



*Press Release*

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## **Additional financial assistance for TES beneficiaries now available – CHED**

Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) beneficiaries who are taking licensure examinations after completing their degrees can now claim additional financial assistance from the government through the Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education (UniFAST) TES 3-B.

This is after the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and UniFAST Board Chairman J. Prospero E. De Vera III signed Memorandum Circular No. 1, series of 2021 or the Supplemental Guidelines on the Disbursement of Additional Grants for Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) Beneficiaries in Programs Requiring Professional License of Certification or TES-3B.

TES beneficiaries may apply for reimbursement for a maximum amount of ten thousand pesos (PhP 10,000.00) for expenses such as application fees, notarial fees, review classes fees, insurance premium fees and documentation fees.

The guidelines are being issued to supplement the TES-3B provisions stated in Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) No. 7, series of 2019, or the Guidelines on the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) Program Pursuant to Special Provision (SP) No. 3, CHED Budget on Republic Act No. 11260 or the General Appropriations Act of FY 2019.

A period of two (2) fiscal years is allowed for TES-3B claims starting from the claimant's date of graduation, provided that the student has submitted within the period of validity to their higher education institutions (HEIs) the following documentary requirements:

- (a) Notarized Letter of intent to be reimbursed through TES-3B;

- (b) Official receipt from Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) for application or examination fees, and
- (c) Official Receipts from any of the following for allowable expenses:
  - i. -Notary Public for notarial fees;
  - ii. -Review Center for review center fees;
  - iii. -Insurance company for insurance premium fees;
  - iv. -HEI, PSA, BIR, NBI, for the issuance of Transcript of Records, Birth and (if applicable) Marriage Certificates, Documentary Stamps, NBI Clearance, and Certificate of Good Moral Character; and
  - v. -Other entities or institutions for expenses necessary to comply with the requirements for licensure examinations.

The TES is a grant-in-aid program under Republic Act 10931 or the *Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Law* signed by President Duterte in 2017 to help qualified disadvantaged students and those residing and studying in cities and municipalities without public universities to support their studies.

The **TES-1** covers the tuition and other school fees in private HEIs while **TES-2** is for education-related expenses and allowance for room and board costs. It also offers an additional subsidy worth P30,000 to TES beneficiaries with disabilities, which is the **TES-3A** category.

To download a copy of the guidelines, please visit <https://unifast.gov.ph/guidelines.php>.



**J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III**

Chairman

CHED and UniFAST Board