



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VIII - EASTERN VISAYAS

September 13, 2021

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. **000518**, s. 2021

**REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE ON AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
SCHOLARSHIP (ARDS)**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is **MEMORANDUM OU-LAPP No. Q-391, s.2021** from **Tonisito M.C. Umali, Esq., Undersecretary for Legislative Affairs, External Partnerships and School Sports** dated **August 18, 2021**, entitled Request for Assistance on Agricultural and Rural Development Scholarships (ARDS), for information and guidance of all concerned.
2. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.


MA. GEMMA MERCADO LEDESMA
Regional Director

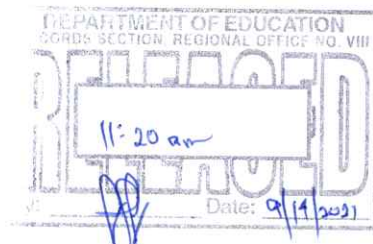
Enclosure: As stated

Reference: As stated

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:

ASSISTANCE AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP

HRDD-RVR





Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY
Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

MEMORANDUM

OU-LAPP No. Q-391, s.2021

FOR : **BARMM MINISTER FOR BASIC, HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

ALL CONCERNED REGIONAL DIRECTORS
(Regions V, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII, CAR and CARAGA)

ALL CONCERNED SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
(Apayao, Catanduanes, Masbate, Sorsogon, Negros Oriental, Siquijor, Eastern Samar, Northern Samar, Western Samar, Zamboanga del Norte, Bukidnon, Lanao del Norte, North Cotabato, Sarangani, Sultan Kudarat, Surigao del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao and Sulu)

ATTENTION : **Concerned Regional Partnerships Focal Persons**
Concerned Division Partnerships Focal Persons

FROM : 
TONISITO M.C. UMALI, Esq.
Undersecretary

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE ON AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP (ARDS)**

DATE : August 18, 2021

The Agricultural and Rural Development Scholarship (ARDS) is a scholarship program created on October 10, 1977 by virtue of the Presidential Decree No. 1209 (PD 1209). The scholarship is offered to deserving but needy learners through the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) Learning Resource Center (LRC). It supports national agricultural and rural development efforts by training learners to become drivers and implementers of agricultural and rural development in the least developed regions of the Philippines. ARDS already produced 475 graduate scholars who are now influential leaders in all sectors of the society.

In January 2019, the Agricultural and Rural Development Scholarship, Incorporated (ARDS Inc.) was formed as a non-profit organization composed of past scholarship grantees and other concerned individuals as its members. The organization aims to work with UPLB by providing additional funding support to the ARDS through the initiative of its members. It encourages and helps more deserving learners from the least developed regions to pursue and successfully complete their university studies in UPLB.

ARDS Inc. identified priority schools in the following provinces as possible recipients of the said scholarship:

1. CAR	Apayao
2. Region V	Catanduanes, Masbate and Sorsogon
3. Region VII	Negros Oriental and Siquijor
4. Region VIII	Eastern Samar, Northern Samar and Western Samar
5. Region IX	Zamboanga del Norte
6. Region X	Bukidnon and Lanao Del Norte
7. Region XII	North Cotabato, Sarangani and Sultan Kudarat
8. CARAGA	Surigao del Norte and Agusan del Sur
9. BARMM	Lanao Del Sur, Maguindanao and Sulu

In line with this, ARDS Inc. will directly coordinate with your good offices for assistance on the contact details and other important information of all the public secondary schools of the identified provinces in your respective areas. The said **data will be used by ARDS Inc. in the mapping of the possible scholars of their program.**

In view of the foregoing processing of information/data, it must be noted that sharing of information should be consistent with the provisions of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10173, or the Data Privacy Act (DPA) of 2012.

Personal information about an individual's education is considered as sensitive personal information. Section 13 of the DPA prohibits the processing of sensitive personal information, except:

xxx

(b) The processing of the same is provided for by existing laws and regulations: Provided, That such regulatory enactments guarantee the protection of the sensitive personal information and the privileged information: Provided, further, That the consent of the data subjects are not required by law or regulation permitting the processing of the sensitive personal information or the privileged information.

xxx

It is noteworthy that DepEd is mandated to provide every student to receive quality education, under Batas Pambansa (B.P.) 232, otherwise known as the Education Act of 1982, RA 9155, otherwise known as the Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001, and RA 10533, otherwise known as the Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013.

Therefore, to provide quality basic education under the law pursuant to its mandate, **the sharing and/or processing of information/data to determine the possible scholar under this program is allowed without the need for the consent of the data subjects.**

However, we recommend the drafting of Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) consistent with Circular No. 2020-03 titled, Data Sharing Agreements, dated 23 December 2020 to protect the rights of the data subject and to further facilitate the details/steps of the sharing/processing of information/data.

DSA may be done individually with each region wherein the partner will directly contact the concerned region to determine the possible beneficiary of the scholarship and there will be a separate DSA per region.

Further, please note that although the disclosure of personal information is supported by a constitutional or statutory mandate of government agencies, Section 11 of the DPA provides that the processing of information must adhere to the general data privacy principles of **transparency, legitimate purpose, and proportionality**. Thus, it must be **limited only** to what is necessary in achieving the said purpose and it **must not be shared** to external parties unless there is a **consent**.

Attached is the detailed information about the ARDS for your information and reference.

For inquiries and additional information, please coordinate with the following personnel from ARDS for assistance:

Nora Blanca Caberoy, Ph.D.
email: nora.caberoy@unlv.edu

Llorente V.R. Bonaga, Ph.D.
email: lvbonaga@gmail.com
llorente.bonaga@merck.com

External Partnerships Service
email: externalpartnerships@deped.gov.ph

Thank you very much.

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