by Catholic schools, PACU—COA by non-sectarian groups and ACSCU—AA by the Protestant sector, the accrediting bodies are non-restrictive so they can provide service to anyone.

Accreditation methodology is basically the same across the board but requirements vary for each level. The process involves two steps:

- 1. a self-study by the HEI addressing ten key areas:
 - philosophy and objectives
 - faculty
 - instruction and research
 - library
 - laboratory
 - plant and facilities
 - student personnel services
 - social orientation and community involvement
 - administration and organization
 - financial operation

followed by:

2. a site visit by a trained team of accreditors (usually five) from one of the accrediting associations

All accrediting agencies focus on program accreditation rather than institution accreditation. Generally, each program to be accredited in an institution requires a separate subcommittee except where significant commonalities exist between programs.

The self-study—the format of which is prescribed by the accrediting association—takes the form of a survey of academic operations, strengths and weaknesses. This step is quite involved, as many people have to be consulted to get an accurate picture of the program, sometimes taking up to a year to finish.

Once the self-study report has been submitted, one of the accrediting agencies is invited to the institution. The site visit by the accrediting team starts with a meeting with institution officials and members of the self-study committee. Team members then make unannounced visits to different parts of the campus (library, guidance and counselling office, laboratories and so on); interview students, faculty and other staff; and observe ongoing class instruction. The site visit lasts a few days.

Once the site visit is complete, the accrediting team submits a report to the accrediting agency, which reviews the application and sends appropriate recommendations to the institution. If the application is approved, a recommendation for the accreditation level sought is sent to FAAP, which, as the meta-evaluation agency, must certify that the quality requirements have been met before the accreditation is granted and communicated to CHED.

Four levels of accreditation reflect the varying levels of quality in terms of programs and institutions, identified by roman numerals. Requirements for each level vary, increasing with each step up.

- Levels I and II require the completion of their respective self-study reports and validation of those reports through the site visit.
- As an intermediate step between Level II and Level III, Level II re-accredited status requires the institution to show significant achievement in academic operations.
- An additional requirement for Level III includes a reasonably high standard of instruction, demonstrated through the quality of the faculty and a highly visible community extension program.
- To obtain Level III accredited status, institutions must also demonstrate two of the following characteristics:
 - a highly visible research tradition
 - · a strong staff-development tradition
 - three years of highly creditable performance of its graduates on Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) licence exams
 - the existence of working consortia with other schools or agencies

- Level IV accredited status is reserved for HEIs that have distinguished themselves in a broad area of academic discipline and that enjoy the prestige and authority afforded to international universities. To ascertain this, Level IV requires that:
 - at least 75 per cent of the institution's programs have attained Level III accreditation for a minimum of 10 years
 - the institution shows excellent outcomes in research (number, scope and impact of scholarly publications in important national and international journals) and in teaching and learning (performance of alumni and graduates)

Although it is voluntary, CHED encourages accreditation through incentive programs such as grants of autonomy and deregulated status to deserving private colleges and universities, as well as other privileges associated with each of the four levels of accreditation. While SUCs already have a charter of full autonomy, they still benefit from accreditation in the prestige it gives them, making their programs more attractive to prospective students.

Different benefits are associated with each level of accreditation. The four levels of accreditation along with their associated benefits are:

Level I: Applicant Status Benefits include:

exemption from administrative—operational requirements

Level II: Accredited Status Benefits include:

- full administrative deregulation, although promotion and graduation reports must be available for review by CHED
- financial deregulation in terms of tuition setting and other school fees and charges
- partial curricular autonomy, including the authority to revise curricula without CHED approval as long as it meets the Professional Regulation Commission's requirements and guidelines
- authority to graduate students from accredited courses or programs without the prior approval of CHED or the need for SO numbers
- priority in terms of available funding assistance for scholarship, library materials, laboratory equipment and other development activities

- priority in terms of government subsidy for faculty development
- the right to use the word "Accredited" in its publications and advertisements
- limited visitation, inspection and/or supervision by CHED

Level III: Accredited Status

Benefits include:

- · all the benefits granted to Level II
- full curricular deregulation, including the authority to offer new courses allied to existing Level II programs without prior approval from CHED

Level IV: Accredited Status

Benefits include:

- all the benefits granted to Level III
- eligibility for the awarding of grants and/or subsidies from the Higher Education Development Fund for programs of qualified tertiary education institutions
- a charter of full autonomy for the duration of its Level
 IV accredited status

Accreditation status is valid for a period of three to five years, after which it must be reviewed.

AUTONOMY AND DEREGULATED STATUS

As part of the accreditation process, CHED recognizes the contribution of deserving private HEIs by granting them autonomy or deregulated status. Three general criteria are used to identify the institutions that are eligible to become autonomous or deregulated:

- The institution is recognized as a Centre of Excellence or a Centre of Development and/or has FAAP Level III accredited programs.
- 2. The overall performance of graduates in the Professional Regulation Commission licensing examinations is outstanding.
- 3. The institution has a long tradition of integrity and an untarnished reputation.

The benefits of autonomy are:

- 1. exemption from the issuance of SOs
- 2. freedom from the monitoring and evaluation activities of CHED
- 3. entitlement to grant subsidies and other financial incentives or assistance from CHED
- 4. the privilege of determining and prescribing its own curricular programs

- the privilege of offering new courses or programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels without having to request CHED authorization (although CHED must be informed of all new courses and programs)
- the privilege of establishing branches or satellite campuses without prior CHED approval (although CHED must be informed of the location of any new branch)
- 7. the privilege of offering extension classes and distance education courses or programs to expand access to education and to establish affiliation with recognized foreign HEIs in pursuit of international standards of education
- 8. the authority to grant honorary degrees to those deserving

The benefits of deregulated status are similar to those of the autonomous status (except for points 5, 6 and 7 above, where CHED's prior approval is still required). Autonomy and deregulated status are reviewed after five years.

A list of HEIs granted autonomous and deregulated status can be found in CHED's online directory of HEIs (www. ched.gov.ph/hei_dir/index2.html#hei_top) (although it is not currently up-to-date) and in CHED's memorandum orders, also available online (see most current list in Appendix A).

CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE AND CENTERS OF DEVELOPMENT

CHED defines Centers of Excellence (COEs) and Centers of Development (CODs) as public or private higher education institutions that have demonstrated the highest degree or level of standards in the areas of instruction, research and extension. CHED has recognized such centres in the different disciplines and provides them with additional funding for student scholarships, faculty development, library and laboratory upgrading, research and extension services, instructional materials development and networking.

As of February 2001 (the date of the latest available data), CHED has identified 271 COEs and CODs in various disciplines throughout the country. In terms of regional distribution, the National Capital Region has the highest number of COEs and CODs, with 94, followed by the Central Visayas with 21 and Northern Mindanao with 18 (see Appendix B for the list of COEs and CODs by institution and discipline).

UNIVERSITY STATUS

The terms "college" and "university" are both used to identify institutions of higher education in the Philippines, not unlike in the United States. The status of "university," however, is reserved for those deserving HEIs that, according to CHED, "have proven their excellence in the areas of instruction, research and extension" (CHED Memorandum Order No. 48, s. 1996).

Institutions must meet the standards and guidelines specified by CHED in order to receive and retain university status. These criteria include, among others:

- four-year courses in liberal arts, basic sciences and/or mathematics, and social sciences
- + a minimum of three professional courses
- at least two graduate-level courses leading to doctoral degrees
- Level III accreditation for at least four undergraduate and at least two graduate programs
- quality instruction and research
- credible community extension services
- 50 per cent full-time faculty in arts and sciences
- 20 per cent faculty with a doctoral degree and 35 per cent with a master's degree.

Additional requirements concern infrastructure and facilities. CHED reviews the HEI's compliance to these standards every three years.

UNIVERSITY SYSTEM TITLE

Starting in 2003, CHED has established rules and regulations for the use of the title "University System" for HEIs. University Systems are meant to make the higher education system more efficient and cost-effective by allowing HEIs that join together to adopt common academic policies and administrative structures. Public or private universities or colleges that wish to form a system must meet the requirements set by CHED, namely:

- at least 50 per cent of their tertiary programs must be accredited at Level II
- a minimum of 50 per cent of students must be enrolled at the tertiary level (for those institutions that also offer elementary and/or secondary education)

Constituents of University Systems may share some of their resources (budget, faculty and staff), coordinate their research and extension services, and offer "cross crediting" (transfer credits) to students from one constituency to the other. Once CHED has reviewed and approved the application, the "University System" title is granted for a period of five years after which it must be reviewed by CHED. Some examples are:

- De La Salle University System
- Mindanao State University System
- Philippine Women's University System
- · Saint Paul University System
- University of the Philippines System

PROGRAMS AND EXIT CREDENTIALS

Students enter university after the completion of high school, usually at the age of 16 or 17. There is no advanced placement for students who have completed Grade 11 or Grade 12 through private schools.

The pattern of higher education in the Philippines, which is based on the American system, is very similar to Canada's higher education pattern.

TABLE 9. USUAL PATTERN OF HIGHER EDUCATION

		Doctoral Degree (3 years)
	* Credits earned through an Associate	Master's Degree (2 years)
	Degree can often be used as transfer credit toward a Bachelor's Degree.	Bachelor's Degree
Certificate or Diploma (1 or 2 years)	Associate Degree* (2 years)	(4 or 5 years)

PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION

Created in 1973, the PRC is the national body responsible for "[administering, implementing and enforcing] the regulatory policies of the national government with respect to the regulation and licensing of the 43 professions under its jurisdiction through [their respective] Professional Regulatory Board[s] (PRBs)." The professions under the supervision of the PRC are listed in Table 10.

The PRC administers the professional examinations prepared by each professional regulatory board, which are given to candidates who wish to become a licensed member of a profession. Then, with the regulatory boards, PRC issues the Certificate of Registration and professional license to each successful examinee. Over two million professionals are registered with the PRC, the number increasing yearly with each new group of examinees. In addition, the PRC has a verification of professional licensure service as well as legal services.

TABLE 10. LIST OF PROFESSIONS REGULATED BY THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION

Accountancy	Marine Deck Officers
Aeronautical Engineering	Marine Engineer Officers
Agricultural Engineering	Master Plumbers
Agriculture	Mechanical Engineering
Architecture	Medical Technology
Chemical Engineering	Medicine
Chemistry	Metallurgical Engineering
Civil Engineering	Midwifery
Criminology	Mining Engineering
Customs Brokers	Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering
Dentistry	Nursing
Electrical Engineering	Nutrition and Dietetics
Electronics and Communications Engineering	Optometry
Environmental Planning	Pharmacy
Fishery Technology	Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy
Foresters	Professional Teachers
Geodetic Engineering	Radiologic and X-Ray Technology
Geology	Sanitary Engineering
Guidance Counselling	Social Workers
Interior Design	Sugar Technology
Landscape Architecture	Veterinary Medicine
Librarians	

Professional Regulation Commission. Retrieved from www.prc.gov.ph/; confirmed with PRC official in May 2005.s

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Undergraduate programs represent the first level of higher education. Admission requirements vary by school, but usually include an entrance examination administered either by the institution or a private testing centre, such as the Center for Educational Measurement. From 1974 to 1994, students had to pass the National College Entrance Examination as a prerequisite to enter higher education, but it was abolished in 1994 and has not been replaced by any other standard national exam.

Academic programs at the higher education level consist of instructional units, similar to credits used in Canadian universities. One unit corresponds to one hour of lecture time or three hours of laboratory work per week. Courses are usually three units in value, but science and technology

courses may be four to six units. In general, students take 18 to 22 units per semester.

Generally, one Filipino unit multiplied by 0.75 is equivalent to one Alberta credit.

