



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

Advisory No. **124**, s. 2026
August 10, 2026

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013
This advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,
but only for the information of DepEd officials,
personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public.
(Visit deped.in/region8.deped.gov.ph)

**2026 PATALASAN SA #YAMANGKALAWAKAN: THE ANECHOIC
CHAMBER EXPERIMENT CHALLENGE**

Attached is a letter from Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA) inviting students and teachers to participate in the Philippine Space Agency's 2026 Patalasan sa "Yamangkalawakan: The Anechoic Chamber Experiment Challenges.

The Philippine Space Agency as the central government agency mandated on addressing all national issues and activities related to space science and technology applications will be conducting its annual Philippine Space Week (PSW) starting August 8, 2026 to August 14, 2026 with the theme: "Navigating Tomorrow", mirroring the ASEAN 2026 theme, "Navigating our Future, Together."

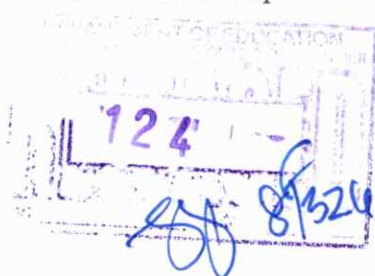
As part of their activity is the 2026 Patalasan sa #YamangKalawakan: The Anechoic Chamber Experiment Challenge. The details of the event such as participants, schedule, venue, registration link, and contest mechanics and guidelines are all stipulated in the attached letter from PhilSA.

More information and clarification on the registration and application may be inquired from:

REINABELLE C. REYES, PhD
Director IV, Space Science Missions Bureau
Contact No.: (+632) 856 899 31
Email Add: info@philsa.gov.ph

Considering that this is an Advisory, Schools Division Superintendents are given the discretion to act on this matter.

CLMD-EPF





Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Philippine Space Agency



31 July 2026

DR. SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ
Regional Director
Department of Education Region - Region VIII
Gov't. Center, Candahug, Palo, Leyte

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECEIVED
RECORDS SECTION REGIONAL OFFICE NO. VIII
DATE: 8/5/2026
TRACKING #: 9051 TIME: 11:17 am
SIGNATURE: _____

**Subject: INVITATION FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS TO PARTICIPATE
IN THE PHILIPPINE SPACE AGENCY'S 2026 PATALASAN SA
#YAMANGKALAWAKAN: THE ANECHOIC CHAMBER
EXPERIMENT CHALLENGE**

RECEIVED
8/5/26 1:55 pm
OFFICE OF THE ASST. REGIONAL DIRECTOR
SIGNATURE: _____

Dear **Dr. Jimenez:**

Greetings from the Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA)!

The Philippine Space Agency, the central government agency mandated on addressing all national issues and activities related to space science and technology applications, is annually celebrating the Philippine Space Week (PSW) every 8 to 14 August. This year's celebration will be held under the theme "Navigating Tomorrow," mirroring the ASEAN 2026 theme, "Navigating Our Future, Together."

As part of this year's PSW celebration, the agency is organizing the 2026 Patalasan sa #YamangKalawakan: The Anechoic Chamber Experiment Challenge. This national, proposal-based science competition invites teams consisting of two to five (2-5) Filipino high school students to design original, space science-adjacent experiments to be conducted inside the Fully Anechoic Chamber (FAC) at the Antenna Measurement and Testing Facility of UP Diliman. The competition is open to all high school students nationwide and has two categories — Junior High School and Senior High School. The winning team from each category will be mentored by PhilSA scientists and engineers and will have the opportunity to conduct their experiment inside the Fully Anechoic Chamber through an all-expense-paid study tour. Additionally, each winning team will receive a cash prize of fifty thousand pesos (Php 50,000.00).

To support the students in developing high-quality experiment proposals, a Mission Briefing Series on the use of FAC and its role in space science and engineering research will be conducted from 8 – 14 August. Interested students need to register through <https://bit.ly/RegistrationFACMissionBriefing> to access the sessions and the associated learning resources. Full details of the schedule of the sessions are available in the attached Contest Mechanics and Guidelines.



