

Republic of the Philippines

Department of Education

REGION IV-A CALABARZON SCHOOLS DIVISION OF BATANGAS

30 Sept 2025

UNNUMBERED MEMORANDUM

DISSEMINATION OF DEPED ORDER NO. 027, S. 2025 RE: GUIDELINES ON THE USE OF BALANCES FROM FISCAL YEAR 2025 (REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12116) FUNDS UNDER THE LEARNING SYSTEMS STRAND

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendents

Chief- Curriculum Implementation Division (CID)

Chief- School Governance and Operations Division (SGOD)

Public Schools District Supervisors

Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads

All Others Concerned

- 1. Attached herewith is DepEd Order No. 027, s. 2025 dated September 18, 2025, entitled Guidelines on the Use of Balances from Fiscal Year 2025 (Republic Act No. 12116) Funds under the Learning Systems Strand.
- 2. For your information, guidance and widest dissemination.

MARITES A. IBAÑEZ, CESO V Schools Division Superintendent

EUA/Unnumbered Memorandum_DepEdOrder027s.2025/S2-112019/09.19.2025







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Republic of the Philippines Department of Education

DepEd-Division of Batangas

ICT SECTION

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DepEd ORDER No. 027, s. 2025

GUIDELINES ON THE USE OF BALANCES FROM FISCAL YEAR 2025 (REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12116) FUNDS UNDER THE LEARNING SYSTEMS STRAND

Undersecretaries To:

Assistant Secretaries

Bureau and Service Directors

Regional Directors

Schools Division Superintendents

Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads

All Others Concerned

- The Department of Education (DepEd) issues the enclosed Guidelines on Use of Balances from Fiscal Year 2025 (Republic Act No. 12116) Funds Under the Learning Systems (LS) Strand.
- This Order provides guidelines on the use of balances of unobligated Programs Support Funds (PSFs) downloaded and/or directly released funds to regional offices for the implementation of programs, activities, and projects (PAPs) which shall be discontinued as the PSFs remain unobligated, and the PAPs are no longer deemed aligned with the current priorities of the LS Strand. The unobligated PSFs shall be used for PAPs within the same line item that are identified as urgent and priority.
- All DepEd Orders and other related issuances, rules and regulations, and provisions inconsistent with this Order are repealed, rescinded, or modified accordingly.
- This Order shall take effect immediately upon its publication on the DepEd website. Certified copies of this Order shall be registered with the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR) at the University of the Philippines Law Center (UP LC), UP Diliman, Quezon City.
- For inquiries or concerns, please contact the Office of the Undersecretary for Learning Systems, Department of Education Central Office, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, through email at ouct@deped.gov.ph.
- Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Order is directed. 6.

By Authority of the Secretary:

ATTY. FATIMA LIPP D. PANONTONGAN Undersecretary and Chief of Staff

DR. CARMELA C. ORACION

Assistant Secretary Officer-in-Charge Office of the Undersecretary for Learning Systems

ATTY. EDSON BYRON K. SY Assistant Secretary Officer-in-Charge Office of the Undersecretary for Finance

Encl.:

As stated

Reference:

None

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:

> **EXPENSES FUNDS** POLICY **PROGRAMS PROJECTS** RULES AND REGULATIONS

<code>JDMC, MPC, DO Guidelines</code> on the Use of Balances from FY 2025 (RA 12116) Funds $0312-September~8,\,2025$

GUIDELINES ON THE USE OF BALANCES FROM FISCAL YEAR 2025 (REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12116) FUNDS UNDER THE LEARNING SYSTEMS STRAND

I. RATIONALE

The Philippine Constitution states that "[t]he State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all" and that "[t]he State shall maintain, and support a complete, adequate and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society."

In line with its continuous efforts to provide equitable and quality basic education, the Department of Education (DepEd or Department) has issued this Order for the use of balances of unobligated Program Support Funds (PSFs) downloaded and/or directly released funds for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. This Order is designed to utilize existing yet unobligated funds for chosen priority projects within the same line item in compliance with the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2025 and the National Budget Circular No. 595.