NON-CREDIT PRE-BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS

Some HEIs offer pre-university instruction for students who do not qualify for regular admission into degree programs. These non-credit remedial courses, meant to help the student prepare for further study, are generally identified as such on student transcripts.

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE OR DIPLOMA

Undergraduate certificates (sertipiko) or diplomas are offered in a variety of programs. These programs, usually one or two years in duration, do not have specific requirements. CHED recognizes some of these programs, but others operate without official approval and recognition. Program status can be verified on CHED's Directory of Higher Education Institutions (www.ched.gov.ph/hei_dir/index.html). Examples of certificate and diploma programs are:

- Junior Secretarial Certificate
- Computer Secretarial Certificate
- Graduate in Midwifery Certificate

ASSOCIATE DEGREES

Associate degree programs (asoyado) are generally 70 units in length and are usually completed over two years, although some may take up to three years. CHED requires these programs to have a general education component representing up to half of the coursework, as well as military training and physical education courses.

Structurally, associate degrees are built to allow students to proceed directly into a bachelor's degree program, fully credited for the completed coursework. Upon successful completion of the program, students receive the title of Associate in [the particular discipline]. Examples of associate degrees are:

- Associate in Health Science Education
- Associate in Library and Information Science
- Associate in Secretarial Administration
- Associate in Computer Secretarial

Associate degree programs are part of vocational education, administered by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), but are not equivalent to associate degree programs overseen by CHED. Also, not all associate degree programs are approved by CHED. As with undergraduate certificates or diplomas, program status can be verified on CHED's Directory of Higher Education Institutions (www.ched.gov.ph/hei_dir/index.html).

BACHELOR'S DEGREES

The most basic and common degree awarded at the undergraduate level is the four-year bachelor's degree (*Batsilyer*). The baccalaureate degree usually consists of four years of study:

- the first two years often being devoted mainly to the General Education Curriculum (GEC) mandated by CHED (described below)
- Years 3 and 4 consisting of courses related to the student's major

Some HEIs structure their bachelor's degree programs in order to distribute the GEC coursework over the entire length of the program.

CHED regulates curricular content for all bachelor's degrees and issues the coursework outline as well as suggested unit requirements. Most four-year bachelor's degrees require between 120 and 185 units for graduation; five-year degrees require up to 200 units. Generally included are military training (usually non-credit; mandatory for men, optional for women) and physical education (mandatory for men and for women who don't enrol in military training), as well as religion and philosophy courses in sectarian schools.

GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM

The Higher Education Act of 1994 requires all HEIs to adhere to a general education curriculum as a core component of all bachelor's degree programs. The current GEC, revised in 1996 by CHED, includes a minimum of 63 units distributed among the four main disciplines as described in Table 11. Some programs offer modified versions of the GEC, as allowed by CHED.

After the successful completion of their programs, students are awarded Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts degrees in their major (for example, Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy or Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy).

TABLE 11. DISTRIBUTION OF THE 63 UNITS COMPRISING

THE GEC, 1996	
DISCIPLINE (UNITS)	
Language and Literature (24)	

- English (9)
- Filipino (9)
- Literature (6)

Mathematics and Natural Sciences (15)

- Mathematics (6)
- Natural Sciences (6)
- Science elective (3)

Humanities and Social Sciences (18)

- Humanities, Arts and Philosophy (6)
- Social Science, Basic Economics, General Psychology, Politics and Governance, Society and Culture (12)

Mandated Subjects (6)

- Life and Works of Rizal (3)
- Philippine History (3)

PROFESSIONAL DEGREES

In medical and legal disciplines the first degree awarded is also considered part of the undergraduate level of education. In medicine, the title of Doctor is used instead of Bachelor. Students receive a Bachelor of Laws or a Juris Doctor at the end of their law studies. Both types of degrees require the completion of relevant preliminary studies for admission to the bachelor's level.

- Admission to the Doctor of Medicine (MD) program normally requires completion of a relevant four-year BA or BSc degree that includes or is supplemented by prerequisite courses as specified by the school. Students must also pass the National Medical Admission Test (NMAT) and submit a Certificate of Eligibility for Medicine. CHED does not mandate a standard curriculum, but the MD program usually consists of two years of classroom study followed by two years of clinical training in affiliated hospitals. Graduates must then complete a one-year internship and pass the PRC licensing examination in order to practise.
- The Doctor of Dental Medicine (DDM) program is a six-year program, including two years of pre-dentistry followed by four years of dentistry study. Graduates must pass the PRC licensing examination in order to practise.
- The Doctor of Optometry (DO) program is a six-year program, including two years of pre-optometry followed by four years of optometry. Graduates must pass the PRC licensing examination in order to practise.

- The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program is a six-year program, including two years of preveterinary medicine and four years of veterinary medicine. Some veterinary medicine programs allow students to substitute the BSc in Veterinary Medicine or the BSc in Animal Husbandry for the two-year preveterinary medicine courses. Graduates must then pass the PRC examination in order to become registered and licensed to practise.
- The Bachelor of Laws (LLB) and the Juris Doctor (JD) both require a four-year BA or BSc degree that includes or is supplemented by 36 units of prerequisite courses for admission followed by four years of specialized study. Prior to 1961, the LLB consisted of a 2 + 4 pattern. Up to nine deficient units may be completed during the first year of study. The JD requires an additional eight units of coursework and a thesis. LLB graduates must complete up to 12 months of law practice internship, usually during their studies, before they are allowed to sit the bar examination administered by the Supreme Court, which they must pass in order to practise law. The Bachelor of Laws is sometimes referred to by its Filipino name, Batsilyer sa Pambabatas.
- The Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (BScPh) is generally a four-year program with about 195 units of coursework. Graduates must complete 960 hours of practical internship before they are allowed to sit for the PRC licensing examination in order to become Registered Pharmacists (RP).

NURSING

Nursing is a popular and growing profession in the Philippines, partly in response to the international demand for nurses. Students entering the field must complete a four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) in a CHED-approved program. To be admitted, students must have graduated in the top 40 per cent of their high school class.

Between 1976 and 1992, students could take a three-year Graduate in Nursing (GN) program (no longer offered) that gave the same access to the profession as did the bachelor's degree. GN credits could also be transferred toward a BScN degree. Prior to 1976, BScN programs were five years in length, while GN programs took four years (one year of pre-nursing and three years of hospital-based training) to complete. A two-year GN to BScN supplementary degree program was also offered until 1976.

Two types of master's degrees are offered in nursing, both non-clinical in nature: the research-based thesis program of the Master of Arts in Nursing and the non-thesis professional program that leads to the Master of Nursing. Some institutions also offer a PhD in Nursing.

Nursing degree graduates may take the PRC licensing examination to be registered and licensed to practise with the title of Registered Nurse (RN) (see Table 12).

MIDWIFERY

Midwifery programs are very popular in the Philippines, making the profession one of the largest in the country. These non-baccalaureate, two-year associate degree or certificate programs are under CHED supervision. Program graduates earn the Graduate in Midwifery (GM) certificate. The curriculum, prescribed by CHED, includes at least 77 units of coursework:

- 28 units of general education requirements
- 41 units of professional courses

The program also includes practical clinical training with a minimum of 20 supervised hospital deliveries and five supervised home deliveries. Clinical training completion certificates may be issued by the hospital or clinic directly, rather than by the school. Graduates of the midwifery program must then take and pass the PRC licensing examination in order to practise their profession (see Table 13).

TABLE 12. BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING—CORE CURRICULUM

General Education	65 units	
Language & Humanities	24 units	
 English (Communication Skills I & II), Filipino I & II, Introduction to Literature, English 3 (Communication Skills III), Philosophy of Man, Logic and Critical Thinking 		
Mathematics, Natural Sciences & Information Technology	26 units	
 Mathematics (College Algebra), Chemistry (General), Biology/Geology/Earth Science, Physics I, Anatomy and Physiology, Microbiology and Parasitology, Information Technology (Computer) 		
Social Sciences	15 units	
 Psychology (General), Sociology/Anthropology, Philippine History, Philippine Government & Constitution, Asian Civilization 		
Associate in Health Science Education (AHSE) Curriculum	24 units	
Primary Health Care I, with Related Learning Experience		
Primary Health Care II, with RLE		
Health Economics with Taxation and Agrarian Reform		
Bioethics		
Basic Nutrition		
Science, Technology and Society		
Nursing	80 units	
NCM 100: Foundations of Nursing Practice		
NCM 101: Promotive and Preventive Nursing Care Management		
NCM 102: Curative and Rehabilitative Nursing Care Management I		
NCM 103: Related Learning Experience		
NCM 104: Curative and Rehabilitative Nursing Care Management II		
NCM 105: Nursing Management & Leadership		
Introduction to Nursing Research		
Strategies in Health Education		
Community Health Development		
TOTAL Course Units	169 units	
Related Learning Experience	42 units = 2,142 hours	
PHC I & II	5 units combined (255 hours)	
NCM 100 to 105	37 units combined (1,887 hours)	
Physical Education (1 to 4)	8 units	
Citizens' Military Training—CMT/ROTC (1 to 4)	6 units	

TABLE 13. GRADUATE IN MIDWIFERY CERTIFICATE— CORE CURRICULUM

FIRST YEAR	
1st Semester	23 units
 Sociology 	3 units
Obstetrics I	2 units
 Principles of Bacteriology 	1 unit
 General Anatomy & Physiology 	3 units
Fundamentals of Health Care I	3 units
Ethics I	3 units
Filipino 1	3 units
Grammar & Composition I	3 units
Physical Education 1	2 units
2nd Semester	22 units
General Psychology	3 units
Obstetrics II	2 units
Nutrition & Dietetics	3 units
 Principles of Community Work 	3 units
Fund of Health Care II	3 units
Grammar & Composition II	3 units
• Filipino 2	3 units
Physical Education 2	2 units
SECOND YEAR	
1st Semester	17 units
Care of Infants & Children	3 units
Community Health I	4 units
Obstetrics III	2 units
Rizal Course	3 units
 Planning 	3 units
 Physical Education 3 	2 units
2nd Semester	15 units
Ethics II & Career Development	3 units
Community Health II	4 units
Maternal-Child Health	3 units
Philosophy of History/Government/Constitution	3 units
Physical Education 4	2 units

ENGINEERING

Baccalaureate degrees in engineering fields include, but are not limited to:

- Aeronautical
- Agricultural
- Architectural
- Automotive
- Ceramic
- Chemical
- Civil
- Computer
- Communication
- Electrical
- Electronics

- Food
- Geodetic
- Industrial
- Internet
- Manufacturing
- Marine
- Mechanical
- Mining
- Power Plant
- Sanitary
- Textile Engineering

Undergraduate level engineering degrees are normally five-year Bachelor of Science degrees, with minimum requirements of between 160 and 192 academic units divided amongst general education, technical and professional technical clusters, and electives in technical courses.

Master's degrees in engineering generally take two years and include 30 coursework units and six thesis units. An engineering doctoral degree (PhD) normally requires a qualifying examination, 36 coursework units, oral and written comprehensive examinations, and a dissertation, including defence. The Doctor of Technology degree offered by some HEIs is considered an engineering degree.

Engineering is a PRC-regulated profession, so graduates must pass national board examinations in order to be licensed to practise.

