

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 7, 2009

DepEd grants 200 jobs under CLEEP

As workers around the world lose their jobs due to the global economic meltdown, the government continues to intensify efforts to create jobs and employ people especially those displaced by the economic crunch.

At the Department of Education Central Office, a total of 200 jobs have been opened since July 1 after President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo instructed all members of the Cabinet to create emergency employment.

The government's prioritized employment generation is called Comprehensive Livelihood and Employment Emergency Program (CLEEP).

CLEEP was set into motion to protect the most vulnerable sectors from threats and consequences of reduced or lost income as a result of the global economic crisis. Specifically, it intends to hire workers for emergency employment and to fund and supervise livelihood projects.

DepEd Secretary Jesli Lapus said the first batch of CLEEP beneficiaries started working last July 1. "Out of the 200 jobs committed by the department, 142 slots were already filled by the first batch," he added.

Furthermore, on August 3, 58 more CLEEP beneficiaries joined the department, filling the remaining slots.

In the CLEEP Orientation for the first batch of new hires, DepEd Assistant Secretary Jonathan Malaya emphasized that DepEd is the largest government agency, which also has the largest responsibility because it gives frontline service – education – to the people," Malaya said.

Most of the CLEEP beneficiaries work as data encoders and clerks while some are nursing and dental aides, electricians, utility workers, carpenters/masons, auto mechanics, and drivers.

The wage range from P7,000 for utility personnel to P9,000 for professionals/skilled workers.

CLEEP is based on Executive Order (EO) no. 783, Providing for Employment Interventions to Save and Create Jobs as Part of the Economic Resiliency Plan. Under the EO, all cabinet members are instructed to draw up emergency work programs and doable and fundable livelihood projects for the middle class, middle-low income class and the poorest of the poor.

The DepEd new hires came from the ranks of displaced workers, out of school youths, and high school graduates. Some were hired from job fairs while some were walk in applicants.

PRESS RELEASE

These CLEEP workers will have a contract of service that will end on December 31, 2009.

END

PRESS RELEASE