

Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

DILG NAPOLCOM CENTER, EDSA cor. QUEZON AVENUE, QUEZON CITY

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MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2019- 156 18 SEP 2019

To

ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY AND MUNICIPAL MAYORS, DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS, CITY AND MUNICIPAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS OFFICERS AND OTHERS

CONCERNED

SUBJECT

ADOPTION OF DEP-ED'S LAST MILE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The Department of Education (DepEd) is sustaining the substantial gains in access to education through the provision of adequate education facilities, teaching and non-teaching personnel, and learning resources. However, gaps in resources and facilities still remain in schools that have not met the allocation criteria for various education inputs, particularly in Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDA). To address this, DepEd is strengthening its efforts to reach out to these Last Mile Schools.

The DepEd define the "Last Mile Schools" as schools without complete sets of school furniture, no computers, no internet connection, very few textbooks and manuals, and lacking laboratory tools and equipment. In DepEd's Memorandum No. 59 Series of 2019, indicators used in identifying a school as among the Last Mile Schools are: having less than four classrooms; with makeshift or nonstandard rooms; absence of electricity; have not been allocated funds for repairs or new construction projects in the last four years; with travel distance of more than one hour from town center, or with difficulty of terrain; having multigrade classes/rooms; with less than five teachers; having a student population of less than 100 learners; and with more than 75% Indigenous People (IP) learners.

To ensure the successful implementation of this program, the Office of the President instructed all agencies concerned to convene and support DepEd in this endeavor. Moreover, the DILG was one of the agencies tasked to coordinate and facilitate LGUs to support and adopt the implementation of the said "Last Mile School" program.

In connection with this, all LGUs are encouraged to prioritize and include the "Last Mile Schools" program in their respective local development and investment program.

All regional directors are hereby directed to cause the widest dissemination of this Memorandum Circular.

EDUARDO M AÑO Secretary,

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