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In connection with this, we respectfully request your good office to disseminate this invitation to all public and private secondary schools within your region. By encouraging participation, we hope to inspire young minds to explore STEM fields and highlight the creative side of space science and technology applications.

Attached to this letter are the Contest Mechanics and Guidelines and Submission forms.

PhilSA will formally notify the winners via email, and the official list will be announced through PhilSA's official communication channels. Similarly, the names of the winners, along with their respective schools and winning entries will be featured and promoted on PhilSA's official website and social media pages.

Important Dates

Dates	Activities
August 08 - 14	Live Sessions: Mission Briefing (Synchronous online)
August 03 - September 27	Access to Mission Briefing Series platform
September 27	Deadline for Submission of Experiment Proposals
October 01 - 07	Judging of Submitted Experiment Proposals
October 09	Announcement of Winners (Online)
November 10 - 12	Study Tour

For questions and clarifications, you may contact **Mr. Neil Juvert F. Valentino**, Science Research Specialist of the Space Education and Scholarships Division at sesd@philisa.gov.ph or through +632 8568 99 31.

Hoping that this request merits your favorable action.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,



REINABELLE C. REYES, Ph.D.

Director IV, Space Science Missions Bureau

Reference No.: SSMB-RCR-E2026-133

Enclosures: 1. *Mechanics and Guidelines*
2. *Submission Forms*



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MECHANICS AND GUIDELINES

The 2026 Patalasan sa #YamangKalawan: The Full Anechoic Chamber (FAC) Experiment Challenge is a national proposal-based science competition that invites a team of up to five Filipino high school students to design original, space science-adjacent experiments to be conducted inside the FAC at the Antenna Measurement and Testing Facility in UP Diliman, Quezon City Metro Manila.

The Challenge/Mission

Propose a simple experiment that can be safely conducted inside the Full Anechoic Chamber (FAC). The experiment must be relevant to space science, satellite engineering, and other space technology applications.

Contest Mechanics and Guidelines

1. The competition is open to all Filipino high school students currently enrolled in an educational institution in the Philippines. It has two categories:
 - 1.1. Junior High School (Grades 7–10) Track
 - 1.2. Senior High School (Grades 11–12) Track
2. Officials and employees of PhilSA, and their relatives up to the second degree of affinity or consanguinity, are not eligible to join the contest.
3. Participants must form a team consisting of two (2) to five (5) students and one (1) teacher-coach. Team members may come from the same school or from different schools. For multi-school teams, the teacher-coach must belong to the same school as the designated Team Leader.
4. Teams, through their team leader and teacher-coach, must notify PhilSA for any change in the team composition during the competition. Substitution or replacement of any team members is subject to PhilSA approval.
5. There is no limit to the number of proposals that a team can submit. However, each proposal must be submitted separately.
6. Proposals must follow the prescribed template accessible at <https://bit.ly/FACSubmissionForm>. It typically has the following parts – title, statement of the problem, hypothesis, materials and equipment needed, experiment setup diagram, step-by-step experiment procedure, and references – and forms part of the FAC Experiment Challenge submission form.