TABLE 14. BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING— CORE CURRICULUM

Technical Courses	54 units
 Mathematics 	20 units
 Algebra 	
Plane & Spherical Geometry	
 Analytic & Solid Geometry 	
Differential Calculus	
Integral Calculus	
Differential Equations	
Probability & Statistics	
Natural/Physical Sciences	10 units
 Chemistry 	
Physics I & II	
Basic Engineering	24 units
Engineering Drawing	
Engineering Mechanics	
Materials Strength	
Fundamentals of Computers	
Environmental Science & Engineering	
Engineering Management	
Electrical Engineering	
Engineering Economy	

BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

Business and management education (BME) has been the most popular discipline in Philippine HEIs for several years, enrolling around 20 per cent of undergraduate students. The degree programs in this category include:

- Bachelor of Science in Accountancy (BScA)
- Bachelor of Science in Commerce (BScC) or Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BScBA)
- Bachelor of Science in Public Administration (BScPA)
- Bachelor of Science in Office Administration (BScOA) or Bachelor of Science in Office Management (BScOM)
- Bachelor of Science in Hotel and Restaurant
 Management (BScHRM) or Bachelor of Science in
 Hospitality Management (BScHM)

Professional Courses	(58 units)
Surveying	5 units
Engineering Surveys	3 units
Engineering & Geology	3 units
Soil Mechanics	4 units
Structural Theory I & II	6 units
Structural Design—Concrete	5 units
Structural Design—Steel/Timber	4 units
Hydraulics	4 units
 Hydrology 	3 units
Materials & Testing	4 units
Construction Methods/Management	3 units
Civil Engineering Project	3 units
Laws/Contracts/Ethics	2 units
Highway Engineering	3 units
Advanced Engineering Math	3 units
Mechanical Engineering	3 units
Technical Electives	12 units
Non-Technical Courses	36 units
Language & Humanities	21 units
• English 1, 2 & 3	
• Filipino 1 & 2	
Humanities 1 & 2	
Social Sciences 1, 2, 3 & 4	12 units
Life & Works of Rizal	3 units
TOTAL	160 units

- Bachelor of Science in Tourism (BScT)
- Bachelor of Science in Customs Administration (BScCA)
- Bachelor of Science in Entrepreneurship (BScE)

Faculty with appropriate master's or law degrees should teach at least 25 per cent of business and professional subjects and 35 per cent of general education subjects. All accounting course faculty should be certified public accountants; customs administration faculty should be registered customs brokers. Additionally, faculty should be assigned to teach only courses in their field of specialty.

Curriculum varies slightly for each degree, but the general pattern, presented in Table 15, includes a minimum of 132 to 144 units, of which 60 per cent should be in professional courses and 40 per cent in general education courses.

Master's degrees in the business and management sector include degrees in:

- Management
- Business Administration
- Public Administration
- Business Management

Programs generally require 36 to 44 units of coursework and may include a thesis.

Doctoral programs are offered in:

- public administration
- public management
- business administration
- business management

Two PhD programs are also offered, leading to:

- · PhD in Public Administration
- PhD in Business Administration

Normally, doctoral programs include a total of 24 to 36 units.

The practice of accountancy is regulated by the PRC, therefore BScA graduates must pass the Accountancy Board licensure examination to become Certified Public Accountants (CPAs).

TABLE 15. BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTANCY—
CORE CURRICULUM (CHED)

Humanities Cluster	21 units
English Language/Communication Arts	27 4
Filipino Language	
Literature, Art or Philosophy	
Science Cluster	15 units
Mathematics	10 units
Natural Science	
Information Technology	
Social Sciences Cluster	12 units
	12 units
. ojonotogj	
Sociology	
Anthropology Dhilipping Uistons and Culture	
Philippine History and Culture	
Asian/Western Civilization	
Economics and Taxation, and so on	
Life and Work of Rizal	3 units
Accountancy Preparatory Cluster	12 units
Accounting	
• Finance	
Statistics	
Management	
Business Law	
Marketing	
Foundation Cluster	33 units
 Accounting 	
• Economics	
Business Law	
Taxation	
Business Statistics	
Financial, General Marketing	
Operations and Personnel Management	
Policy or Entrepreneurship	
Major Field Cluster	45 units
Auditing	
Accounting Theory and Practice	
Accounting Systems	
Electives	3 units
TOTAL	144 units

GRADUATE EDUCATION

About one quarter of HEIs offer graduate degree programs. As in Canada, they normally comprise two types: research-based and professional. Both types entail coursework and research, but while research programs require original research and place less emphasis on coursework, professional programs do not require original research for the (generally shorter) thesis or dissertation. Oral defence of the thesis is also typical.

Historically, graduate education has been concentrated in teacher education, public administration and business education; there are few graduate programs in science and engineering. Moreover, the completion rate in graduate programs is low (Bienvenido & Nebres, 2001).

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Students may enrol in postgraduate diploma and certificate programs following the completion of a bachelor's degree. These programs are different from the undergraduate diploma and certificate programs, although they are not necessarily made up of graduate-level courses. They generally last between six months and two years and are composed of courses in a particular field that lead to specialized knowledge for specific professions. Some programs may provide students with transfer credits for graduate studies.

MASTER'S DEGREES

Students may enter master's degree programs following the completion of a bachelor's degree, usually in the same or a closely related field. Other admission requirements may include an entrance examination and minimum grade requirements at the undergraduate level. Master of Arts (MA) and Master of Science (MS) degrees normally require the completion of 30 coursework units, plus original research leading to a thesis that requires oral defence.

Other master's degree programs, known as professional or coursework programs, do not emphasize research, but include a minimum of 36 units of coursework instead. In cases where a thesis is required, it does not have to be based on original research. These master's degrees include the name of the discipline in the title, such as Master in Fine Arts, Master in Nursing or Master of Architecture. (A list of master's degrees is included in Appendix C.)

The Filipino names for master's degree include *masterado*, *dalubhasa* and *kadalubhasaan*. The last two terms, meaning "expert" or "field of study," also sometimes appear on non-master's-level credentials.

Admission requirements for master's degree programs include graduation from a recognized bachelor's degree program and usually an undergraduate grade point average of 2.0 (corresponding to 3.0 on a 4.0 scale) or a mark of B. Individual HEIs may also administer their own entrance examinations (none is mandated by CHED) and interview students. Master's degrees usually take two years of full-time study to complete. Many (if not most) graduate students attend only part-time, however, so programs often offer evening or weekend classes. The time limit for completing a master's degree is generally five years; however, students may reapply to the program in order to complete it and are usually readmitted.

DOCTORAL DEGREES

Like master's degree programs, there are two types of doctoral programs.

- The first type of doctoral program requires defence of a thesis based on original research and confers the title Doctor of Philosophy (*Doktor sa Pilosopiya*) or PhD. It usually consists of 24 coursework units and 12 thesis units.
- The second type of doctoral degree emphasizes coursework and the thesis, if required, does not have to be based on original research. These professional degrees do not lead to a PhD, but instead include the name of the discipline in the title (such as Doctor of Education, Doctor in Management or Doctor of Public Health). They usually require 36 coursework units. (See Appendix D for a list of doctoral degrees.)

Admission requirements for doctoral degree programs normally include the completion of a master's degree, although some programs allow exceptional students to enter directly after earning a bachelor's degree or to transfer from a master's program. A qualifying examination is generally administered after the second semester of study. Students must pass this comprehensive exam in order to earn the degree. Normal completion time for a doctoral degree is around five years, but must be between three and seven years. As at the master's level, many students do not complete their doctoral studies in the allotted amount of time.

Some HEIs may also offer a "PhD by research" program for established scientists who have obtained a master's degree with at least a 1.75 average, plus have seven years of research experience and at least five published papers in refereed journals. They can obtain a PhD by conducting research and submitting a dissertation, without taking any of the usual coursework.

Teacher Education

Since 1994, the Commission on Higher Education has administered teacher education. Prior to this date, teacher education was the responsibility of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports. To help minimize the separation between the training of teachers by CHED and the employment of teachers by the Department of Education (DepED), the Teacher Education Council (TEC) was created in 1994. TEC is composed of representatives of DepED, CHED, the National Commission on Culture and Arts, the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) and regional teacher education centres, as well as teacher representatives from science, mathematics, social studies and language. Among its many functions, TEC:

- identifies and designates the Centers of Excellence for Teachers' Education
- formulates policies and standards in teacher education
- reviews curricula and programs for teacher education and training

A four-year bachelor's degree is the minimum academic requirement for teachers at the pre-primary/preschool, elementary or secondary school level in the Philippines. Students wanting to teach at this level may complete a Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (BECEd), but are only required to have a bachelor's degree with six units of courses related to pre-primary/preschool education. Elementary teachers usually complete the Bachelor of Elementary Education (BEEd) and secondary teachers the Bachelor of Secondary Education (BSEd). Two alternate routes to access the profession include completion of an equivalent four-year bachelor's degree that contains a sufficient number of professional education units within that program or completion of any bachelor's degree plus an additional 18 units in professional education.

The BEEd curriculum generally consists of a minimum of 149 academic units, including 57 units of professional education courses, 68 units in general education and 24

TABLE 16. BACHELOR IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION—
CORE CURRICULUM (CHED)

CORE CURRICULUM (CHED) General Education	68 units
• English	9 units
Literature in English	3 units
•	6 units
i iiipiiio Earigaago	3 units
Filipino Literature	
Natural Sciences	6 units
Mathematics	6 units
Humanities	6 units
Social Sciences	12 units
Mandated Subjects	6 units
Computer Literacy	3 units
Physical Education	8 units
Professional Education	57 units
Human Growth & Development	3 units
 Foundations of Education 1 & 2 	6 units
Principles & Methods of Teaching	3 units
Education Technology	3 units
Education Measurement & Evaluation	3 units
 Introduction to Educational Research 	3 units
Guidance and Counselling	3 units
Social Philosophy 1 & 2	6 units
 Livelihood & Non-Formal Education 	3 units
Community Integration	3 units
 Teaching Strategies 1, 2 & 3 	9 units
Student Teaching	12 units
Area of Concentration	24 units
Communication Arts in English	
Communication Arts in Filipino	
Science & Health	
Mathematics	
Social Studies	
Music, Art & Physical Education	
Values Education	
Early Childhood Education	
Special Education	
Guidance & Counselling	
Home Economics & Livelihood Education	
Educational Technology	
Other	
TOTAL	149 units

units in the concentration subject. The BSEd usually includes 152 to 156 units, at least 48 of which must be professional teacher education courses, with a minimum of 36 to 40 major course units and a minimum of 68 general education course units. An example of a typical BEEd is shown in Table 16.

Only higher education institutions authorized by CHED can offer teacher education programs. Faculty members must have obtained a master's degree in their major field and must also be licensed professional teachers.

Once prospective teachers have earned their degrees and in order to be allowed to teach, they must pass the Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET), administered annually by the PRC. Before 1996, the Professional Board Examination for Teachers (PBET), administered by the Civil Service Commission, stood in place of the LET.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

The National Board for Teachers (NBT), created in 1976, was the first board mandated to regulate the teaching profession. The Philippine Teachers Professionalization Act of 1994 transferred that responsibility to the PRC. In 1995, the Board of Professional Teachers was created to work with the PRC.

Presently, all teachers must have a valid certificate of registration and a valid professional license from the PRC in order to teach at any level (pre-primary/preschool, elementary or secondary) in the Philippines. Qualified applicants are required to pass a written examination and pay the required fees in order to obtain their certificate of registration and professional licence. Teachers must renew their licenses every three years, contingent on their good standing in the profession.

According to The Philippine Teachers Professionalization Act of 1994, in order to be admitted to the examination, applicants must:

- be a citizen of the Philippines or an alien whose country has reciprocity with the Philippines in the practice of teaching
- be at least 18 years of age
- be in good health and of good reputation, with high moral values
- not have been convicted by final judgment by a court for an offence involving moral turpitude

 be a graduate of a school, college or university recognized by the government and possess the specified minimum educational qualifications

The examination for elementary level teachers includes sections on professional and general education, while the examination for secondary level teachers consists of sections on professional and general education plus a section on the field of specialization.