The primary objective of the planned use of balances of PSFs is to expedite the utilization of resources under the Learning Systems (LS) Strand. In line with this, the reprioritization of funds towards priority programs, activities, projects (PAPs), ensures that PSFs are directed toward urgent and high-impact needs while strengthening fiscal responsibility. The failure to use these unobligated funds may result in underperformance of programs, missed opportunities to address pressing educational requirements, and delays in service delivery.

II. SCOPE

This Order serves as a directive to Regional Offices (ROs) regarding the use of balances of unobligated funds the FY 2025 for priority PAPs identified by the LS Strand.

However, reckoning of these balances shall exclude, subject to further guidelines issued by the Office of the Undersecretary for Learning Systems (OULS), PSFs already allocated for the Academic Recovery and Accessible Learning (ARAL) Program, under the Joint Memorandum dated 17 July 2025.

III. DEFINITION OF TERMS

For these guidelines, the following terms are operationally defined:

a. Flexible Learning Options (FLO) refers to a menu of possible learning interventions and pathways responsive to learners' needs, context,

Article XIV, Sec. 1, 1987 Philippine Constitution.

Article XIV, Sec. 2, 1987 Philippine Constitution.

circumstances, and diversity. It allows for variations in the organization, approaches, and teaching and learning modalities. It is helpful for learners who are at risk of dropping out, children and youth who are out of school, adults who failed to finish basic education, learners with special needs, learners with extreme difficulty in accessing schools, or those who attend overpopulated schools, and learners in an emergency.³

- b. **Program / Activity / Project (PAP)** refers to any work process or group of work processes undertaken to realize the outputs and outcomes of an agency. This is represented by an item of appropriation in the national budget.⁴
 - i. **Program.** A group of activities and projects that contribute to a particular outcome. A program should have the following: 1) unique expected results or outcomes; 2) a clear target population or client group external to the agency; 3) a defined method of intervention to achieve the desired result; and 4) a clear management structure that defines accountabilities.⁵
 - ii. **Activity.** A work process that contributes to the implementation of a program, sub-program, or project.⁶
 - iii. **Project.** A special undertaking carried out within a definite timeframe and intended to result in some predetermined measure of goods and services.⁷
- c. Program Support Fund (PSF) are the funds provided for program implementation at the regional, schools division, or school level to ensure achievement of the target outputs and outcomes of the program. Funds for this may be directly released through the a) General Appropriations Act or DBM Circular on Release of Funds or b) downloaded through Sub-Allotment Release Order (Sub-ARO).
- d. **Related PAPs** refer to PAPs that contribute to a common particular outcome aligned with the objective of this Order, specifically involving operational requirements or support services essential to program delivery.
- e. **Unobligated Allotments** refers to portions or balances of any allotment free from any obligation or encumbrance which are still available after the completion or final discontinuance or abandonment of the work, activity or purpose for which the appropriation is authorized.⁸

IV. POLICY STATEMENT

The DepEd, as part of its commitment to accelerate the delivery of basic education and promote quality education, establishes this Order that shall govern the use of

³ DM-CT-2024-030 dated 29 January 2024, entitled "Guidelines on the Utilization and Reporting of the Program Support Funds for the Alternative Delivery Mode for Fiscal Year 2024."

Page 870, Glossary of Terms, Department of Budget and Management.

Page 870, Glossary of Terms, Department of Budget and Management.

Page 855, Glossary of Terms, Department of Budget and Management.

Page 870, Glossary of Terms, Department of Budget and Management.

Page 875, Glossary of Terms, Department of Budget and Management.

balances of unobligated funds for the FY 2025 within the same line item to priority strategic PAPs allowing the efficient use of public funds, and the timely implementation of programs, activities, and projects directed towards completing learning resources of students and providing comprehensive toolkits for teachers.

V. PROCEDURE

The PSFs downloaded to the ROs are allocated to specified PAPs under four (4) categories: (1) Basic Education Curriculum, (2) Flexible Learning Options (both Learning Resources, and Alternative Delivery Modes), (3) Learning Tools and Equipment, and (4) Textbooks and Other Instructional Materials, as enumerated in **Annex A.** The directly released funds to the ROs are detailed in **Annex B.** The amounts therein are based on the budget utilization reports submitted as of 30 June 2025.

