



**PHILIPPINE NORMAL UNIVERSITY**  
The National Center for Teacher Education  
Taft Avenue, Ermita, Manila

**Expanded Students' Grant-In-Aid Program for Poverty Alleviation (ESGP-PA)**  
**Academic Year 2016-2017 and 2017-2018**

**INTRODUCTION:**

In the Joint Memorandum Circular Number 01, dated June 23, 2016, the Enhanced Implementing Guidelines for the Expanded Students Grants-in-Aid Program for Poverty Alleviation (ESGP-PA) was jointly implemented by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

The ESGP-PA is the continuation of the initiative taken by the government to provide access to the poor but capable students to State Universities and Colleges (SUCs). The objective of the program is to increase the number of higher education graduates among poor households by directly providing financing for their education in. While there were other grants in aid (GIA) programs, ESGP-PA has two important features that makes it different from the others: (a) it is well-targeted to identified poor households; and (b) it provides a substantial grant amount sufficient to cover all normal education expenses including living allowance.

**Philippine Normal University** is one of the State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in the National Capital Region (NCR) is one of the partners of CHED to participate in implementing the ESGP-PA. **This academic year 2017-2018, a total of three hundred and fifty nine (359) grantees are currently enrolled.** Some of the duties and functions of an SUC with regards to the

program implementation are to monitor and report the academic performance of grantees at the end of each academic year until graduation; administer admission requirements in line with the objectives of the program; orient new/replacement ESGP-PA grantees and their parents on the policies and guidelines and other requirements of the program; receive the financial benefits of the student-beneficiaries; provide for appropriate accommodation such as dormitories or accredited boarding houses; organize and/or enhance values formation and career guidance programs to beneficiaries and their families and parents; and provide services of Guidance Counselors as needed.

### **PNU DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAM FOR ESGP-PA GRANTEES**

As poverty remains to be a major problem in our country, the Philippine government widened its support to the 4Ps beneficiaries through the ESGP-PA program. College education can now be availed by children beneficiaries and it is hoped that through this grant, poor but deserving students would have greater employment chances in high paying jobs, once they earned their college degrees. However, this vision would not be possible if the student- scholars would rather drop out from the program due to some problems such as academic difficulties, disinterest in pursuing further education, pregnancy and financial problems (Silfverberg and Orbeta, 2016).

In order for the grantees of ESGP-PA to maximize their enjoyment of the financial assistance provided through the program, they shall be provided by the needed support that will guarantee the completion of their studies which will later qualify them for higher value added jobs that will alleviate the economic status of the grantees and their families. This then will ensure that the goal of the program to alleviate poverty will be met.

The developmental program for the grantees is currently being implemented to the grantees enrolled in the university. The program aims to provide assistance to the scholars based on their developmental needs, personality types and career objectives. Furthermore, it aims to assist the

grantees to successfully overcome the academic, personal/social, psychological and other challenges that may hinder them in accomplishing their goals.

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

The **PNU Developmental Program for ESGP-PA Grantees** includes activities that aim to provide interventions for ESGP-PA student-grantees focusing on the following dimensions: academic, career, personal-social development. This development plan will help ensure that the grantees enrolled in the institution shall also be extended the needed support that will guarantee the completion of their studies and will give them a higher chance to succeed in their college life.

Specifically, the program's objectives are:

1. To provide guidance and counseling interventions that would address the student-grantees' development needs in areas of academic, personal-social and career such as:
  - a. Adjustment to university life;
  - b. Improvement of grades;
  - c. Improvement of study habits and time management;
  - d. Learn to balance studies with co-curricular activities;
  - e. Sustain interest in studies;
  - f. Understand further the teacher's lessons;
  - g. Improved classroom participation;
  - h. Have a clear and definite career path;
  - i. Knowledge about the job opportunities in the chosen career
  - j. Enhanced self-awareness;
  - k. Personality development;
  - l. Dealing with financial problems affecting one's family and
  - m. Learn how to manage stress.
2. To facilitate activities that would further enhance their skills and develop their personality;
3. To encourage the student-grantees to engage in continuous career planning and goal-setting.