

Newly CHED-recognized Quezon City University now qualifies to free higher education under Republic Act 10931

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) led the awarding of the Institutional Recognition (IR) to Quezon City University (QCU), making its 8,000 students eligible for free higher education (FHE) and the tertiary education subsidy (TES) under the Republic Act 10931 or the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Act of 2017 (UAQTEA).

CHED and Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education (UniFAST) Board Chairman Popoy De Vera, together with UniFAST OIC Executive Director Ryan Estevez and Commissioners Aldrin Darilag and Ronald Adamat graced the awarding of the Gawad Parangal trophy to Quezon City University.

"When the CHED law was created, there was no local college or university mentioned. It only talks about the state universities and colleges which are created by national law. Under the Duterte administration the link between the LUCs and CHED was solidified, specially through RA 10931 which included LUCs that comply with CHED Institutional Recognition or the Certificate of Program Compliance," De Vera explained.

An Institutional Recognition (IR) and Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) are requirements mandated by RA 10931 for higher education institutions (HEIs) to implement programs such as the FHE which subsidizes tuition fees and 13 other fees; the TES which provides over P100,000 to grantees per academic year; and the Student Loan Program, among others.

IR ensures that the LUCs are compliant to administrative and managerial standards of CHED – such as matters like faculty and facilities management, while the COPC is a certification that vets specific degree programs of SUCs/LUCs according to the policies, standards and guidelines of the Commission to ensure quality education. Acquiring both will make the students of that LUC eligible to the programs of RA 10931.

The Gawad Parangal for QCU was also attended by Quezon City Mayor Josefina 'Joy' Belmonte, Vice Mayor Gian Sotto, Former Councilor Alison Medalla, Quezon City 4th District Councilor Irene Belmonte, QCU President Dr. Theresita Atienza, and other members of the Quezon City Local Government Unit.

"The path to our journey for institutional recognition was not easy. Since my term as vice mayor, attaining institutional recognition has always been my dream. This signifies achieving a level of standard of quality tertiary education. It is a step to be eligible to grant our citizens access to free quality higher education as a service from the government," Mayor Belmonte said.

Councilor Irene Belmonte, who is also the Chairperson of the Sangguniang Panglungsod Committee on Education, Science and Technology, expressed her gratitude with this new milestone for QCU.

"Bilang isang ina, batid ko na hindi biro ang magpa-aral ng isang anak kaya't isang malaking bagay para sa mga pamilyang mulat sa kahirapan na magkaroon ng oportunidad upang makapag-aral at makatapos ng kolehiyo. We are grateful to CHED, and the whole team of Chairman De Vera, for granting us this most awaited and most prestigious institutional recognition. We recognize the efforts of everyone who has been part of this journey," she said.

Moreover, QCU President Dr. Theresita Atienza expressed deep appreciation of the recognition saying, "With this Institutional Recognition, who or what can stop us from giving access to quality higher education in the three districts under Quezon City? This recognition is a testimony to what a local university could be and should be; to offer an excellent model for low cost high quality tertiary education and be an effective partner to be the human resource capital of the city and sustain economic growth."

The Quezon City University was founded in March 1994 by virtue of the City Council Ordinance No. SP-0171. Since then, it offered three-year associate programs that produced highly competitive technicians in the areas of Automotive Technology, Electrical Technology, Welding Technology, Air Conditioning Technology and Fashion Technology. It paved the way for the recognition of Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

In 1997, it was upgraded to become a Local University. Following its formal establishment as the Quezon City Polytechnic University, it was able to offer other Bachelor's Degree programs as well (Entrepreneurial Management, Industrial Engineering, and Information Technology) in 2005.

Through the years, it has been developing and reforming its programs and it was even able to offer a Senior High School program under the K-12 initiative in AY 2016-2017. However, the biggest upgrade for the University commenced in 2019 when it was converted as the Quezon City University as we know it today. This change aligned the university to RA 10931 which made free higher education possible for its students.

J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III, DPA

Chairman

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Commission on Higher Education











