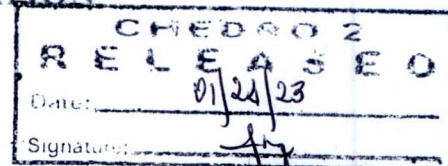




Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
Region 02



REGIONAL MEMORANDUM ORDER
No. 014, series of 2023

FOR : ALL PRESIDENTS/HEADS/OFFICERS-IN-CHARGE OF HIGHER
EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (HEIs) IN REGION 02

SUBJECT : CHED MEMORANDUM ORDER (CMO) NO. 19, SERIES OF 2022:
GUIDELINES ON THE LIFTING OF MORATORIUM ON THE
OFFERING OF NEW BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (BSN)
PROGRAM

DATE : JANUARY 14, 2023

Attached for the information, reference and guidance of all concerned is a copy of the CHED Memorandum Order (CMO) No. 19, series of 2022 titled "Guidelines on the Lifting of Moratorium on the Offering of New Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program"

Digitally signed by Marco
Cicero F. Domingo
Date: 2023.01.24 15:54:46
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ATTY. MARCO CICERO F. DOMINGO
OIC - Director IV

Encl.: as stated

Kindly rate the delivery of our services through the link below:

Link: <http://bit.ly/CHEDRO2CSS>

Your response shall help us improve our systems
and procedures so we can better serve you.
Thank you.

rgd /Tracking No. 20169



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION



CHED MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 19
series of 2022



**SUBJECT : GUIDELINES ON THE LIFTING OF MORATORIUM ON THE OFFERING OF
NEW BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (BSN) PROGRAM**

In accordance with the pertinent provisions of Republic Act (RA) No. 7722, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994", and by virtue of Commission en banc (CEB) Resolution No. 355-2022 dated July 12, 2022, the moratorium on the offering of Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program is hereby lifted by the Commission effective Academic Year 2023-2024.

**ARTICLE I
RATIONALE**

The moratorium on the opening of new BS Nursing program was issued on 2010 per CMO 32, series of 2010 due to the following reasons:

1. Oversupply of graduates with over 200,000 nurses with no jobs;
2. Gradual decline in the performance of nursing education graduates in Nurse Licensure Exams;
3. Proliferation of HEIs offering BS Nursing programs;
4. Training for a fee – nursing students paying hospitals in order to be trained and get certification;

Based on records at CHED, the moratorium has contributed to increased percentage of board passers in the Nurse Licensure Examination (NLE) conducted by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) from 38.45% in 2011 to 58.06% in 2021.

However, there is a need to lift the moratorium for the BS Nursing program in order to balance the urgent need for more professionals to serve the country's health care delivery system, which was made more apparent by COVID-19, with a condition of ensuring quality-of HEIs which will be allowed to offer the BS Nursing program and students who will graduate.

The demand for nurses in the country to ensure the successful implementation of the Universal Health Care Law is the most compelling reason for lifting of the moratorium. The preference of employers for Filipino nurses abroad to address the global demand based on projection of the World Health Organization (WHO) cannot be discounted.

Therefore, the best way to provide a mechanism to ensure and sustain the quality of nursing education in the country is a whole-of-government approach that respond to the need for nurses but does not compromise the quality of nursing graduates and moderates the number of graduates that are produced by the system. Long-term, the local governments are urged to participate in preserving quality by providing learning resources like adequately staffed base hospitals in the regions identified with the most need, and recruiting and retaining qualified faculty by putting in place positive work environment.

ARTICLE II GENERAL GUIDELINES

Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) intending to apply for new BS Nursing program shall be guided with the following criteria which will be strictly observed:

1. All public and private HEIs, including autonomous institutions, will have to submit complete application documents through their CHED Regional Office and be approved by the Commission;
2. The lifting of the moratorium for the BS Nursing program does not extend as part of the privileges of autonomous HEIs to offer extension classes.
3. All public and private HEIs intending to offer a BS Nursing program are not allowed to accept students without Government Authorization from CHED. SUCs/CHED-recognized LUCs if aligned with SUCs/LUCs' core mandate, are encouraged to apply.
4. SUCs and CHED-recognized LUCs are encouraged to include return service agreements in their admission and retention policies to increase the number of nurses in their respective regions;
5. The minimum requirements per existing Policies, Standards and Guidelines for the BS Nursing program must all be met, as follows:
 - a. Dean
 - b. Faculty
 - c. Curriculum
 - d. Student Services
 - e. Base Hospital & Affiliating Agencies
 - f. Nursing Skills Laboratory
 - g. Library & Information Technology (IT) Resources
6. All requirements should be complied with for the full four-year program;
7. The HEI must have a qualified DOH Level III or Level II accredited base hospital subject to Article III of this Memorandum.
8. The HEI intending to offer BS Nursing program can only accept incoming first year students subject to its carrying capacity as may be determined through its faculty resources and adequacy of teaching-learning facilities available. For this purpose, the HEI shall submit to CHED its quota per year level before the opening of the Academic Year (AY). CHED can do random routine monitoring of compliance with the declared quota.
9. All applications shall be processed in accordance with existing laws, guidelines, policies and standards of the Commission.



