



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

20 FEB 2013

DepEd ORDER
No. **11**, s. 2013

POLICIES AND GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN PRIVATE EDUCATION (GASTPE) EFFECTIVE SCHOOL YEAR (SY) 2013-2014

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau Directors
Directors of Services, Centers and Heads of Units
Regional Secretary, ARMM
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools
All Others Concerned

1. The Government Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education (GASTPE), consisting of the Education Service Contracting (ESC), the Education Voucher System (EVS), and the Teacher Salary Subsidy (TSS), is a demonstration of the Government's commitment to maintain the viability of private education as a key partner in the delivery of quality basic education.
2. In support of this commitment, the Department of Education (DepEd) has issued enabling policies and guidelines to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of the program. The policies and guidelines are contained in the enclosure. These guidelines shall remain in effect unless otherwise amended.
3. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Order is directed.


BR. ARMIN A. LUISTRO FSC
Secretary

Encl.:
As stated

Reference:
DepEd Memorandum: No. 35, s. 2012

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

FUNDS
POLICY
PROGRAMS
SCHOOLS

SECONDARY EDUCATION
STUDENTS
TEACHERS

(Enclosure to DepEd Order No. 11, s. 2013)

**POLICIES AND GUIDELINES FOR THE GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS AND
TEACHERS IN PRIVATE EDUCATION AT THE BASIC EDUCATION LEVEL
EFFECTIVE SY 2013-2014**

I. LEGAL BASES

- A. Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines and Republic Act 8545, otherwise known as the “Expanded Government Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education (GASTPE),” provide the legal bases for the Education Service Contracting (ESC) and the Education Voucher System (EVS). It is the declared policy of the State, in conformity with the mandate of the Constitution, to promote and make quality education available to all Filipino citizens. The State also recognizes the complementary roles of public and private schools in the education system, especially the latter’s invaluable contribution to education. The ESC, since its pilot test in 1982-1984, has become a symbol of private-public school partnership in making quality secondary education accessible to all Filipino citizens.
- B. The management of GASTPE has been contracted out by DepEd to the Private Education Assistance Committee, which is the trustee of the Fund for Assistance to Private Education (FAPE), a perpetual trust fund created by and between the Philippine and US governments under E.O. 156, s. 1968 for the purpose of providing assistance to private education in the country and which, by amendment under Executive order 150, s. 1994 is authorized to manage and administer: contributions, donations, grants, bequests, gifts and/or loans from the Government of the Republic of the Philippines for programs of assistance to private education.

II. SCOPE AND COVERAGE

- A. In conformity to the foregoing mandates, the Department of Education (DepEd) shall expand the coverage of the ESC, as it started to phase out the EVS progressively beginning with the First Year level in SY 2011-2012. The EVS shall be completely phased out by SY 2014-2015 when the Fourth Year grantees of the program shall have finished their secondary education.

- B. The Teacher Salary Subsidy (TSS) shall continue in fulfillment of the government's support to private secondary education. The TSS program of the GASTPE was implemented for the first time in SY 2009-2010. It provides the grant of salary subsidy to *licensed secondary school teachers* in participating private high schools in the ESC program.

III. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES

The guidelines and procedures for the implementation of the ESC shall be governed by the following general principles and policies:

- A. ESC is aimed at democratizing and improving access to quality secondary education through government extension of financial assistance to deserving elementary school graduates who wish to pursue their secondary education in private schools. It is geared towards reducing the class size to manageable levels in public high schools, especially those experiencing shortage of classrooms and teachers. Thus, through the ESC, the government will be able to decongest public secondary schools.

In an effort to expedite the decongestion of public secondary schools and subsequently improve their learning environment, ESC shall be expanded to include the Open High School Program (OHSP) in providing students greater access to secondary education.

- B. Program beneficiaries in ESC participating private high schools are assured of the Government's commitment to support their education for as long as they meet the requirements for regular promotion to each of the succeeding school years until they graduate.
- C. The ESC is a concrete demonstration of strong public-private sector partnership that is mirrored at all levels of the program's operations.
 - 1. DepEd, FAPE and the participating private schools recognize the need to continuously monitor and evaluate the ESC. A database on the ESC shall be developed and maintained.

DepEd shall allocate and obligate the annual GASTPE budget within the calendar year so that payments can be effected to the participating schools on time.

IV. GENERAL GUIDELINES

The following general guidelines shall apply to the ESC program. The guidelines for the EVS program issued in SY 2010-2011 per DepEd Order No. 31, s. 2010 shall continue to be applied to cover the existing student grantees until the last batch of grantees in the Fourth Year shall have completed their secondary education by SY 2014-2015.