7. Specialized materials must be identified in the proposal and are subject to safety, availability, and facility compatibility review. PhilSA shall provide the materials and consumables required for the conduct of the winning experiment proposal.
8. Proposed experiments must not introduce hazards, contamination risks, or activities that can damage the facility or obstruct safe movement. PhilSA and UP reserve the right to substitute or restrict any material based on safety and facility rules. Below are prohibited items or activities:
 - 8.1. Dangerous materials (flammable, corrosive, toxic).
 - 8.2. Scattering of tiny objects (powders, confetti, small loose parts) that can contaminate the chamber or instrumentation.
 - 8.3. Fragile objects (e.g., glass) and sharp-edged materials.
 - 8.4. Large-mass, high-speed spinning objects.
9. Proposed experiments involving prohibited or hazardous materials or activities that will compromise the safety and integrity of the FAC shall be disqualified.
10. If the proposed experiment requires a radiofrequency emitting device, specify the required frequency, power levels, bands and other relevant specifications of the RF-emitting device. Check the full specifications of the FAC for compatibility here - <https://stamina4space.philsa.gov.ph/facility-fac/index.html>
11. Generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude) may be used only as supplementary aids for brainstorming, improving clarity, or formatting of the proposed experiment. Core scientific ideas, design, analysis, and conclusions must remain the team's original work. All AI use must be disclosed in the AI Declaration Form, signed by the Team Leader and teacher-coach.
12. The use of AI to generate experiment concepts and procedures, write substantial technical content, or fabricate data is strictly prohibited and is a ground for disqualification of the contest entry.
13. To submit an entry to the competition, teams must complete the FAC Experiment Challenge Submission form accessible at <https://bit.ly/FACSubmissionForm> along with the following supporting documents.
 - 13.1. Certificate of Endorsement to be signed by School Head. For multi-school teams, each student shall obtain endorsement from the School Head of their respective school.
 - 13.2. Certificate of Undertaking
 - 13.3. AI-Assisted Declaration Form, if applicable
 - 13.4. Copy of student's school ID (front and back)
 - 13.5. Copy of teacher-coach ID (front and back)
14. Entry submissions are accepted through any of the following channels

- 14.1. Online — The team leader or representative completes the online form and upload documents at



<https://bit.ly/FACExptChallenge>

- 14.2. By email — The team leader or representative sends to sesd@philsa.gov.ph the complete submission package with subject “[School Name] – The Full Anechoic Chamber Experiment Challenge Submission.”
- 14.3. By courier — The team leader or representative sends the complete submission package to the Space Education and Scholarships Division, Philippine Space Agency, 29th Floor Cyber One Bldg., 11 Eastwood Ave., Bagumbayan, Quezon City.
15. The deadline for submission is **September 27, 2026, 11:59 PM**. Only entries with complete documents will be evaluated. Late submissions are not accepted.
16. All submitted works remain the property of their respective owners but may be used by PhilSA in publications, websites, social media, educational materials, and other informational content exclusively for the promotion of space education.
17. Entries will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Criteria	Description	Weight
Scientific Merit	Soundness of the hypothesis, relevance of the concept, and appropriateness of the proposed method.	35%
Feasibility in the FAC	Practicality, safety, and suitability of the experiment for implementation inside the full anechoic chamber.	25%
Novelty and Creativity	Novelty of the experiment, and the extent to which the experiment's design genuinely requires the FAC's controlled, interference-free environment — rather than being incidental to it.	20%
Clarity and Completeness	Organization, completeness, and comprehensibility of the proposal package.	20%
Total		100%

18. First place winners for each category shall receive the following:

- all-expense paid study tour at PhilSA where they conduct their proposed experiment under direct scientific supervision. Tentative date of the study tour is 9 – 13 November 2026
- Php 50,000.00 cash prize
- Medals and plaque of recognition

19. PhilSA will cover travel expenses for the registered student members and teacher-coach of the winning team only. Any accompanying parent, guardian, or school official shall shoulder their own travel and related expenses.

Mission Briefing Sessions

1. Mission Briefing sessions to support participants in developing high-quality experiment proposals are scheduled in the week of August 8 – 14:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Mission Title and Mission Goal</i>
August 8 (Saturday)	10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Understanding the Full Anechoic Chamber Mission Goal: Understand what the FAC is, how it works, and its role in satellite and antenna testing.
August 10 (Monday)	6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Fundamentals of Waves Mission Goal: Grasp the basic physics of electromagnetic and mechanical waves that the experiments will rely on.
August 11 (Tuesday)	6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Importance of Controlled Environments Mission Goal: Examine the principles of electromagnetic shielding and reflection control, and why they are essential for reliable testing.
August 12 (Wednesday)	6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Free Tools and Applications for Experiments Mission Goal: Explore free, accessible software tools and apps that students can use to design, run, and analyze experiments.
August 13 (Thursday)	6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Sample Experiments at the FAC Mission Goal: Identify safe, feasible, and Space Science and Technology Applications (SSTA)-aligned experiments that can be effectively conducted inside the Full Anechoic Chamber (FAC).
August 14 (Friday)	6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	How to Fill Out the Experiment Proposal Template Mission Goal: Walk through the Experiment Proposal template section by section, mapped to the judging rubric.

