

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 25, 2009

## DepEd to conduct A&E exam in October

The Department of Education (DepEd) will conduct the Accreditation and Equivalency (A&E) test in the four Sundays of October 2009 to measure the competencies of those who have not finished formal elementary or secondary education.

“Passing the test will pave the way for their re-entry to formal schooling or allow them a chance to pursue other productive endeavors,” Education Secretary Jesli Lapus said.

“The A & E test is one of the many ways to make education accessible to all learners and is part of our commitment to the goals of Education For All (EFA) by 2015,” the education chief added.

The A & E test is given free. The registration of examinees has started last July and has been extended to **August 31, 2009**. Examinees should register in any of the 199 designated registration and testing centers nationwide.

The test will be administered for three hours and 30 minutes for the elementary level. It will be longer by an hour for the high school level. The test covers five learning strands in communications, problem solving and critical thinking, sustainable use of resources and productivity, development of self and a sense of community, and expanding one's world vision. This also includes a 30-minute composition writing task.

Qualified to take the test are unemployed or underemployed out-of-school youths or adults, drop-outs or those who have left the formal schools, persons with physical disabilities and inmates, rebel or soldier integrees.

Members of cultural minorities or indigenous peoples, industry-based workers, housewives, helpers, factory workers and drivers can also take the test.

Elementary school dropouts who pass the elementary level test can enroll as high school freshman.

Those who pass the A&E Test for the secondary level may choose to enroll in post-secondary technical and vocational courses. Another choice for the passers is to enroll in two, three, four or five-year course in member-schools of the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC) and others likewise supervised by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). They can also avail of the skills training programs of the Meralco Foundation and those provided by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

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The test taker should accomplish a registration form and submit the requirements for registration like two 1"x1" latest photo, proofs of identification like copy of birth certificate, company or employer ID, postal ID, voter's ID, TIN, SSS or GSIS card, valid driver's license, valid passport or Form 138.

They should fill-out the registration form and affix their signature on the space provided for. They have to submit the duly accomplished registration form to the Test Registration Officer. The lower portion of the form must be retrieved for presentation to the Examiner on the day of the test.

**END**

For more information, please call the Bureau of Alternative Learning System at 635-5189 or 635-5191.

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