A. CONDITIONS OF THE ESC GRANTS

ESC Grantees in Formal Schooling

1. The ESC grants shall cover the four (4) years of secondary education from First Year to graduation. They can start only at the First Year level. No new grants shall be awarded at higher year levels. If the grantees are enrolled in night high schools or evening classes designed for a five-year curriculum, the grant can be availed for four (4) years only.
2. The grant is deemed renewed for the next school year if the student is promoted to the next year level and enrolls in the same school. Since the ESC is a system of financial assistance to the grantees, no maintaining grade shall be required for retention in the program.
3. The grant is deemed terminated for any one of the following reasons:
 - a. If the student drops out for non-health reasons in the middle of the school year;
 - b. If the student has not applied for an official leave and does not re-enroll the following year;
 - c. If the student is retained at the same year level or not promoted to the next higher year level;

- d. If the student is suspended for more than 2 weeks or is dismissed or expelled by the school for disciplinary violation; or
 - e. If the student transfers to a non-ESC participating school.
4. A grantee may apply for transfer to another ESC participating school. However, transfers from outside the National Capital Region (NCR) into NCR are not allowed. Transfers from NCR to participating schools outside the NCR may be allowed but the amount of the grant is reduced accordingly.

ESC Grantees in the OHSP

1. The ESC grants shall cover the four (4) year levels of secondary education from First Year to graduation. They can start only at the First Year level. No new grants shall be awarded at higher year levels.
2. The grant is deemed renewed for the next year level if the student completes and passes a given year level within one calendar year from enrolment and enrolls in the next year level within at least 2 months from completing and passing the previous year level. No maintaining grade shall be required for retention in the program.
3. A grantee who fails to complete a year level within one calendar year from enrolment shall automatically be dropped from the program.
4. A grantee who fails to enroll in the next year level within two months of completing and passing the previous year level shall also be automatically dropped from the program.

B. AMOUNTS OF THE ESC AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

ESC Grantees in Formal Schooling

1. For all First Year grantees of SY 2012-2013 in regions outside the NCR only, the amount of subsidy shall be Six Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P6,500.00) per grantee for an entire school year, subject to adjustments approved by the State Assistance Council (SAC). Meanwhile, the amount of subsidy for Second to Fourth Year level grantees shall be the same as that received in the

previous SY 2011-2012 (2nd year – P6,500, 3rd to 4th yrs – P5,500 per grantee). However, if the tuition and other fees (TFOFs) charged by a school are lower than the ESC grant, the amount that shall be paid the school shall not be more than the TFOFs it charges.

2. For student grantees in the NCR, the amount of subsidy shall be Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) per grantee for an entire school year. This is in recognition of the fact that private school tuition and all other fees are much higher in NCR than in the rest of the country.
3. If a grantee transfers to another ESC participating school before July 15, the DepEd shall pay the grant to the receiving school, not the school of origin. No payment of subsidy to the receiving school shall be made for transfers beyond this date.
4. If a grantee transfers to another ESC participating school after July 15, DepEd shall pay the subsidy to the school of origin. It shall be the responsibility of the grantee to settle accounts with the receiving school. It has been the policy per DepEd Order No. 31, s. 2010 that the receiving school cannot collect payment from DepEd for the late transferee/s. For statistical purposes, the student who transfers after said date shall be counted as a grantee at the school of origin for the current school year.
5. It shall be the responsibility of the receiving school to report in its online school account in the FAPE website the names and other details of transferees in and out of the school concerned.

ESC Grantees in the Open High School Program

The grant amount for incoming grantees of the OHSP for all regions including the NCR shall be an all-in P6,500 per grantee per year, subject to adjustments approved by the SAC. As the grant represents full payment, no school tuition and other fee differentials from the grant need to be paid by the grantees.

C. PRIVATE SCHOOL PARTICIPATION IN ESC

For Regular (Formal Schooling)

1. Private schools desiring to participate in the ESC may write a letter of intent with their contact details to their respective DepEd Division Superintendents who shall, in turn, certify the eligibility of schools and endorse this to the concerned FAPE Regional Program Coordinators. The conditions for school participation in the formal instruction mode of the program are as follows:

- a. The school should be recognized by the government. It must be accredited at least as Level II by any member of the Federation of Accrediting Agencies of the Philippines (FAAP), or has passed the FAPE Certification Program. A brief description of the Certification Program is available at www.peac-fape.org.ph.

Participating schools whose government recognition has lapsed must renew their recognition before the start of the school year. Failure to do so will prevent the school from accepting freshman ESC grantees.