Reports suggest that 100 per cent of the country's working teachers have met the requirements for their profession and are certified to teach (World Education Forum, 2005).

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN TEACHER EDUCATION

Master's degree programs in the field of education include both thesis and non-thesis programs and usually require around 36 to 42 coursework units over two years of fulltime study. Most graduate students are enrolled part-time, however, so it usually takes them more than the prescribed length of time to complete the degree program (see Table 17).

Doctoral degrees in education include research-based Doctor of Philosophy programs such as:

- PhD in Education
- PhD in Agricultural Education
- · PhD in Educational Management
- PhD in Development Education
- PhD in Science Education

There are also professional-practice doctoral degrees, the most common being the Doctor of Education (EdD) and the Doctor of Educational Management (DEdM). Doctoral programs usually consist of 60 coursework units over three years of study, along with the completion of a thesis and a comprehensive examination.

TABLE 17. EXAMPLES OF MASTER'S DEGREES IN EDUCATION

 Graduate Diploma in Education (two-year program offered by the Philippine Normal University and considered equivalent to an MA for employment) 	 Master of Arts in Science Teaching (offered to science teachers)
Master in Science Teaching	Master of Arts in Teaching
Master in Teaching General Science	Master of Arts in Teaching English Language
Master of Arts in Agricultural Education	Master of Education
Master of Arts in Counselling	Master of Science in Education
Master of Arts in Education	Master of Science in Educational Measurement and Evaluation
Master of Arts in Educational Management	Master of Science in Guidance and Counselling
Master of Arts in Elementary Education	Master of Science in Industrial Arts
Master of Arts in English Language Education	Master of Science in Practical Education and Arts
Master of Arts in Industrial Education	Master of Science in Teaching
Master of Arts in Non-Formal Education	Master in Technical Education
Master of Arts in Science Education	

Technical and Vocational Education

Technical and vocational education has not traditionally been the favoured educational path of Filipinos, but enrolment has been steadily increasing in recent years. Now counting well over a million students at the post-secondary level, technical and vocational education training (TVET) programs are an important part of the education system. This sector is allocated around two per cent of the total government education budget.

At the secondary level, students have the option of enrolling in vocational high schools, which follow the same basic education curriculum as general high schools, but with additional technical and vocational classes. As these schools are administered by DepED, secondary vocational education is covered in the section on School Education. The remainder of this section addresses post-secondary TVET only.

There are two main types of TVET programs at the postsecondary level: formal school-based programs, which make up more than half of TVET providers and enrol over a third of TVET students, and non school-based programs.

A note on gender parity: more pronounced than in other education sectors, a greater number of women than men (over 70 per cent of total enrolment) participate in TVET programs.

ADMINISTRATION

The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority is the national government agency responsible for all post-secondary technical and vocational education. TESDA was established through the Technical Education and Skills Development Act of 1994, as one of the recommendations made by the Congressional Commission on Education. TESDA is the merger of three bodies:

- the National Manpower and Youth Council of the Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE)
- the Bureau of Technical and Vocational Education of DECS
- the Apprenticeship Program of DOLE's Bureau of Employment

TESDA's mandate includes:

- coordinating and monitoring skills development programs
- promoting and developing middle-level manpower
- · approving skills standards and tests
- accrediting institutions involved in middle-level manpower development
- funding programs and projects in technical education and skills development
- assisting with trainer training programs

Prior to 1994–95, the DECS Bureau of Technical and Vocational Education was responsible for the administration of post-secondary technical and vocational education.

TVET PROGRAMS

Students have the option to select the type of program they follow as well as the setting in which the training is provided. TESDA-supervised TVET programs can be either formal, where they are taught in a regular academic setting, or non-formal, where training happens in a non-academic setting such as a commercial or industrial environment. Separate TESDA offices administer the two types of TVET programs:

- the Office of Formal Technical and Vocational Education and Training
- the Office of Non-Formal Technical and Vocational Education and Training

TABLE 18.TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION STATISTICS (2003–04)

Number of TVET providers	3,397
Formal Program Enrolment	555,003
 School-based 	491,846
Centre-based	63,157
Non-Formal Program Enrolment	763,085
Community-based	567,778
Enterprise-based	65,455
• Other	129,852
Total Enrolment in TVET Programs	1,318,088
Number of persons assessed	155,582
Number of persons certified	73,160

FORMAL PROGRAMS

Formal TVET programs are conducted either in TESDAoperated facilities, where they are referred to as centrebased programs, or in a traditional academic environment, in which case they are known as school-based programs.

Centre-based programs include classroom and workshop instruction in priority areas identified by TESDA. The sixmonth-long programs offered at these centres usually enrol recent high school graduates and are free of charge.

School-based programs take place in a variety of settings:

- general high schools supervised by DepED
- higher education institutions supervised by CHED
- specialized TVET schools supervised by TESDA

The duration of these programs varies greatly; they can be as short as thirty hours or up to three years in length. Around 40 per cent of TVET providers are HEIs under CHED that offer technical and vocational programs. Over 40 per cent of HEIs offer TVET programs.

NON-FORMAL PROGRAMS

Non-formal TVET programs usually take place in workplace settings such as industrial or commercial facilities. They include:

- · community-based programs
- enterprise-based programs

Both types are supervised by TESDA, which can provide funding or other financial assistance to companies or communities that want to offer the programs.

Community-based programs, offered through local facilities, are usually meant to address a specific need in a region. They are especially beneficial in rural areas where access to formal education is more difficult. These programs can lead to self-employment in small businesses created though entrepreneurship.

Enterprise-based programs take two main forms:

- dual-training systems (DTS)
- apprenticeships

As the name implies, DTS includes two avenues for learning:

- on-the-job training
- classroom instruction

Other government departments may be involved in these programs. Apprenticeship programs focus mainly on practical training and generally last about six months. Apprentices are usually paid during their training period, then employed by the company that trained them.

PROGRAM REGISTRATION AND

ACCREDITATION

TESDA has introduced a unified registration and accreditation system for TVET programs. All public and private institutions offering or intending to offer TVET programs must comply with this system. The first step—registration—is compulsory and involves meeting minimum training standards set by TESDA. Accreditation, a voluntary process run by the Technical and Vocational Education Accrediting Agency of the Philippines (TVEAAP), leads to Philippine TVET Quality Awards

for programs that demonstrate the highest quality. The four levels of accreditation, in ascending order, are:

- bronze
- silver
- gold
- platinum

TESDA approves individual TVET programs, rather than institutions, so it is common to find both recognized and non-recognized programs being offered within the same institution. TESDA maintains a list of the approved programs on its website (see "List of Vocational Institutions with TESDA Authorized Programs" at www.tesda.gov.ph/tvi/default.asp).

Similar to the other levels of education, SO numbers are issued annually to each private TVET program to confirm that they are recognized. TESDA-issued SO numbers appear on student transcripts.

ADMISSION

TESDA presently sets no formal or standard admission requirements for post-secondary TVET programs, but individual institutions and/or programs may require the completion of high school, prior work experience or other entry prerequisites. Until 1994, the National Technical and Vocational Examination was administered nationally and used by some TVET programs to determine admissibility.

CREDENTIALS

Credentials obtained through TVET programs are identified by a variety of titles chosen by the institution or program, including diploma, associate, graduate or certificate. Some of these titles are also used in higher education credentials and, since TVET programs can be offered through HEIs, it can sometimes be difficult to differentiate between the two. TESDA's and CHED's directory of institutions and approved programs can help identify the type of a particular program (for TESDA, see www.tesda.gov.ph/tvi/default.asp; for CHED, see www.ched.gov.ph/hei_dir/index.html).

CERTIFICATION

Since 1994–95, TESDA has authorized all credentials awarded at the completion of TVET programs through a process called the Technical Occupation Qualification and

Certification System (TOQCS). Prior to the creation of TESDA, credentials were approved by the then-DECS through the National Skills Certification Program (NSCP). Regardless of whether the formal or non-formal TVET route is followed, participants must pass qualifying examinations in order to obtain TESDA certification or a National Certificate.

To sit for a National Certificate examination, applicants must first have the qualification requirements developed by TESDA for that level of certification. These requirements include the skills and competencies learned through formal or non-formal TVET programs, or acquired through employment. Other criteria, such as age, physical condition or educational attainment, may also need to be met.

There are four levels of National Certificates. Each level has a corresponding set of skills or competencies as qualification requirements. In Levels I through III, Level III is the most advanced. These three levels are followed by the fourth and highest level of certification—Technician or Master Craftsman, also referred to as National License. The former certification system—NSCP—had only the first three levels; the fourth level was a new category introduced by the TOQCS.

It is important to note that not all occupations offer all levels of certification; some may have only two or three levels. Relatively few have the Technician or Master Craftsman level. Graduates may upgrade their certification level by completing additional training and passing the relevant examinations.

Once a candidate has passed an occupational skills test, TESDA issues a certificate of competency or proficiency. When all competencies within a level have been successfully completed, TESDA issues the candidate a statement of competency indicating the level of certification attained. All graduates of TESDA-supervised schools must complete competency assessments. Graduates of private TVET schools and institutions are encouraged—but not required—to do so. Applicants with prior learning acquired through work experience or relevant education or training may also seek a competency assessment. Only accredited assessment centres are authorized to administer assessments.

The system makes provision for recognition of prior learning, whether acquired through a school or workplace. In other words, job experience can be given equivalencies in terms of formal education. There is no time limit on the attainment of licences or certificates through the TOQCS.

PRIORITY SECTORS

To focus its limited resources, TESDA identifies priority sectors as beneficiaries of its development efforts. Some examples include:

- Agriculture and Fishery
- Processed Food and Beverages

- Tourism
- Decorative Crafts
- Metals and Engineering
- Furniture and Fixtures
- Garments
- Construction
- Maritime

TABLE 19. EXAMPLES OF TVET PROGRAMS

PROGRAM	TYPICAL DURATION
Agribusiness Technology	3 years
Aircraft Maintenance Technology	2 years
Associate Degree in 3D Animation	Not specified
Associate Degree in Web Animation	Not specified
Associate in Aeronautical Science	2 years
Associate in Hotel and Restaurant Service Technology	2 years
Caretaker	100 hours
Certificate in Acupressure/Reflexology	30 hours
Certificate in Caregiver	6 months
Certificate in Computer Maintenance	30 hours
Certificate in Computer Secretarial	2 years
Certificate in Computer Technology	2–3 years
Certificate in Cosmetology	1 year
Certificate in Culinary Arts	1 year
Certificate in General Midwifery	2 years
Certificate in Graphic Arts	4 months
Certificate in Office Administration	1 year
Certificate in Office Applications	1 month
Certificate in Web Development	4 months
Dental Aide	2 years
Dental Laboratory Technician	18 months
Diploma in Business Economics	2 years
Diploma in Financial Accounting	2 years
Diploma in Hotel and Restaurant Management	2 years
Diploma in Information Technology	2 years
Diploma in Office Skills & Management	2 years
Diploma in Tourism	2 years
Diploma in Travel Technology	2 years
Mechanical Technology Major in Automotive	3 years
Modular Certificate in Domestic Helper	160 hours
Modular Certificate in Elderly Care	250 hours
Nursing Aide	1–2 years
Overseas Performing Artist	180–250 hours
X-ray Technician	2 years

TESDA. Retrieved in May, 2005, from www.tesda.gov.ph/

- Land Transport
- Communication/Information Technology/Electronics
- Health and Social Services
- Other Community, Social and Personal Services (TESDA. Retrieved May, 2005, from www.tesda.gov.ph)

Institutions can and do offer programs outside the priority areas. There is a wide variety of TVET programs (see Table 19). TVET programs can last anywhere from 30 hours to three years, but no maximum amount of time is set within which certification requirements must be completed.