Accordingly, a review of the unobligated funds of the covered PAPs has identified unobligated funds from certain PAPs of the ROs under each line item that will be discontinued. Thus, to ensure alignment with the approved purpose of these unobligated funds, the said funds shall be used to support other priority PAPs that are of the same nature as those originally funded within the respective line item, as outlined in **Annex C**.

Thus, the ROs, within fifteen (15) days from the issuance of this Order, are hereby directed to submit to the Office of the Undersecretary for Learning Systems (OULS) the actual balances of their respective funds as of the date of the issuance of this Order. In the event that such balances are insufficient to cover the funding requirements of the priority projects listed in **Annex C**, the same shall likewise be reported to the OULS. The OULS may download additional funds to cover priority projects with insufficient funding subject to the availability of funds.

Any excess amount or resulting balance may be utilized for any other PAPs related to the purpose of this Order, subject to applicable budgeting, accounting, auditing, and procurement laws, rules, and regulations.

Furthermore, for excess and/or unutilized PSFs for FY 2025 further released by the ROs to their respective School Division Offices (SDOs), the ROs shall be granted authority to determine the most appropriate mechanism to optimize the use of such balances — whether through pooling of funds or by providing directives to the SDOs on their utilization — consistent with the priority PAPs identified in this Order, thereby ensuring both efficiency and flexibility.

VI. FUNDING

The fund shall be sourced from the existing yet unobligated PSFs downloaded and/or directly released funds for FY 2025 to chosen priority PAPs. The purpose of using the balances of the PSFs and/or directly released funds is for the efficient utilization of public funds to ensure that the Department's programs and projects deliver maximum benefits to their intended stakeholders.

The PSFs shall be flexible. This means that the excess funds for any of the abovementioned eligible expenses may be used for other expenses not mentioned in

this Order provided that such shall be utilized solely for the conduct of identified priority PAPs.

In case that the downloaded PSFs are insufficient to cover the eligible expenses incurred, local funds or other eligible source/s of funds, such as directly released funds of the ROs, may be utilized for the priority PAPs identified in this Order, subject to the applicable government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

However, PSFs already allocated for the Academic Recovery and Accessible Learning (ARAL) Program, under the Joint Memorandum dated 17 July 2025, shall not be utilized to fund the priority PAPs identified in **Annex C** of this Order, subject to future guidelines that may be issued by the OULS.

VII. MONITORING

The implementation of this Order shall be closely monitored by the LS Strand, through the OULS, to ensure the integrity, transparency, and effective execution of the use of balances of unobligated PSFs.

To facilitate the implementation of this Order, the Technical Assistant III hired by the RO shall continue to monitor fund utilization and the status of procurement activities relating to LS programs in line with the provisions of this Order. The OULS shall download additional funds for the salaries of the Technical Assistant IIIs for the period 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2026.

Monitoring activities shall include, among others, the regular submission of Physical and Financial Accomplishment Reports by the Regional Office to the OULS and the assessment of these reports by the OULS in compliance with the prescribed guidelines and with the intended purposes under the same line items. Any deviations or irregularities shall be promptly reported to the OULS for appropriate action.

VIII. REPEALING CLAUSE

All previously issued guidelines, rules, and orders governing the initial use of the identified PSFs are hereby repealed or rescinded, including, but not limited to, the following:

Guidelines, Rules, or Order	Issuance Date
Joint Memorandum to All Regional Directors and	07 March 2024
All Others Concerned ¹⁰	
Memorandum DM-CT-2025-01211	09 January 2025
Memorandum DM-CT-2025-024 ¹²	27 January 2025

Guidelines on the Budget Allocation and Fund Utilization for the Academic Recovery and Accessible Learning (ARAL) Program for SY 2025-2026.

Implementing Guidelines for the Program Support Funds (PSF) for Kindergarten Education.