ARTICLE III PROVISION ON BASE HOSPITAL

Per CHED Memorandum Order No. 15, series of 2017, the requirement for base hospital is a Level III DOH accredited hospital (Teaching/Training Hospitals).

However, in the absence of a Level III accredited hospital in the region, Level II DOH accredited hospitals can be considered provided that the hospital can comply with the following:

1. Adequate case load for the students
2. Adequate facilities for teaching and learning
3. Minimum capacity of 100 beds with general services
4. Minimum bed occupancy rate of 80%
5. At least 60% allotted beds in government hospitals and 10% in private hospitals for service patients
6. Accessible and located within the region

ARTICLE IV PROCEDURES ON APPLICATION

1. These new procedures shall cover both public and private HEIs that will apply for Government Recognition (GR) and Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) to operate new undergraduate nursing programs.
2. All applications for government authority to operate the BS Nursing program shall be submitted to the CHED Regional Offices for preliminary evaluation which shall include documentary analysis per existing PSG for BS Nursing program.
3. HEI shall submit a duly notarized application document including an accomplished Self-Assessment Document (SAD) based on the existing PSG for BS Nursing program.
4. For processing of applications, online submission of applications will be utilized as per existing guidelines approved by the Commission. All HEIs intending to offer BS Nursing will need to register and submit their applications through <https://cfss.ph/application/login.php>
5. Only applications with complete application documents shall be processed.
6. Applications with favorable recommendation from CHED Regional Offices shall be forwarded to OPSD and shall be subjected to a Joint Ocular/Evaluation Visit by the Regional Quality Assessment Teams (RQATs), Technical Panel and Technical Evaluators for Nursing. The concerned CHEDRO shall organize the conduct of the joint ocular/evaluation visit.
7. The OPSD through the Technical Panel for Nursing (TPN) and Technical Evaluator for Nursing (TEN) shall conduct the final evaluation of the applications. Upon full compliance and favorable endorsement from the TP/TEs, OPSD shall submit the results of evaluation/recommendation to the CEB, through the Executive Director, for final decision. If not favorable, OPSD shall inform the HEI of the disapproval of their application through the CHED Regional Office.
8. For denied applications, HEIs are allowed to file motion for reconsideration, within fifteen (15) days from receipt of denial of application. Only one (1) motion for reconsideration shall be allowed.



9. The action taken by the CEB with corresponding CEB resolution shall be forwarded by the EO to the CHEDRO. If the action of the CEB is favorable, CHED Central Office shall issue the government authority to be signed by the CHED Chairman.
10. All approved new BS Nursing programs shall be included in the registry of authorized CHED higher education programs.
11. The issuance of government authority shall progress as follows:
- **Government Recognition (GR)** - issuance of recognition during the 4th year level shall require **full compliance*** with the minimum standards for the whole program for Private HEIs.
 - **Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC)** - in the case of state universities and colleges (SUCs), COPC shall be issued upon **full compliance*** of the minimum requirements for the whole program. (see CMO No. 14, s. 2019 – Policies and Guidelines in the Issuance of Certificate of Program Compliance to State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs))
- * Full Compliance** - compliance in all areas of evaluation as prescribed in CMO 15, s. 2017 - Policies, Standards and Guidelines for BS Nursing program.

ARTICLE V MONITORING MECHANISM

1. Approved BS Nursing program shall be subject to regular monitoring following the existing CHED guidelines for the conduct of monitoring and evaluation by the CHED Regional Offices.
2. If found non-compliant with the PSGs for BS Nursing program and this CMO by the CHEDROs. The CHEDROs shall render a report to OPSD. OPSD may forward the same to the CEB for decision or for validation of the Technical Panel/Technical Evaluators for Nursing. The CEB, upon the recommendation of OPSD, may impose sanctions as provided under RA 7722 and/or the PSGs for BS Nursing program.

This CMO shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force and effect until otherwise revoked or suspended.

Issued this 27th day of December, 2022 at Quezon City, Philippines.

For the Commission:


J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III, DPA
Chairman