- b. Newly certified schools as of end-April of every that are not yet included in the list of participating schools in the FAPE website as of the date of issuance of these guidelines may participate in the ESC program subject to the availability of slots and on a queuing system.

New schools certified after April and those that cannot be accommodated due to lack of new slots may participate the following school year, subject to the availability of slots and on a queuing system.

- c. FAPE, in collaboration with the DepEd Division Office, shall assist schools in assessing and continuously improving their quality. A detailed listing of the names, contact numbers and addresses of participating schools is available at the FAPE website www.peac-fape.org.ph.

2. Other requirements for participating private schools include the following:

- a. The private school has a School Committee composed of the school head as chairperson, the representative of the Parent-Teachers Association,

and the representative of the faculty association. This committee screens and prepares each grantee's profile as basis for grantee selection and identifying at-risk students.

- b. The school must make itself available for re-certification after three (3) years from its last certification and within one (1) month of receipt of notice for re-certification, otherwise, the school shall be barred from accepting freshman ESC grantees the following school year.

Schools that fail re-certification or those who earn a rating of less than 2.00 shall not be allotted additional slots and shall be given one school year to improve its curriculum, governance or school operations. After this period, they must pass re-certification. Otherwise, these schools shall no longer be allowed to recruit freshman grantees and shall only be allowed to graduate their remaining grantees.

For OHSP Schools

1. The school should be recognized by the government. It must be accredited at least as Level II by any member of the FAAP, or has passed the FAPE Certification Program with a rating of at least 2.5.
2. In addition to item 1 above, schools in the OHSP must have the following:
 - a. ICT facilities with good internet connectivity;
 - b. Teacher competence: technological fluency and knowledge of instructional design;
 - c. One or more classrooms for guided learning;
 - d. Availability of guidance services; and
 - e. Trained school head and teachers on the alternative mode of delivery.
3. Schools certified to possess the above characteristics and authorized to participate in the ESC OHSP are listed in the FAPE website.

D. ALLOCATION OF SLOTS

Fixed Slot Allocation

1. As has been the policy, First Year ESC slots are equal to the number of actual First Year grantees of the preceding school year (referred to as the fixed allocation) on condition that the school is in good standing (***passed latest certification/re-certification and has no adverse findings in its last monitoring visit***) in the program and has demonstrated its capacity to utilize slots allocated to it.

Additional Slot Allocation

1. Using DepEd Office of Planning Service (OPS) data on shortages of high school classrooms and seats in cities and municipalities across the country, DepEd OPS and FAPE shall determine the distribution of new and/or additional slots to the cities and municipalities where these shortages occur.
2. The distribution of available slots to ESC participating schools within a city or municipality shall first consider a performance-based incentive allocation on quality as follows:
 - a. At least level II accreditation from any member of the FAAP – additional 30 slots
 - b. Above Standard (3.00 and above) in the FAPE Certification program –additional 15 slots
3. The remaining balance of slot allocation of a city or municipality after applying the incentive allocations shall be equally divided among the number of participating schools in good standing in the city or municipality.
4. A summary of the additional slot allocations to participating schools by region shall be made available for viewing in the FAPE website.
5. A school's total allocation (fixed and additional slot allocations) shall be indicated in its online account.

6. Given that total slot allocations for each participating school has been predetermined based on the above, participating schools need not request for additional slot allocations as these shall not be entertained.
7. If the total number of additional slots computed according to the performance-based incentive allocations would be greater than the total additional slots granted to a city or a municipality, then the additional slots per school would be pro-rated accordingly.

OHSP Slot Allocation

A summary of slot allocations for schools authorized to offer the OHSP may be found in the FAPE website.

E. SELECTION OF GRANTEES

1. Preference shall be given to graduates of public elementary schools as well as students certified through letter by the DepEd Division Superintendent as able students in public high schools where they have registered and/or are enrolled in. While these students are eligible for ESC grants, they must undergo assessment for selection by the School Committees of the respective ESC participating schools.
2. The ESC participating private schools shall form a School Committee headed by the principal who shall be responsible for the profiling of applicant-grantees on the basis of need to be considered for the limited number of fixed, and additional (if any) slot allocation of the school.

For OHSP applicants, the participant school must certify in writing that it has assessed student-applicants' readiness and capability to undergo this mode of learning.

3. The office of the DepEd Education Supervisor-in-Charge of private schools in the Division shall review during its own monitoring visits of participating schools the records of all grantee-applicants from which the schools' grantees were selected in order to ensure appropriate targeting of program beneficiaries.