Guidelines for the Regional Offices on the Utilization of Program Support Funds (PSF) for the Travel Expenses of Participants in Various Student Inclusion Division (SID) Activities Under Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Basic Education Curriculum (BEC) Current Funds.

Guidelines for the Regional Offices on the Utilization of Program Support Funds (PSF) for the Conduct of Division and Regional Festival of Talents (DFOT and RFOT), and Host Region and Transportation of Participants for the Conduct of the National Festival of Talents (NFOT) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.

Joint Memorandum to All Regional Directors and	03 February 2025
All Others Concerned ¹³	-
Memorandum DM-CT-2025-05214	17 February 2025
Memorandum to Regional Directors ¹⁵	17 February 2025
Memorandum to Regional Directors and School	18 February 2025
Division Superintendents ¹⁶	•
Memorandum DM-CT-2025-06217	24 February 2025
Memorandum DM-CT-2025-06418	24 February 2025
Memorandum DM-CT-2025-09319	24 February 2025
Memorandum DM-CT-2025-063 ²⁰	07 March 2025

All other DepEd Orders and related issuances inconsistent with this Order are repealed, rescinded, or modified accordingly. The provisions of this Order and any succeeding guidelines pertaining to the new PAPs funded under existing line items, shall supersede the aforementioned issuances.

IX. TRANSITORY PROVISION

All PAPs already under procurement and/or payment processes initiated pursuant to previous guidelines and ongoing at the time of effectivity of this Order shall be allowed to continue until its completion, subject to applicable government accounting and auditing rules and regulations. ROs and SDOs are hereby directed to ensure the settlement of payments for obligations arising from duly conducted activities and valid contracts. Any activity commenced thereafter shall be governed by the provisions of this Order.

X. SEPARABILITY

If any provision of this Order is declared invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions not affected shall remain in force and in effect.

XI. EFFECTIVITY

This Order shall take effect immediately upon its approval, issuance, and publication on the DepEd website. Certified copies shall be registered with the Office of the

Guidelines on the Utilization of Directly Released FY 2025 LTE Funds for the Provision of Learning Tools and Equipment for Public Elementary and Senior High Schools.

Guidelines on the Release, Utilization, Monitoring, and Reporting of the Program Support Funds for the Alternative Delivery Mode (ADM).

¹⁵ Guidelines for the Regional Offices on the Utilization of Program Support Funds (PSF) for the Travel Expenses of Participants in Various Student Inclusion Division (SID) Activities Under Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Basic Education Curriculum (BEC) Continuing Funds.

Guidelines on the Utilization of Program Support Funds (PSF) to DepEd Regional Offices for the Implementation of the Early Language Literacy and Numeracy Program.

Guidelines on the Utilization of Program Support Funds for the Travel Expenses of Field Participants to Various Activities of the Burau of Learning Delivery-Teaching and Learning Division.

Guidelines on the Release, Utilization and Reporting of the Program Support Funds to the Regional Offices for the Conduct of Regional Orientation on the Utilization of Self-Instructional Learning Action Cell (LAC) Resources on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education Collaborative Expertise Sessions.

Guidelines on the Utilization of Program Support Funds (PSF) for the Implementation of the National reading Program and National Mathematics Program.

Implementing Guidelines on the Allocation and Utilization of the Program Support Funds (PSF) for the Implementation of Science Process Skills Enhancement for Grades 3-6 Science Teachers.

National Administrative Register (ONAR) at the University of the Philippines Law Center (UP LC), UP Diliman, Quezon City.

XII. REFERENCES

The government issuances related to the use of balances of the PSFs are the following:

- a. Republic Act No. 12116 titled, "General Appropriations Act Fiscal Year 2025;"
- b. National Budget Circular No. 595 titled, "Guidelines on the Release of Funds for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025."