TRAINING REGULATIONS

The TESDA website (www.tesda.gov.ph/downloads/default. asp) provides training regulations for the occupational fields listed below. These training regulations describe:

- · the competencies required to obtain certification
- training standards and delivery
- curriculum design
- trainee entry requirements
- tool and equipment lists
- · information on training facilities
- trainer qualifications
- information on national assessment and certification

TABLE 20. TRAINING REGULATIONS AS PUBLISHED BY TESDA

Animal Production	Footwear Making
Aquaculture	Heavy Equipment Operation
Auto Body Painting Finishing	Horticulture
Auto Body Repairing	Housekeeping
Auto Engine Rebuilding	Machining
Auto Servicing	Motorcycle Small Engine Servicing
Bartending	Plumbing
Building Wiring Installation	Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Servicing
Carpentry	Security Services
Commercial Cooking	Tailoring
Deck Seafaring	Tour Guiding Services
Dressmaking	Transport Refrigeration & AC Servicing
Driving	Travel Services
Engine Seafaring	Welding
Food & Beverage Services	

TESDA. Available from www.tesda.gov.ph/downloads/default.asp

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

TESDA provides financial assistance not only to TVET providers, but also to students and faculty.

The Private Education Student Fund Assistance is a scholarship support fund for secondary school students who intend to take registered post-secondary technical—vocational courses. Through this program, the government wants to encourage high school graduates to take operative, craftsmen and technician courses in the private technical—vocational schools.

The TESDA College Faculty Development Fund (TESDA-CFDF) provides assistance to teachers and faculty in private education through:

- local scholarship and/or training
- workshops or seminars for the completion of a master's or doctoral degree
- the enhancement of faculty members' capabilities in trade areas identified by TVET

The main objective of the program is to enhance the academic qualifications and teaching competencies of TVET faculty from the private technical-vocational institutions.

GRADING SCALES

TABLE 21. MAIN SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADING SCALE

PERCENTAGE	LETTER GRADE	DESCRIPTIVE GRADE
95–100	Α	Excellent
90–94	B+	Very Good
85–89	В	Good
80–84	B	Satisfactory
75–79	С	Fairly Satisfactory
74 or less	F	Needs Special Help

^{*}The lowest grade that can appear on the secondary school report card is 65 per cent; any lower grade will be recorded as 65 per cent.

TABLE 22. OTHER SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADING SCALES

PERCENTAGE	LETTER GRADE	NUMERICAL GRADE	IQAS GRADE
97–100	Α	1.00	96
94–96	A-	1.50	88
91–93	B+	1.75	82
88–90	В	2.00	77
85–87	B-	2.25	71
80–84	C+	2.50	63
75–79	C or D	3.00 or 3.50	53
0–74	D or F	4.00 or 5.00	<50

TABLE 23. MOST COMMONLY USED GRADING SCALE AT THE TERTIARY LEVEL

PERCENTAGE	LETTER GRADE	NUMERICAL GRADE	DESCRIPTIVE GRADE	IQAS GRADE
95–100	A+	1.00	Excellent	95
	Α	1.25		87
90–94	A-	1.50	Very good	82
	B+	1.75		77
85–89	В	2.00	Good	73
	B-	2.25		69
80–84	C+	2.50	Fair or Satisfactory	65
	C	2.75		61
75–79	C-	3.00	Pass	56
70–74	D	4.00	Conditional Fail	52
Below 70	F	5.00	Fail	<50
		INC	Incomplete	

OTHER TERTIARY LEVEL GRADING SCALES

TABLE 24. SHORTER 3.0 ASCENDING SCALE

NUMERICAL GRADE	DESCRIPTIVE GRADE
1.0	Excellent
2.0	Pass
3.0	Fail

TABLE 25. REVERSE 4.0 DESCENDING SCALE

	NUMERICAL	DESCRIPTIVE	
LETTER GRADE	GRADE	GRADE	IQAS GRADE
Α	4.0	Excellent	95
	3.5	Very Good	85
В	3.0	Good	77
	2.5	Above Average	71
С	2.0	Average	65
	1.5	Below Average	59
D	1.0	Bare Pass/Poor	53
F	0.0	Fail	<50

Documentation

People who have been through the Philippine education system may present a wide variety of documentation. Documents may be issued by schools, universities and colleges, DepED, CHED, TESDA, the PRC and, occasionally, by other government or educational agencies.

Although it is by no means a complete list, documents obtained at the different levels of education and which one can expect to encounter when assessing the qualifications of people educated in the Philippines are listed below followed by a short description of each.

- Elementary Education
 - + Form 137-E, permanent record
 - Form 138-E, report card
 - Certificate of Graduation (Katunayan)
- Secondary Education
 - Form 137-A
 - Form 138-A
 - Diploma (Katibayan)
 - Certificate of Graduation (Katunayan)
 - NCEE (from 1974 to 1994)
- Higher Education
 - Official Transcript of Record(s)
 - Diploma
 - Professional Registration and/or Licence
- Technical-Vocational Education
 - Official Transcript of Record(s)
 - Diploma
 - Certificate of Competency, Certificate of Proficiency or Certificate of Training

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

- Form 137-E (Elementary School Permanent Record) lists all grades and the general average of the student. The format of Form 137-E is not standardized, therefore each school will have its own version. It should always include the words Form 137 or Form 137-E and the school's name.
- Form 138-E (Elementary School Report Card) lists all courses with the grades achieved. It is issued to the student once on leaving or completing elementary education.
- Diploma (*Katibayan*) is issued by the school on completion of elementary school.
- Certificate of graduation (*Katunayan*) is issued by DepED upon completion of elementary school.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

- Form 137-A (High School Permanent Record) lists all courses with grades and indicates whether a student has graduated. The format of Form 137-A is not standardized, therefore each school will have its own version. However, it should include the words Form 137 or Form 137-A and the school's name. High schools attached to HEIs will sometimes use the words Form 137-HS.
- Form 138-A (High School Report Card, Secondary School), issued by the school to students once they leave school because of graduation or another reason, lists all courses with grades and indicates whether a student has graduated.
- Diploma (Katibayan) is issued by the school on completion of secondary school.
- Certificate of graduation (Katunayan) is issued by DepED on completion of secondary school. Certificates issued by private schools may list the SO number.

The NCEE (National College Entrance Examination) was administered to students from 1974 to 1994 as a prerequisite for university and college admission. It no longer exists and has not been replaced by another entrance examination.

HIGHER EDUCATION

- Transcript of records, issued by the last institution attended, lists all courses taken over the course of studies, including courses taken in different programs and/or at different institutions. Course names, number of units or credits obtained, and grades are usually noted in chronological order. Title of degree and date granted are also listed. Where required, the SO number also appears on the transcript of records.
- Diploma, issued by the institution, varies in language (English, Filipino and Latin, or combinations thereof) and format. Title of degree, date granted and institution's name appear on the document, which is usually signed by the president, registrar and dean of the university or college. The SO number will also often appear on the diploma.
- Professional registration or licence, issued by the PRC for regulated professions.

TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL

EDUCATION

Because of the wide variety of routes and formats of technical and vocational education available, documentation varies tremendously. At this time, these are rough guidelines of what to expect.

- Transcript of records, issued by the institution or program attended, contains the list of courses and the grades and units or credits obtained, including internships or field work.
- Diploma, issued by the institution or program attended, may vary in language and format. Title of degree, date granted and institution's name appear on the document, which is usually signed by institution officials such as the dean, registrar or chancellor.
- Certificate of Competency, Certificate of Proficiency or Certificate of Training, issued by TESDA. It indicates the name of the program and which training competencies were acquired towards it.

SPECIAL ORDER NUMBERS

SO numbers are one of the government's ways of monitoring the private education sector. They are issued to each private school to certify that its graduates have completed a recognized program and usually appear on student transcripts and/or certificate of graduation or diploma. Schools must submit a request for an SO number for each group of graduates, every year, so each cohort will have a unique number. SO numbers are required of all private secondary schools, higher education institutions, and technical and vocational programs with the exceptions noted in Table 8.

RECOGNITION STATUS OF

INSTITUTIONS

The following websites can help with the verification of an institution or program's current recognition (authorization to operate) by the government:

Basic Education (Elementary and Secondary)

- DepED public schools: www.deped.gov.ph/public/ public.asp
- DepED private schools: www.deped.gov.ph/private/ private.asp

Higher Education

 CHED HEI Directory: www.ched.gov.ph/hei_dir/ index.html

Technical and Vocational Education

- Vocational institutions with TESDA-authorized programs: www.tesda.gov.ph/tvi/default.asp
- Training institutions authorized to offer programs for overseas performing artists: www.tesda.gov.ph/ traininginst/opa.asp

Other authorized programs, such as non-formal TVET programs, are not currently listed on the TESDA website. Confirmation of their recognition status may be obtained by contacting appropriate TESDA officials.

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INTERNET RESOURCES

PHILIPPINE WEBSITES

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Overseas Filipino Workers' Remittances (www.bsp.gov.ph/statistics/spei/tab11.htm)

Center for Educational Measurement, Inc. (www.cem-inc.org/)

Commission on Higher Education (www.ched.gov.ph/)

Department of Education (www.deped.gov.ph/)

National Commission for Culture and the Arts (www.ncca.gov.ph/culture&arts/cularts/others/language/language-policies.htm)

Philippine National Statistical Coordination Board (www.nscb.gov.ph/)

Republic of the Philippines Government—Education (www.gov.ph/cat_education/)

Republic of the Philippines Government—Education: History (www.deped.gov.ph/about_deped/history.asp)

Republic of the Philippines Government—National Statistics Office (www.census.gov.ph/data/sectordata/2003/fl03_tab01.htm)

Republic of the Philippines Government—Professional Regulation Commission (www.prc.gov.ph/)

Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (www.tesda.gov.ph/)

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UNESCO, International Institute for Educational Planning. Arcelo, Adriano A. (Author). In Pursuit of Continuing Quality in Higher Education Through Accreditation: The Philippine Experience. (www.unesco.org/iiep/PDF/pubs/philippines.pdf)

UNESCO, World Education Forum, Philippines Country Education for All (EFA) Assessment Report. (Retrieved February, 2005, from www2.unesco.org/wef/countryreports/philippines/contents.html)

UNESCO, Institute for Statistics. *Intended Instruction Time* (1999), Teachers for Tomorrow's Schools, World Education Indicators. (Retrieved April, 2005, from www.uis.unesco.org/)

Appendix A—List of private HEIs granted autonomy or deregulated status by CHED (may 2005)

University of La Salette Lorna Colleges University of St. Louis University of Luxon Saint Mary's University Saint Louis College—City of San Fernando Saint Mary's University Saint Louis College—City of San Fernando Angless University Foundation Union Christian College Balliag University University of Regina Carmell Adventist University of the Philippines Wesleyan University—Philippines (Cabanatuan) Central Philippine University De La Salle University—Dasmarifies John B. Laccon Colleges Foundation—Molo Manuel S. Enverage University Desmarifies John B. Laccon Colleges Foundation—Molo Saret Heart College of Lucena University of San Agustin Saret Meart College of Lucena University of San Agustin Sant Marcial's College of Lucena Holy Name University Alence De Naga University Saint Paul College of Dumaguete University of Legacy Silliana University Alence De Naga University University of San Jose—Recoletos Saint Thoras's College of Cobu University of San Jose—Recoletos Saint Thoras's College of Cobu Valver University Capito University Alence De Davou University	HEIS GRANTED AUTONOMY	HEIS GRANTED DEREGULATED STATUS
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Commission on Higher Education, Retrieved February 2005, from www.ched.gov.ph/etatictics/av2003_0/HESR vis		

 $Commission \ on \ Higher \ Education. \ Retrieved \ February, 2005, from \ www.ched.gov.ph/statistics/ay 2003_04 HESB.xls$

Appendix B—Placement Recommendations

Placement recommendations provide guidelines for comparing international and Canadian educational credentials and standards. These recommendations are advisory in nature, and indicate the general level of a credential in Canadian terms.