2. To access the sessions and the associated learning resources, participants must register through: <https://bit.ly/RegistrationFACMissionBriefing>.

3. After successful registration and enrollment, participants access the learning platform of the Mission Briefing Series through <https://learning.philsa.gov.ph>.
4. All recordings and learning materials will be made available to the registered participants until 27 September 2026.

Important Dates

Dates	Activities
August 08 - 14	Live Sessions: Mission Briefing (Synchronous online)
August 03 - September 27	Access to Mission Briefing Series platform
September 27	Deadline for Submission of Experiment Proposals
October 01 - 07	Judging of Submitted Experiment Proposals
October 09	Announcement of Winners (Online)
November 10 - 12	Study Tour

For Inquiries: please contact Neil Juvert F. Valentino of the Space Education and Scholarships Division, Philippine Space Agency at sesd@philsa.gov.ph or thru +63 9174744789



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SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Review the checklist before submitting. Please ensure that all required documents are attached and filled out; only entries with complete submissions will be evaluated.

	Item
☐	Submission Form
☐	Experiment Proposal
☐	Certificate of Undertaking (each member of the team must accomplish and submit)
☐	Certificate of Endorsement signed by the School Head (each member of the team must submit)
☐	AI-Assisted Declaration Form, if applicable
☐	Copy of Student's School ID (front and back)
☐	Copy of Teacher-coach ID (front and back)



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SUBMISSION FORM

(Note: One submission form per entry. For multiple submissions, submit separate forms for each entry)

Entry # (for PhilSA use only)

Category: ☐ Junior High School ☐ Senior High School

1. Participant's Information

Team Name:					
Title of the Experiment:					
Team Leader:	Name:				
	School: (write in full)				
	School Address:			Region:	
	E-mail address:			Age:	
	Contact Number:			Grade level:	
Assistant Leader:	Name:				
	School:				
	E-mail address:			Age:	
	Contact Number:			Grade level:	
Member/s :	Name:				
	School:				
	E-mail address:			Age:	
	Contact Number:			Grade level:	
	Name:				
	School:				
	E-mail address:			Age:	
	Contact Number:			Grade level:	
	Name:				
	School:				
	E-mail address:			Age:	
	Contact Number:			Grade level:	

2. Teacher-Coach and School Head Information



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Note: For multi-school teams, provide only the information on the Team Leader's Teacher-Coach and School Head.

Teacher-Coach	Name:	
	Contact No.:	
	E-mail:	
School Head	Name:	
	Contact No.:	
	E-mail:	

☐ I/We, the _____ agree with the Terms and Conditions
[TEAM NAME]

indicated in the 2026 Patalasan sa #YamangKalawakan: The Full Anechoic Chamber Experiment Challenge

Signature of Team Leader: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Teacher – Coach: _____ Date: _____



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EXPERIMENT PROPOSAL

Complete all sections. Ensure all information provided is accurate and aligned with the mechanics and guidelines of the contest.

EXPERIMENT TITLE

Provide a clear, concise, and descriptive title for your experiment.

Write the full title of your experiment here.

1. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Describe the scientific problem or knowledge gap your experiment addresses. Explain why this question matters and how it relates to anechoic chamber science.

State the problem, its context, significance, and the specific scientific question you will investigate.

2. HYPOTHESIS

State a testable hypothesis (If-Then-Because format) or a clearly focused research question directly tied to your proposed experiment in the Full Anechoic Chamber.

Hypothesis: If [independent variable], then [expected outcome], because [scientific reasoning].
—OR— Research Question: How does [variable] affect [outcome] under controlled anechoic conditions?