Annex A

Details of Indicative Unobligated PSFs Downloaded to ROs to be Discontinued, 2025 Current Appropriations Department of Education - Learning Systems Strand

By Major PAP, by PSF, by Region (as of 30 June 2025)

70,337,449 32,595,876 Total - Textbooks and Other 9,719,990 37,304,903 95,456,198 112,087,812 67,143,479 71,927,836 41,456,314 27,447,238 31,788,857 36,667,849 69,048,064 39,776,541 Instructional Materials) 34,770 26,773 26,052 62,000 62,000 63,900 62,000 39,166 Information System (LRMIS) (UAT) and Pilot Testing and 87,000 User Acceptance Training Technical Working Group Transfer of funds for the Resources Management Conduct of Learning Training of Regional (RTWG). 71,520 247,440 356,400 195,480 162,480 234,480 234,480 Transfer of funds to cover Microlearning Resources. travel expenses for the Conduct of Series of Activities for the Development of 419,044 665,840 connection with the conduct 758,400 ,207,200 831,824 782,700 866,900 ,285,200 2,862,800 2,598,800 2,419,400 2,404,200 2,063,000 1,944,911 Transfer of funds to cover Assurance Division (BLRof various activities of Bureau of Learning travel expenses in Resources-Quality QAD). Transfer of Program Support Provision and Distribution of 69,784,885 9,014,984 36,264,293 31,361,903 94,241,922 110,963,432 65,631,899 30,944,157 59,329,036 39,511,403 24,721,558 65,974,784 37,357,141 34,370,369 **Exemplars and Learning** Activity Sheets) for the MATATAG Curriculum. Implementation of the Funds (PSF) for the Transition Learning Resources (Lesson A. Textbooks & Other Instructional Materials 2025 Current Appropriations Regions Region IV-B Region IV-A Region VIII Region VII Region VI Region IX Region XI Region III Region V Region II Region X Region NCR CAR

2025 Current Appropriations	itions				
A. Textbooks & Other Instructional Materials	nstructional Materials				•
	•	2	3	4	
Regions	Transfer of Program Support Funds (PSF) for the Provision and Distribution of Transition Learning Resources (Lesson Exemplars and Learning Activity Sheets) for the Implementation of the MATATAG Curriculum.	Transfer of funds to cover travel expenses in connection with the conduct of various activities of Bureau of Learning Resources-Quality Assurance Division (BLR-QAD).	Transfer of funds to cover travel expenses for the Conduct of Series of Activities for the Development of Microlearning Resources.	Transfer of funds for the Conduct of Learning Resources Management Information System (LRMIS) User Acceptance Training (UAT) and Pilot Testing and Training of Regional Technical Working Group (RTWG).	Total - Textbooks and Other Instructional Materials)
Region XII	45,948,362	2,126,900	234,480	87,000	48,396,742
CARAGA	25,596,457	2,116,000			27,712,457
TOTAL	791,016,585	25,353,119	1,947,240	550,661	818,867,605

Annex B

Details of Indicative Unobligated Directly Released Funds to ROs, 2024 Continuing Appropriations and 2025 Current Appropriations Department of Education - Learning Systems Strand By Major PAP, by Region (as of 30 June 2025)

	Basic Education Curriculum (BEC)	Flexible Learning Options - Learning Resources (FLO-LR)	2025 Total Urobligated
Regions	FY2025 Unobligated	FY2025 Unobligated	
NCR	238,332,000	257,407,000	495,739,000
CAR	29,572,002	3,170,504	32,742,507
Region I	137,618,700	61,762,634	199,381,334
Region II	89,323,751	41,124,642	130,448,393
Region III	220,920,188	46,703,429	267,623,616
Region IV-A	343,067,607	21,055,125	364,122,732
Region IV-B	93,407,000	12,349,932	105,756,932
Region V	160,218,805	1,009,160	161,227,965
Region VI	188,907,687	93,529,754.00	282,437,441
Region VII	194,894,871	3,965,240	198,860,111
Region VIII	125,150,766	12,904,402	138,055,168
Region IX	94,543,740	45,074,216	139,617,956
Region X	127,408,433	122,035,183	249,443,616
Region XI	128,683,106	7,878,971	136,562,077
Region XII	119,427,000	135,812,000	255,239,000
CARAGA	78,714,523	31,518,687	110,233,210
TOTAL	2,370,190,179	897,300,878	3,267,491,057

