

# **FREE TUITION 2017: Una and Mahirap Frequently Asked Questions**

## **WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THE FREE TUITION PROGRAM?**

All students studying in State Universities and Colleges nationwide will benefit from this program. StuFAP beneficiaries who receive ₱15,000 or below shall be included in the program. The tuition of those who are getting more than ₱15,000 will still be charged against their existing their StuFAP.

## **WHAT ABOUT THOSE WHO ARE NOT STUFAP BENEFICIARIES?**

Non-StuFAP beneficiaries can still be covered by the Free Tuition program as long as the SUC still has remaining budget. For non-StuFAP beneficiaries, the students will be prioritized according to their economic status.

## **HOW CAN A STUDENT APPLY FOR THE FREE TUITION PROGRAM?**

The existing enrollment procedures of the SUCs shall be observed. This means that students will have to go through the SUC's assessment process to find out if they can be accepted into the program/course they have chosen. Once a student is accepted by the SUC, his/her tuition fee is free for the year.

## **WHAT DOCUMENTS SHOULD A STUDENT SUBMIT TO AVAIL OF THE FREE TUITION BENEFIT?**

StuFAP beneficiaries are automatically covered by the program. Tuition fee of those getting more than ₱15,000 in benefits will be charged to their StuFAP allocations, while the tuition fees of those receiving ₱15,000 or less will be covered by the Free Tuition program.

Non-StuFAP beneficiaries will be ranked according to their economic status and will have to present ONE proof of income: Income Tax Return of family members responsible for financing the student's education, BIR Form 2316, BIR Certificate of Exemption from Filing of ITR, OR any other government-issued document that indicates income earnings.

## **WILL THE TUITION FEE CONTINUE TO BE FREE UNTIL A STUDENT FINISHES COLLEGE?**

The Free Tuition Program of 2017 will only be implemented for Academic Year 2017-2018.

## **WILL THOSE STUDENTS ENJOYING FREE TUITION STILL HAVE TO PAY MISCELLANEOUS AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES?**

The SUCs cannot collect tuition fee. Instead of paying tuition, the SUC shall charge the tuition of the students to the Higher Education Support Fund. However, other outstanding fees, which includes miscellaneous and other school fees due to the SUCs, can be collected from the students.

## **IS THE TUITION FREE FOR ALL SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE?**

The Free Tuition 2017 covers only State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and does not include private Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).

## **HOW MANY STUDENTS WILL BENEFIT FROM THIS PROGRAM?**

It depends on the number of enrollees, the capacity of the school and the budget allotted for the SUC.

## **IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS?**

NO. It is a known fact that the poor usually delay the decision to go to school based on many factors that determine their ability to pay for all the expenses related to schooling. SUC's are strongly advised to wait until the end of the enrolment period before finalizing the list of free tuition beneficiaries.