Placement recommendations represent benchmark assessments and do not cover all credentials. However, the fact that a credential is not mentioned in the placement recommendations does not mean it cannot be assessed by IQAS. International credentials not specifically covered should be referred to IQAS for individual evaluation.

Given the different educational philosophies, objectives and program structures in educational systems around the world, evaluation in terms of direct equivalence to specific Canadian credentials is not possible. For this reason IQAS placement recommendations are made in terms of 'generally compares' to and not 'equivalent' to.

When evaluating international credentials IQAS considers the following:

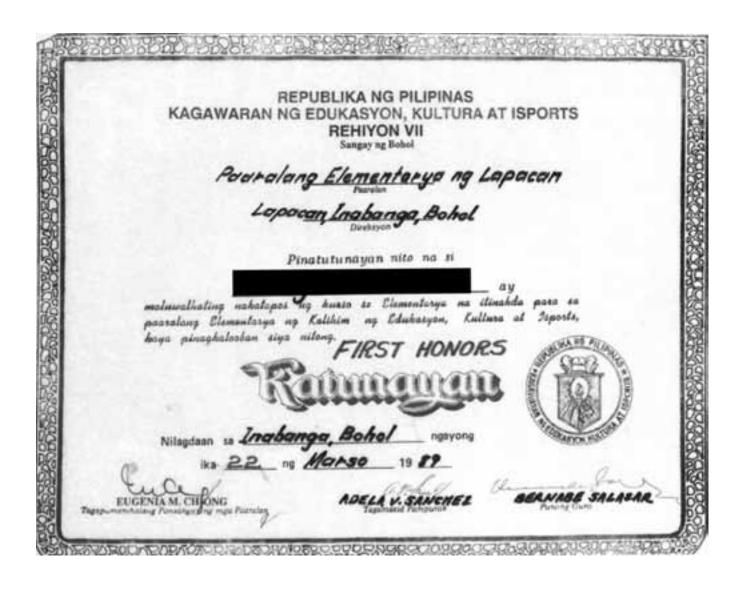
- + the education system of the country concerned
- the recognition of the awarding institution
- the level, length and structure of the program

When appropriate, IQAS may:

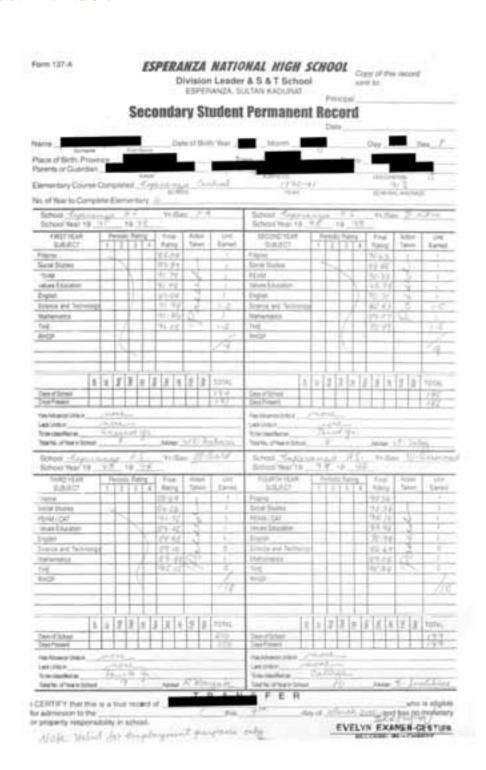
- consider that comparison to a different level of education may more accurately reflect the level of the international credential in Canadian terms
- combine two or more credentials

Credential Name	ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS	LENGTH OF STUDY	IQAS RECOMMENDATION
High School Diploma	Completion of Elementary School (6 or 7 years)	4 years	Generally compares to the completion of grade 11.
Certificate or Diploma (one- to three-year post-secondary program)	Completion of High School	1 – 3 years	The combination of High School Diploma and a one-year Certificate or Diploma generally compares to the completion of grade 12, including vocational/or technical/or professional training. A two-year Certificate or Diploma generally compares to the completion of a one-year post-secondary certificate (or one year of undergraduate study). A three-year Certificate or Diploma generally compares to the completion of a two-year post-secondary diploma (or two years of undergraduate study).
Associate's Degree	Completion of High School	2 – 3 years	A two-year Associate's Degree generally compares to the completion of a one-year post-secondary certificate (or one year of undergraduate study). A three-year Associate's Degree generally compares to the completion of a two-year post-secondary diploma (or two years of undergraduate study).
Bachelor's Degree	Completion of High School	4 years	Generally compares to the completion of a three-year bachelor's degree.
Bachelor's Degree (Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy)	Completion of High School	5 years, including one year of internship	Generally compares to the completion of a three-year bachelor's degree, plus one year of internship (in the same field).
Bachelor's Degree (Engineering, Architecture)	Completion of High School	5 years	Generally compares to the completion of a four-year bachelor's degree.
First Professional Degree (Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Dental Medicine, Doctor of Optometry, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Bachelor of Laws, Juris Doctor)	Completion of High School	6 years (minimum)	Generally compares to a first professional degree
Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma	Completion of Bachelor's degree	½ year – 2 years	Assessed individually depending upon duration and type of courses taken.
Master's Degree	Completion of Bachelor's degree	2 years	Generally compares to the completion of a one-year master's degree.
Master of Business Administration, Management, Public Administration, Business Management, etc.	Completion of Bachelor's degree	2 years	Generally compares to the completion of a one- year degree in Master of Business Administration, Management, Public Administration, Business Management, etc.
PhD or Doctoral degree	Completion of Master's degree	3 years (minimum)	Generally compares to the completion of an advanced graduate-level degree. The scope and nature of the degree should be assessed by an expert in the field.

Appendix C—Sample Documents elementary school diploma



HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT



HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS

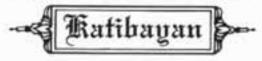
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SANGAY NG SULTAN KUDARAT

MATAAS NA PAARALANG PAMBANSA NG ESPERANZA

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Nilagdaan sa Esperanza, Sultan Kudarat Pilipinas ngayong ika 27 ng Marso, 1995

SABANDIYA A BAKABAGAN

HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT

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HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT PALAKASAN

REHIVON III

PANIQUI , TARLAC

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ay maluwalhating nakatapos ng kurso sa Sekundarya na itinakda para sa malaas na paaralan ng Kagawaran ng Edukasyon, Kultura at Palakasan, kaya pinagkalooban siya nitong SHATTED HER THIS



DIPLOMA

Nilagdaan sa Paniqui, Tarlac, Pilipinas

ngayong ika- 29 ng Marso 1992. HTER RIHT 1992.

susa b. Miguel

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SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Philippine Christian University

Science High School

This certifies that

has satisfactorily completed the Secondary Science Curriculum prescribed for high school by the Department of Education and is therefore awarded this

Diploma

Signed in Dasmarinas, Cavite, Philippines, this 23rd day of March 1990.

DR. OSCAR S. SUAREZ

President

MR. NOLASCO B. MORALES

Principal

Ryacia: Older (A) (NDR) No. 8, 1990

Gavernment Recognition No. 52 Series of 1947

SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL CERTIFICATION



Philippine Christian University Pala-pala, Dasmariñas, Cavite Tel. Nos. 416-5523 to 27

SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL

CERTIFICATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

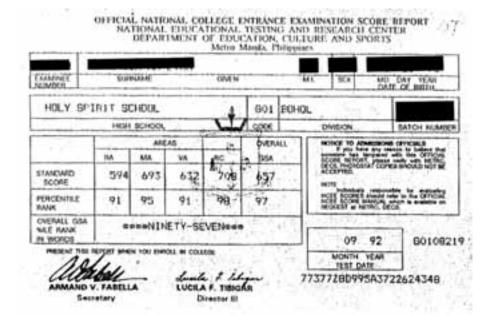
This is to certify that has satisfactorily completed the GENERAL SECONDARY COURSE at the above institution as prescribed by the Department of Education, Culture & Sports on March 23, 1990 granted with DECS-NCR Special Order (A) No. Series of 1990.

This certification is issued this I" day of March, 2004 upon request of the interested party for whatever purposes it may serve her best.

MRS, EDWINA N. CONTRANO Unit Registrar

Not redid without School Seed

NATIONAL COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION (NCEE) RESULTS



CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

PORTUNATON DESUVO

Cebu City

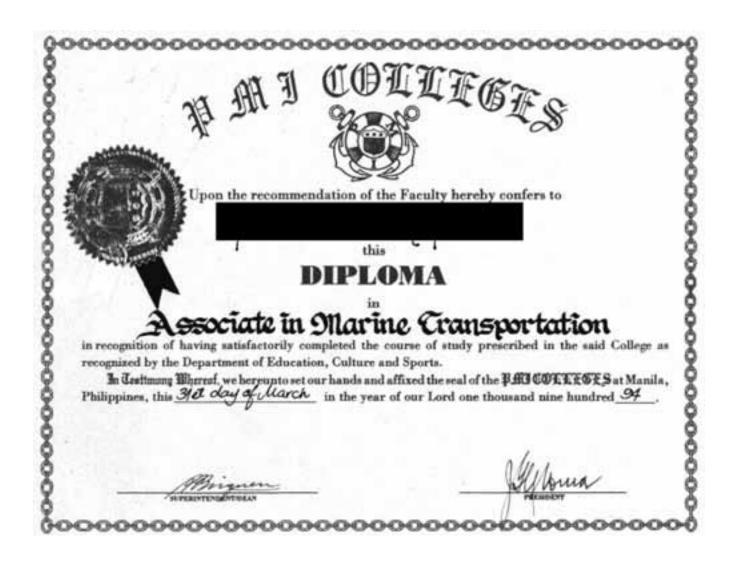
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ASSOCIATE IN MARINE TRANSPORTATION, CERTIFICATION



ASSOCIATE IN MARINE TRANSPORTATION, DIPLOMA



ASSOCIATE IN MARINE TRANSPORTATION, TRANSCRIPT, PAGE I OF 2

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ASSOCIATE IN MARINE TRANSPORTATION, TRANSCRIPT, PAGE 2 OF 2

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ASSOCIATE/BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY, TRANSCRIPT, PAGE I OF 4

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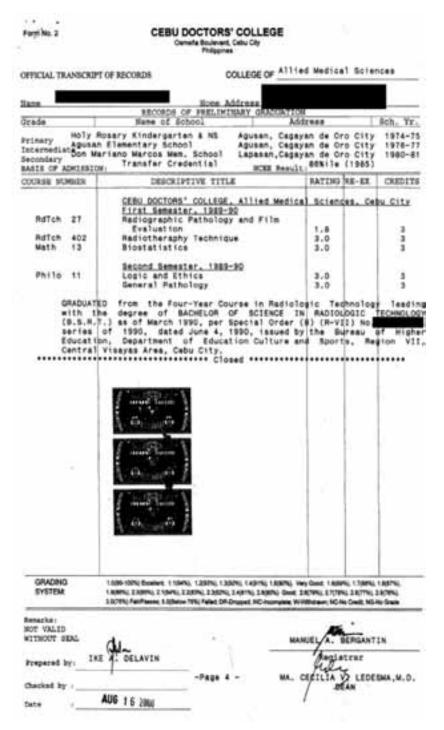
ASSOCIATE/BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY, TRANSCRIPT, PAGE 2 OF 4