Annex C

Department of Education - Learning Systems Strand

Summary of Priority PAPs for Funding from Indicative Unobligated Balances of Directly Released and Downleaded PSFs (FY2025 Current Appropriations)

	FROM	DI	
FUND SOURCE	AMOUNT FOR REALLOCATION	PROPOSED ACTIVITY/PROJECT FOR FUNDING	FUNDING REQUIREMENT
Program/Activity/Project		Program/Activity/Project	
2025 CURRENT APPROPRIATIONS			
A. REGIONAL OFFICES FUNDS	2,318,867,605		2,190,301,112
A.1 DOWNLOADED AS PSF TO ROS	818,867,605		800,000,000
Textbooks and other Instructional Materials	818,867,605	818,867,605 Textbooks and other Instructional Materials	800,000,000
		Lesson Guides for Grades 1, 2, and 3 (Tramche 2)	800,000,000
A.2 DIRECTLY RELEASED FUNDS TO ROs	1,500,000,000		1,390,301,112
Basic Education Curriculum (BEC)	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000 Basic Education Curriculum (BEC)	890,301,112
		Learning Packets (Tranche 3)	700,000,000
		Parent Sheets/Card for ARAL	83,465,400
		ARAL Worksheets in Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)	106,835,712
Flexible Learning Options - Learning Resources (FLO-LR)	500,000,000	500,000,000 Flexible Learning Options - Learning Resources (FLO-LR)	500,000,000
		Dynamic Learning Program for Key Stages 2 and 3	400,000,000
		Printing of Leveled Readers for Key Stage 1 (Tranche 2)	100,000,000
B. CENTRAL OFFICE FUNDS	1,502,164,667		1,491,313,800
Bureau of Learning Resources	997,382,657		992,400,000
Textbooks and Other Instructional Materials	189,508,371		185,000,000
	<u> </u>	Printing of Leveled Readers for Key Stage 1 (Tranche 3)	185,000,000

	Equipment for 577 Schools		364,400,000
	SME - closing all gaps for STEM equipment in 897 schools	shook	259,000,000
	Sports equipment for MAPEH and sports-related activities in the schools in Key Stage 2 or 3 (Tranche 2)	vities in	106,500,000
	TVL Equipment for Pilot SHS (for downloading to the regions)	regions)	67,500,000
	Provision of Science and Math Equipment and TVL Equipment in ALS Centers (Tranche 2)		10,000,000
Bureau of Education Assessment	504,782,010		498,913,800
Basic Education Curriculum	504,782,010 Basic Education Curriculum		498,913,800
	DAP Training for Superintendents and Principals		15,000,000
	NSMED Certificate Program for Science Teachers of Special Science Programs and DepEd Science High Schools	Special	10,500,000
	Education Center for Al Research (E-CAIR) Mapping		10,000,000
	Teacher Training for all Key Stage 1 Teachers of High Need Schools	Need	20,000,000
	Training for LSS Leadership		20,000,000
	Needs-based Grant for High Need Schools (School Innovation Fund)		100,000,000
	Hiring of TA IIIs for Finance and Procurement Support in the ROs January - December 2026	in the	10,931,000
	Hiring of TA IIIs for Finance and Procurement Support in the CO bureau September 2025 - December 2026	in the	1,282,000
	DepEd Fulbright Fellowship		17,100,000
	UP Education Partnership		25,000,000
	UP Law Center Partnership		5,000,000
	UP PEJA Fellowship		18,000,000
	Assessment for Learners with Disabilities		103,000,000
	Homeroom and Guidance Workshops		100,000,000

3,681,614,912	TOTAL	3,821,032,272	TOTAL
4,588,800	OULS Advocacy and Comms TAs (IV, III and II) January to December 2026		
1,192,000	OULS Advocacy and Comms TAs (IV, III and II) September to December 2025		
20,000,000	PIDS Researches		
1,320,000	Education data internship in partnership with E-CAIR		
4,000,000	Edukahon		
12,000,000	Printing for SHS Landas Toolkits		