

PRESS RELEASE

DepEd makes history in full payment of PEIs

As promised, the Department of Education successfully completed the distribution of the productivity enhancement incentives (PEI), or popularly referred to as Christmas bonus, before the year turned.

Education Secretary Armin Luistro credited this success to the collaborative efforts of the DepEd regional and division offices, whose hardwork allowed the more than 500,000 education personnel across the country to receive their P10,000 Christmas bonus not later than December 30.

“As promised, we have exhausted all possible means to ensure that our employees, particularly the teachers, receive their P10,000 bonus after a year of hard work,” said Luistro.

Of the amount, P7,000 came from national savings released by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) to government offices as ordered by President Benigno S. Aquino III through Administrative Order No. 3. The additional P3,000 came from the department’s savings.

Although payments were 100% completed a week after the December 23-deadline earlier set, the department still considered this a wonderful way to end 2010.

“Since education is the key towards a truly strong Philippines, our teachers have one of the most challenging responsibilities. Hence, it is just right to immediately give them the extra compensation they deserve. We are happy that we were able to give them the full P10,000 bonus more promptly compared to previous years,” added Luistro.

In earlier years, payments were usually given in two tranches. Employees would initially receive P7,000 late December and the additional P3,000 would come a month later.

Furthermore, Luistro thanks the DepEd Finance team who worked double time for effecting the rapid transfer of funds to the field offices for the full payment of employees’ PEI before the year ended.

“This 2011, we will continue to uphold our commitment that teaching and non-teaching personnel nationwide will receive their full benefits as part of our efforts to push for the realization of genuine education for all,” stressed Luistro.

Meanwhile, Emmalyn Policarpio, on behalf of the of the Teachers’ Dignity Coalition, expressed her appreciation on DepEd’s serious commitment to put teachers’ welfare among its priorities. “We thank DepEd for its sincere and immediate response to the teachers’ call on their PEI. It is only now that teachers were able to receive P10,000 in full (compared with the previous years).”

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