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ASSOCIATE/BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY, TRANSCRIPT, PAGE 3 OF 4

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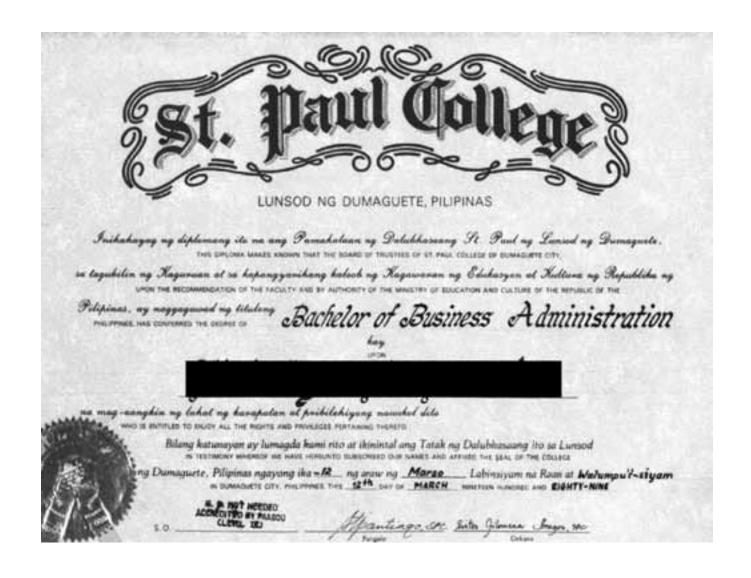
BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, TRANSCRIPT, PAGE I OF 2

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING, TRANSCRIPT, PAGE I OF 2

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING, TRANSCRIPT, PAGE 2 OF 2

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING, SPECIAL ORDER NUMBER

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EAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS

(Department of Education, Culture and Sports)

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SPECIAL ORDER (B) No. 8 19 93 November 11, 1993

On the basis of the records submitted by the AQUINAS UNIVERSITY, Legazpi City, approval of the eligibility for graduation of the following as of "ctober, 1993" upon the successful completion of the work now being taken in the Four-Tear Course in Nursing leading to the degree of Michigan of Science in Nursing (8.5.8.)

is hereby given and made a matter of records:

(Walid for One (1) Student Only ;

The foregoing approval is valid only for **October*, 1993**
The approval for any one candidate for graduation is automatically cancelled if he does not complete the full requirements for the course on the date specified and is subject to revocation if the records upon which the approval is based are later found not correct.

(NOT VALID WITHOUT SEAL OR WITH ERASURE OR ALTERATION)

For the Secretary of Education, 'ulture and Sports;

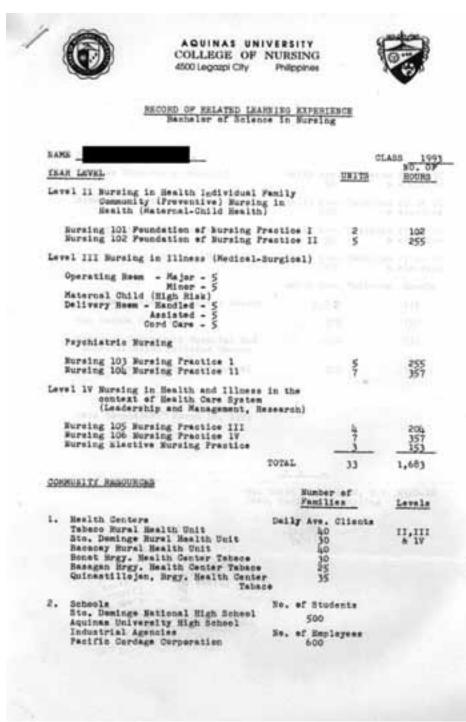
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CELERINO A. MAGDAONG
UNIVERSITY REGISTRAN
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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING, RECORD OF RELATED LEARNING EXPERIENCE, PAGE I OF 2



BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING, RECORD OF RELATED LEARNING EXPERIENCE, PAGE 2 OF 2



AQUINAS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NURSING 4500 Legazpi City Philippines



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Date Completed: March 18, 1993

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MA. CLARA LL. RUBINO, R.N., MAED-NE Dean, College of Nursing

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING, DIPLOMA



PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION CERTIFICATE, REGISTERED NURSE



PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION CERTIFICATION, NURSING LICENCE

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CERTIFICATE IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION, DIPLOMA



MASTER OF ARTS IN NURSING, TRANSCRIPT

DOCTOR OF DENTAL MEDICINE, TRANSCRIPT, PAGE I OF 3



DOCTOR OF DENTAL MEDICINE, TRANSCRIPT, PAGE 2 OF 3



DOCTOR OF DENTAL MEDICINE, TRANSCRIPT, PAGE 3 OF 3



SIX-MONTHS CAREGIVER COURSE, TRANSCRIPT



SIX MONTHS CAREGIVER COURSE, DIPLOMA

The Philippine Women's University System

and its Affiliate Schools for Men and Women Taft Avenue, Manila

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTER.

awards this

Certificate of Completion

to

for having satisfactorily completed

Six Months Caregiver Course

Done in Manila this 30th day of April in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety nine.

CHANCELLOR

Confine Rose Poty ton

SERVICEMAN ON DOMESTIC EQUIPMENT, REFRIGERATION AND AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNOLOGY MODULE, CERTIFICATE OF TRAINING



MASTER IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, TRANSCRIPT, PART I OF 2



MASTER IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, TRANSCRIPT, PART 2 OF 2

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MASTER IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, DIPLOMA

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HERMINIA D. TORRES , Ph. D.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

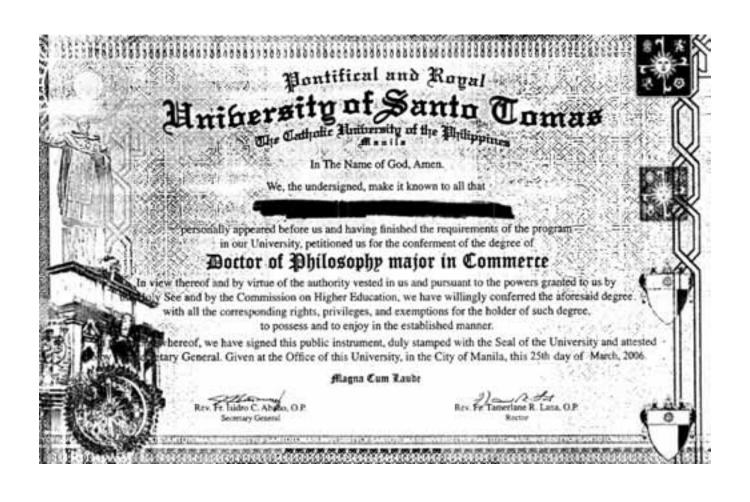
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DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY, TRANSCRIPT

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DOCTORATE OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD), DIPLOMA



Appendix D—CHED Centres of Excellence and Development by region, sector and discipline

INSTITUTION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE Information Technology Teacher Education Agricultural Engineering Pangasinan State University Fisheries Fisheries (Aparri Campus) Marino Sciences Cageyan State University Cageyan State University Eacher Education Architecture Cageyan State University Sabela State University-Cabagan State University - Cabagan Forestry Education Architecture Chill Engineering Geodetic Engineering Eacher Education Fisheries Aurority University of La Salette Argicultural Engineering Information Technology University Foundation Bulacan State University Agriculture Bulacan State University Fisheries Agriculture Bulacan State University Fisheries Agriculture Bulacan State University Fisheries Control Engineering Agriculture Bulacan State University Fisheries Control Engineering Agriculture Bulacan State University Fisheries Control Engineering Information Technology Electrical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Fisheries Chemistry Fisheries Chemistry Fisheries Bulacan State University Fisheries Capetal University Fisheries Capetal University Fisheries Fisheries Bulacan State University Fisheries Fisheries Bulacan State University Fisheries Fisheries Fisheries Bulacan State University Fisheries Fisheries Bulacan State University Fisheries Fisheries Fisheries Bulacan State University Fisheries Fisher		DISCIPLINE	
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	Veterinary Education	
Aquinas University	Teacher Education	Computer Engineering
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Ateneo de Naga		Information Technology
	Teacher Education	Ų.
Bicol University	Fisheries	
		Chemical Engineering
		Civil Engineering
Central Philippines University		Electrical Engineering
		Mechanical Engineering
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University of Negros Occidental–Recoletos		Information Technology
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		Electronics & Communications Engineering
University of St. La Salle		Chemical Engineering
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	Agriculture	
Visayas State College of Agriculture	Agricultural Engineering	
	Forestry Education	
Ateneo de Zamboanga		Business
Aleneo de Zamboanga		Information Technology
St. Columban College		Information Technology
Western Mindanao State University	Teacher Education	Architecture
Zamboanga State College of Marine Science & Technology	Fisheries	Marine Sciences
Cagayan Capitol Colleges		Civil Engineering
Central Mindanao University	Agriculture	Biology
Certifal Minualiao Offiversity	Forestry Education	
Liceo de Cagayan	Nursing	
Mindanao Polytechnic State College		Mathematics
Mindanao State University-Naawan		Marine Sciences
Misamis University		Information Technology
	Teacher Education, Sociology	Business
		Civil Engineering
		Chemistry
Vaujor University		Medicine
Xavier University		Electrical Engineering
		Chemical Engineering
		Mechanical Engineering
		Information Technology
	Teacher Education	Biology
		Business
Ateneo de Davao University		Chemistry
		Math
		Information Technology
Notre Dame of Marbel University	Teacher Education	Information Technology
San Pedro College	Nursing	
		Chemical Engineering
University of Mindanao		Civil Engineering
		Electrical Engineering
University of Mindanao		Mechanical Engineering
University of Couthenators Philippings		Electrical Engineering
University of Southeastern Philippines		Electronics & Communications Engineering