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3. MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED

List all materials, instruments, and equipment. Include quantities and specifications. Please note that PhilSA and UP reserve the right to substitute or restrict any material based on safety and facility rules. Proposals must not introduce hazards, contamination risks, or activities that can damage the facility or obstruct safe movement

Prohibited / High-Risk Materials are not allowed such as:

- Dangerous materials (flammable, corrosive, toxic).
- Scattering of tiny objects (powders, confetti, small loose parts) that can contaminate the chamber or instrumentation.
- Fragile objects (e.g., glass) and sharp-edged materials.
- Large-mass, high speed spinning objects

If the proposed experiment requires a radiofrequency emitting device, specify the required frequency, power levels, bands and other relevant specifications of the RF-emitting device. Check the full specifications of the FAC for compatibility here - <https://stamina4space.philsa.gov.ph/facility-fac/index.html>

#	Material / Equipment	Quantity / Specification
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
Add more rows as needed.		

4. EXPERIMENT SETUP DIAGRAM

Provide a labeled diagram or schematic of your experimental setup inside the Full Anechoic Chamber. Hand-drawn or digital illustrations are both acceptable. Ensure all components are clearly labeled.

[Insert labeled setup diagram here]

(Hand-drawn or digital illustration is acceptable)



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Figure 1 Caption: *Briefly describe what the diagram shows.*

5. STEP-BY-STEP EXPERIMENT PROCEDURE

Describe the procedure in clear, numbered steps so another researcher can replicate the experiment. Include: pre-experiment setup, calibration or baseline checks, safety precautions, step-by-step actions, and the estimated time needed to complete each major task.

Step 1:

Step 2:

Step 3:

Step 4:

Step 5:

Step 6:

Step 7:

Step 8:

Add more steps as needed.

REFERENCES

NOT counted in the five (5)-page limit. *List all sources cited/used in the proposal body following a consistent reference format.*

*Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of work. Publisher / Journal, volume(issue), pages.
<https://doi.org/xxxxx> List each reference as a separate entry.*



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CERTIFICATE OF UNDERTAKING

(Note: To be accomplished by each member of the team)

I _____ (name of participant), currently residing at _____ (address), affirm that I am voluntarily participating in 2026 Patalasan sa #YamangKalawakan: The Anechoic Chamber Experiment Challenge organized by the Philippine Space Agency.

By signing below, I certify that:

- I am a Filipino currently residing in the Philippines, and the information I provided in the official submission form and supporting documents is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- I understand and accept the rules, mechanics, and requirements of the competition.
- I confirm that the proposal I submitted is original.
- I consent to the collection and processing of my personal information, submitted files, and supporting documents for eligibility screening, technical verification, judging, documentation, awarding, exhibition, and other related activities of the Philippine Space Agency.
- I consent to the Philippine Space Agency's use, reproduction, storage, adaptation, publication, or distribution of my submitted proposal for official, educational, informational, promotional, and exhibit-related purposes, with appropriate credit given to me as the participant.
- If selected as a winner, I consent to attend the study tour from November 9 to 13 in Metro Manila
- I understand that incomplete, inaccessible, falsified, plagiarized, or non-compliant submissions may be disqualified.
- I certify that I am not an official or employee of PhilSA, nor a relative up to the second degree of affinity or consanguinity of any PhilSA official or employee.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2026.

_____ Signature over Printed Name	_____ Signature over Printed Name of Parent /Guardian (this part is required for participants below 18 years old)
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CERTIFICATE OF ENDORSEMENT

This is to certify that _____, a bona fide student of Grade _____ at _____ (school), is officially endorsed to participate in the 2026 Patalasan sa #YamangKalawakan: The Anechoic Chamber Experiment Challenge organized by the Philippine Space Agency.

Name of School Head: _____
Signature and Date: _____



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AI-Assisted Declaration

(if applicable)

I/we hereby declare that I/we have written the proposal independently and have sought assistance of artificial intelligence (AI) tools including but not limited to, ChatGPT, DALL-E2, Stable Diffusion, Lumen 5, Gen-1, Looka, and Grammarly, the details of which are reflected below.

Signature over Printed Name of Team Leader: _____ Date: _____

Signature over Printed Name of Teacher-Coach: _____ Date: _____

Direction: Please list every use and describe your specific intent, the AI service you used, the prompts you used to create the AI output, and the location in your proposal where the AI output was applied to. To give a reference, you can follow the APA style guide:

<https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

Add the complete list and descriptions to this declaration form.

(add page if necessary)