



Press Release

April 30, 2018

Five Colleges and Universities in Caraga to Implement Free Tuition Law

Students from four State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and one Local College in the Caraga region were given assurance by UniFAST and CHED officials that they will no longer pay tuition and miscellaneous fee as stated in the Republic Act 10931 or the “Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act” (UAQTEA).

This important provision of the landmark law was expressed to more than 700 higher education stakeholders based in the region on Friday during the Caraga-leg of the Nationwide Information Caravan on R.A. 10931 held at the Balanghai Hotel and Convention Center in Butuan City.



Stakeholders had the chance to clarify provisions of the Implementing Rules and Regulations during the open forum at the Nationwide Information Caravan on R.A. 10931 in Butuan City.

The five higher education institutions in the region that will benefit from the law are the Agusan del Sur State College of Agriculture and Technology, Caraga State University (Northern Mindanao State Institute of Science and Technology), Surigao del Sur State University, Surigao State College of Technology, and Hinatuan Southern College.

UniFAST Secretariat Officer-in-Charge Executive Director Atty. Carmelita Yadao-Sison assured the students, parents, faculty, and HEI officials that there is an allotted budget for the maiden implementation of the law.



UniFAST Secretariat Officer-in-Charge Executive Director Atty. Carmelita Yadao-Sison discusses the benefits of the 4 programs under R.A. 10931

“Php 16 Billion will go to our SUCS and CHED-recognized LUCs for free tuition or school matriculation, and other fees defined by the law. For the Tertiary Education Subsidy, it’s almost Php 16 Billion plus short-term student loan program that is Php 1 Billion,” Atty. Sison said.

In Caraga, almost 32,000 students enrolled in SUCs last Academic Year 2016-2017.

Aside from members of the Higher Education sector, representatives from the Technical-Vocational sector, several local government agencies, and media organizations attended the event.

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