Center of Excellence Center of Development		DISCIPLINE		
Mindanao State University—lligan Physics Metallurgical Engineering Physics Metallurgical Engineering Civil Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Information Technology Information Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Information E	INSTITUTION	CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	CENTER OF DEVELOPMENT	
Mindanao State University-iligan Biology Civil Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mindanao State University-iligan Mindanao State University-iligan Mindanao State University-Harawi Mindanao State University-Marawi Mindanao State University-Marawi Mindanao State University-Marawi Mindanao State University-Marawi Indomation Technology Mindanao State University of Southern Mindanao Agriculture Electrical Engineering Computer Engineering Geology Industrial Engineering Computer Engineering Computer Engineering Geology Industrial Engineering Civil Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical University Atteneo de Manila Univers		Chemistry	Ceramics Engineering	
Biology Civil Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Electrical Engineering Information Technology Mindanao State University-Marawi Teacher Education Chemistry Information Technology University of Southern Mindanao Agriculture Adamson University Adamson University Adamson University Biology Chemistry Alamson University Biology Business, Information Technology Analysiness Philosophy Physics Philosophy Paychology English Aleneo de Manila University De La Salle University Methalical Engineering Chemistry Methalical Engineering Biology Business Literature Mindanao State University Methalical Engineering Electronica Engineering Aleneo de Manila University De La Salle University Math Physics English Filipino Chemistry Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronica & Communication Engineering Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronica & Communication Engineering Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronica & Communication Engineering Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronica & Communication Engineering		Math	Electronics & Communication Engineering	
Mindanao State University—Iligan Mindanao State University—Marawi Mindanao State University—Marawi Teacher Education Teacher Education Teacher Education Teacher Education Teacher Education Agriculture Electrical Engineering Computer Engineering Geology Industrial Engineering Geology Industrial Engineering Civil Engineering Civil Engineering Civil Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Mechanical Engineering Delectronics & Communication Engineering Delectronics & Communication Engineering Industrial Engineering English Filipino Chemictor Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering	Mindanao State University-Iligan	Physics	Metallurgical Engineering	
Mindanao State University-Iligan Electrical Engineering Information Technology Mindanao State University-Marawi Teacher Education Chemistry Information Technology University of Southern Mindanao Agriculture Electrical Engineering Adamson University Electrical Engineering Computer Engineering Adamson University Chemical Engineering Adamson University Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Civil Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Mechanical Engineering Business, Information Technology Alteneo de Manila University Math Phyliosophy Phyliosophy Paychology English Ateneo de Manila University Literature Biology Business English Electronics & Communication Ingineering Chemistry Information Technology De La Salle University Math Physics English English Information Technology Math Physics English Englis		Biology	Civil Engineering	
Mindanao State University—Marawi Teacher Education Agriculture Electrical Engineering Computer Engineering Geology Industrial Engineering Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Rechamical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Mechanical Engineering Biology Chemistry Math Physics Philosophy English Ateneo de Manila University Literature Biology Business Civil Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Math Ateneo de Manila University De La Salle University Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering			Mechanical Engineering	
Mindanao State University—Marawi University of Southern Mindanao Agriculture Electrical Engineering Computer Engineering Geology Industrial Engineering Civil Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Civil Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Civil Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Mechanical Engineering English Alteneo de Manila University De La Salle University De La Salle University English Eng	Mindone Chale Hairray it. History		Electrical Engineering	
Mindanao State University of Southern Mindanao Agriculture Electrical Engineering Computer Engineering Geology Industrial Engineering Chemical Engineering Civil Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Mechanical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Information Technology English Information Technology Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering	Milidaliao State Oliversity—iligali		Information Technology	
University of Southern Mindanao Agriculture Electrical Engineering Computer Engineering Geology Adamson University Adamson University Adamson University Biology Business, Information Technology Atteneo de Manila University Atteneo de Mani	Mindonoo Ctoto University Mercuri	Teacher Education	Chemistry	
Electrical Engineering Computer Engineering Computer Engineering Geology	Milidaliao State Oliversity-Marawi		Information Technology	
Adamson University Computer Engineering Adamson University Geology Industrial Engineering Chemical Engineering Civil Engineering Civil Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Beloty Mechanical Engineering Business, Information Technology Sociology Business, Information Technology Chemistry Chemistry Math	University of Southern Mindanao	Agriculture		
Adamson University Geology Adamson University Industrial Engineering Chemical Engineering Civil Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanida University Math Physics			Electrical Engineering	
Adamson University Industrial Engineering Chemical Engineering Chemical Engineering Civil Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Biology Business, Information Technology Sociology Chemistry Math			Computer Engineering	
Adamson University Chemical Engineering Civil Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Biology Sociology Chemistry Math Physics Philosophy Psychology English Ateneo de Manila University Ateneo de Manila University De La Salle University De La Salle University Electronics & Communication Engineering Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Covil English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering			Geology	
Chemical Engineering Civil Engineering Civil Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Mechanical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Biology Sociology Chemistry Math Physics Philosophy English Ateneo de Manila University De La Salle University Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Civil Engineering Industrial Engineering Information Technology Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering	Adamaan University		Industrial Engineering	
Electronics & Communication Engineering Mechanical Engineering Biology Sociology Chemistry Math Physics Philosophy Psychology English Ateneo de Manila University Electronics & Communication Engineering Math Ateneo de Manila University De La Salle University Electronics & Communication Engineering Electronics & Communic	Adamson University		Chemical Engineering	
Biology Business, Information Technology Sociology Chemistry Math Physics Philosophy Psychology English Ateneo de Manila University Biology Business Literature Biology Business Literature Civil Engineering Industrial Engineering Chemistry Information Technology Math Physics English Chemical Engineering Chemistry Information Technology Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering			Civil Engineering	
Biology Sociology Chemistry Math Physics Philosophy Psychology English Plica Salle University De La Salle University Biology Math Physics Civil Engineering Information Technology Math Physics English Chemistry Mechanical Engineering English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering			Electronics & Communication Engineering	
Ateneo de Manila University Ateneo de Manila University Math Physics Philosophy Psychology English Ateneo de Manila University De La Salle University Sociology Chemical Engineering English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering			Mechanical Engineering	
Ateneo de Manila University Math Physics Philosophy Psychology English Ateneo de Manila University Ateneo de Manila University Literature Biology Business Literature Civil Engineering Industrial Engineering Information Technology Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering		Biology	Business, Information Technology	
Ateneo de Manila University Physics		Sociology		
Ateneo de Manila University Physics Philosophy Psychology English Ateneo de Manila University Literature Biology Business Literature Civil Engineering Mechanical Engineering Industrial Engineering Information Technology Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering		Chemistry		
Physics Philosophy Psychology English Ateneo de Manila University Literature Biology Literature Civil Engineering Industrial Engineering Chemistry Information Technology Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering	Anna de Manile Università	Math		
Psychology English Ateneo de Manila University Literature Biology Business Literature Civil Engineering Industrial Engineering Chemistry Information Technology Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering	Ateneo de Maniia University	Physics		
English Ateneo de Manila University Literature Biology Business Literature Civil Engineering Mechanical Engineering Industrial Engineering Chemistry Information Technology Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering		Philosophy		
Ateneo de Manila University Biology Business Literature Civil Engineering Mechanical Engineering Industrial Engineering Chemistry Information Technology		Psychology		
Biology Literature Civil Engineering Mechanical Engineering Industrial Engineering Chemistry Information Technology Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering		English		
Literature Civil Engineering Mechanical Engineering Industrial Engineering Chemistry Information Technology Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering	Ateneo de Manila University	Literature		
Mechanical Engineering Industrial Engineering Chemistry Information Technology Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering		Biology	Business	
De La Salle University Math Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering		Literature	Civil Engineering	
De La Salle University Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering		Mechanical Engineering	Industrial Engineering	
Physics English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering		Chemistry	Information Technology	
English Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering	D 1 0 " 11 " "	Math		
Filipino Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering	De La Salle University	Physics		
Chemical Engineering Electronics & Communication Engineering		English		
Electronics & Communication Engineering		Filipino		
Fast Asia College		Electronics & Communication Engineering		
Information roomougy	East Asia College		Information Technology	

	DISCIPLINE		
INSTITUTION	CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	CENTER OF DEVELOPMENT	
		Chemical Engineering	
		Metallurgical Engineering	
Mapua Institute of Technology		Mining Engineering	
		Geology	
Philipping Normal University	Teacher Education		
Philippine Normal University	Filipino		
Polytechnic University of the Philippines	Information Technology		
Technological University of the Philippines		Civil Engineering	
		Mechanical Engineering	
		Electrical Engineering	
	Chemistry	Biology	
	Architecture	Industrial Engineering	
	Medicine	Business	
University of Santo Tomas	Music	Chemical Engineering	
	Nursing	Electrical Engineering	
	Philosophy	Civil Engineering	
	Literature	Mechanical Engineering	
University of Santo Tomas	Electronics & Communication Engineering		
	Biology	Business	
	English	Electronic & Communications Engineering	
	Political Science	Mining Engineering	
	Journalism	Chemical Engineering	
	Industrial Engineering	Civil Engineering	
	Filipino, Geology		
	Chemistry	Mechanical Engineering	
	Math	Computer Engineering	
	Marine Science	Information Technology	
	Music		
	Physics		
University of the Philippines-Diliman	Foreign Languages		
	Literature		
	Economics		
	Psychology		
	Sociology		
	Communication Arts		
	Architecture		
	Electrical Engineering		
	Geodetic Engineering		
	Metallurgical Engineering		
	Anthropology		
	History		

	DISCIPLINE		
INSTITUTION	CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	CENTER OF DEVELOPMENT	
University of the Philippines–Manila	Medicine	Biology	
	Nursing		
Baguio Colleges Foundation		Sanitary Engineering	
		Information Technology	
Benguet State University	Agriculture		
St. Louis University	Teacher Education	Business	
	Nursing	Electronics & Communications Engineering	
		Mechanical Engineering	
		Architecture	
		Civil Engineering	
		Electrical Engineering	
		Industrial Engineering	
University of Baguio		Sanitary Engineering	
University of the Philippines–Baguio		Biology	
		Math	
		Physics	
Notre Dame of Jolo		Teacher Education	
San Nicolas College		Teacher Education	

 $Commission \ on \ Higher \ Education. \ Retrieved \ February, 2005, from \ www.ched.gov.ph/statistics/ay 2003_04 HESB.xls$

Appendix E—Master's Degrees

Master of Arts [in many fields]
Master of Science [in many fields]
Master in Agricultural Development

Master in Agricultural Technology Education

Master in Applied Business Economics

Master in Business Education Master in Community Health Master in Computer Applications Master in Computer Science Master in Customs Administration

Master in Customs Administration

Master in Development Education

Master in Development Management

Master in Divinity

Master in Educational Management Master in Electrical Technology Master in Engineering Management

Master in Fine Arts

Master in Fisheries Technology

Master in General and Pastoral Sociology Master in Health Professions Education

Master in Health Studies

Master in Hospital Administration

Master in Industrial Engineering Management

Master in International Studies Master in Language Studies

Master in Local Government Administration

Master in Management Master in Ministry Master in Music Master in Nursing

Master in Occupational Health Master in Participatory Development

Master in Pastoral Care
Master in Physical Education
Master in Police Management
Master in Public Administration

Master in Public/Government Administration

Master in Public Health Master in Public Management Master in Professional Studies Master in Resource Development Master in Resource Management

Master in Shipping Business Management Master in Social Government Management Master in Social Studies Master in Social Work Master in Spiritual Life

Master in Technical Teacher Education Master in Technology Education Master of Agrarian Studies

Master of Agriculture

Master of Applied Science in Systems Agriculture

Master of Applied Statistics Master of Architecture Master of Arts in Teaching

Master of Business and Government Administration

Master of Business Administration Master of Community Development

Master of Dental Science

Master of Divinity in Various Subjects Master of Educational Ministries

Master of Electrical Engineering Education

Master of Engineering Education

Master of Family Life and Child Development Master of Food Service Administration

Master of Forestry

Master of Home Economics Master of Industrial Relations

Master of Laws

Master of Library Science

Master of Resource Systems Management

Master of Rural Development Master of Social Work Master of Statistics

Master of Teaching Technology Master of Technician Education Master of Theological Studies

Note: This list may not be complete and is subject to change. Please consult CHED website (www.ched.gov.ph/hei_dir/index.html) for master's degrees not listed here.

Appendix F—Doctoral Degrees

Doctor of Philosophy [in many fields] (PhD)

Doctor of Arts [in many fields]

Doctor in Management

Doctor in Public Management

Doctor of Arts in Language and Literature

Doctor of Business Administration

Doctor of Business Management

Doctor of Education

Doctor of Educational Management

Doctor of Fisheries Technology

Doctor of Jurisprudence

Doctor of Management

Doctor of Ministry

Doctor of Organization Development and Transformation

Doctor of Public Administration

Doctor of Public Health

Doctor of Technology

Doctor of Technology Education

Note: This list may not be complete and is subject to

change. Please consult CHED website (www.ched.gov.ph/

hei_dir/index.html) for master's degrees not listed here.



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