



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

March 9, 2026

**REGIONAL MEMORANDUM**

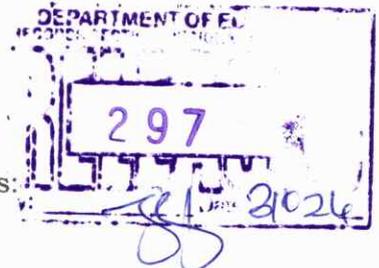
No. **297** 2026

**APPLICATION FOR THE 2026 ASEAN-JAPAN EXCHANGE PROGRAM  
 FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS**

To: Schools Division Superintendents  
 Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads  
 All Others Concerned

- Pursuant to the attached Memorandum DM-LS-2026-089 from the Office of the Undersecretary for Learning System dated February 24, 2026, this Office, through the Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD), announces the application for the 2026 ASEAN-Japan exchange program for secondary school Principals.
- For inquiries, all concerned may directly contact **Ms. Janinn Almeyda-Mendoza**, Education Program Specialist and SPFL Lead focal person via email at **bcd.od@deped.gov.ph** and **bcd.scpd.spfl@deped.gov.ph** or **Ms. Kelly Ko**, JFM Program Officer via email at **Kelly@jpf.go.jp**.
- Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

**RONELO AL K. FIRMO CESO IV**  
 Assistant Regional Director  
 Officer-In-Charge  
 Office of the Regional Director



Enclosures: None  
 References: As stated  
 To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:

APPLICATION                      LANGUAGE                      PROGRAM

CLMD-ACA



Address: Government Center, Candahug, Palo, Leyte  
 Telephone No.: (053) 832-5738  
 Email Address: region8@deped.gov.ph  
 Website: region8.deped.gov.ph





Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
 OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR LEARNING SYSTEMS

RECEIVED  
 RONELO ALMEYDA MENDOZA  
 OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR  
 Office of the Regional Director  
 SIGNATURE

**MEMORANDUM**  
 DM-LS-2026- 089

**TO :** ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS

**ATTENTION :** REGIONAL SPECIAL PROGRAM IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE  
 (SPFL) SUPERVISORS  
 SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS  
 SCHOOL HEADS  
 ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
**RECEIVED**  
 RECORDS SECTION REGIONAL OFFICE NO. VIII  
 DATE: 03-06-24  
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**FROM :** *Carmela Oracion*  
**CARMELA C. ORACION**  
 Assistant Secretary  
 Officer-in-Charge  
 Office of the Undersecretary for Learning Systems

**SUBJECT :** CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2026 ASEAN-JAPAN  
 EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL  
 PRINCIPALS

**DATE :** February 24, 2026

The Department of Education, through the Bureau of Curriculum Development - Special Curricular Programs Division, announces the **call for applications for the 2026 ASEAN-Japan Exchange Program for Secondary School Principals**, scheduled on **June 7-14, 2026** in **Tokyo and Sendai, Japan**.

The exchange program is under the **Partnership to Co-create a Future with the Next Generation: WA Project 2.0**, a comprehensive people-to-people exchange initiative aimed at promoting exchange activities and fostering human resources in Japan and ASEAN countries. Participation will be sponsored by the Japan Foundation Manila, the training provider and partner of this Department in the implementation of the Special Program in Foreign Language (SPFL)-Japanese.

Applications are open to all school heads from schools implementing SPFL-Japanese across the country and who meet the eligibility criteria provided in Appendix A.

Interested school heads must respond to the application form until **March 9, 2026** via this link: <https://tinyurl.com/2026ASEAN-JapanEPforPrincipals>.

For inquiries, all concerned may contact Ms. Janinn Almeyda-Mendoza, Supervising Education Program Specialist and SPFL Lead Focal Person, through email at



DPO EMAIL 2/26/26



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**Department of Education**  
OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR LEARNING SYSTEMS

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[bcd.od@deped.gov.ph](mailto:bcd.od@deped.gov.ph) and [bcd.scpd.spfl@deped.gov.ph](mailto:bcd.scpd.spfl@deped.gov.ph), or Ms. Kelly Ko, JFM Program Officer, through email at [Kelly@jpf.go.jp](mailto:Kelly@jpf.go.jp).

Immediate dissemination of this memorandum is requested.

*Copy furnished:*

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

**WILFREDO E. CABRAL**

Undersecretary for Human Resources and Organizational Development

**MALCOLM S. GARMA**

Undersecretary for Operations



Republic of the Philippines  
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OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR LEARNING SYSTEMS

*Appendix A*

**Eligibility Criteria for the 2026 ASEAN-Japan Exchange Program  
for Secondary School Principals**

1. SPFL-Japanese school heads/principals who are not scheduled to resign, leave their position, or retire (due to mandatory age-related retirement or other reasons) within one year from **June 30, 2026**.
2. Individuals who are willing to continue teaching and giving lectures about Japan at their schools, utilizing the experiences and knowledge gained through the program. Alternatively, individuals who wish to continue engaging with Japanese schools after returning to their home country.
3. Individuals who fully understand the aims and objectives of the program and are committed to participating in the entire program schedule. Note that extensions or changes to the itinerary for personal reasons, or being accompanied by family members, are not permitted.
4. Individuals who are able to communicate effectively in English.
5. Individuals who are in good physical and mental health and will not experience difficulty participating in the full duration of the program independently.
6. Individuals who can set up a PC and Wi-Fi environment and participate in program briefings using online meeting tools (i.e., Zoom).
7. Individuals who are eager to contribute to the promotion of a better understanding of Japanese culture in their home country upon returning, in collaboration with the Japan Foundation office and/or the Japanese Embassy.
8. Individuals who already possess a valid passport at the time of application or who can obtain a valid passport by the time of application.