4. Participating schools that are unable to fill their slot allocations shall lose the number of slots that were unfilled. There shall be no redistribution of unutilized slots unless authorized by the DepEd Central Office.
5. The principal shall be responsible for orienting the grantees and their parent/guardians regarding program policies. As proof of the conduct of the orientation/s, documentary support showing the signature/s of the parent/s and/or guardians who attended is required. It shall be made clear during the orientation that the ESC is a government program provided for under RA 8545 or GASTPE Law. At the end of the orientation, individual contracts (available in the FAPE website) with the school are signed by the parents to affirm the latter's commitment to support the students' completion of secondary education under the program. The school shall file these contracts for inspection and review by DepEd and FAPE.
6. ESC participating schools shall have placed in the lower right portion of the back of the grantees' school IDs the icon provided in the FAPE website to indicate that they are ESC grantees.

F. REPORTING AND BILLING ARRANGEMENTS FOR ESC

1. Participating schools must each assign a staff that is IT proficient to be responsible for encoding data for their Billing Statement/s and BEIS in the ESC Online Encoding System (**EOES**) as well to prepare and ensure complete and correct documentary submission to the FAPE RPC by the deadline. A seminar is conducted in every region to instruct the staff on the proper and complete accomplishment of the requirements for online and documentary submissions.
2. Participating schools are provided with a unique FAPE School ID and a password to access their school account in the EOES found at www.fape.org.ph. A school's online account has a list of its existing grantees where the status of each grantee must be updated on a yearly basis. Schools shall also encode the names and other information of their incoming freshman grantees.
3. After the accomplishment of item 2, the system will automatically format the updated information on the list of new and continuing grantees into a

system-generated ESC Billing Statement for the current school year. The school shall print its Billing Statement in the number of copies indicated in the FAPE website and have each copy signed by the members of its School Committee before submitting these with items 4 and 5 below to the FAPE Regional Program Coordinator (RPC) for processing.

4. Participating schools must accomplish their complete Basic Education Information System (BEIS) form electronically in the EOES.
5. For the Teachers' Salary Subsidy (TSS), participating schools shall accomplish the Form for TSS that is available in the FAPE website where it shall indicate its certified list of licensed teachers and their PRC license numbers and other related information.
6. The deadline for private schools to submit their ESC Billing Statements, BEIS and TSS forms along with other supporting documentary requirements to the FAPE RPC shall be on August 15 of every school year. With the help of the FAPE RPCs, the RCom shall facilitate the review, compilation, signing of the ESC Billing Statements and forwarding the same to FAPE in Makati not later than August 30. All valid claims received within this period shall be paid within the fiscal year.

Claims received after the deadline shall be subject to review and verification that will result in a delay of payment. Furthermore, the concerned schools shall be penalized with a 30% reduction in their fixed slot allocation the following school year and shall not be entitled to any additional slot allocation.

G. PROCESSING OF SCHOOL CLAIMS

1. Shown in each school's online account in the EOES is a guide indicating what constitutes a complete documentary submission to the FAPE RPC.
2. The FAPE RPCs shall receive school Billing Statements, fully-accomplished BEIS, TSS forms, and supporting documents. A checklist shall be used to ensure that the documents are complete before these are accepted. The documents shall then be checked for accuracy, consolidation, and signing by

signatory/ies at the region before submitting these to FAPE National Secretariat.

3. The FAPE National Secretariat shall compare the data in the submitted school Billing Statements with the electronically-generated program forms. It shall consolidate the Billing Statements in batches on a first-come, first-served basis, and endorse these for payment to the DepEd Accounting Division not later than October 30. The batch numbers indicate the priority or queuing order of payment of schools. A school may check its batch number in its online account in the FAPE website.
4. For the OHSP, given the irregular entry/enrollment dates of grantees into the program, only those grantees reported by the school within the deadlines set for a given school year for submission of the Billing Statements shall be considered for payment for that particular school year. Grantees that were not included in the billing statement/s filed by the deadline may be billed for payment before the deadline set for submission of billing statements the following school year.

H. PAYMENT OF GRANTS TO OFFICIAL SCHOOL LAND BANK ACCOUNTS

1. DepEd shall credit to the schools' Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) accounts, the payment of the ESC, EVS and TSS grants. This bank account shall be in the official name of the school. In no case shall payment be made directly to a person, whether he or she is a grantee or a school official.
2. Once schools receive payments, they must issue an official receipt to DepEd Central Office and deliver the same to the FAPE RPC as soon as possible. The FAPE RPC shall forward the receipts to FAPE in Makati which shall in turn forward these to DepEd Central Accounting Division. Failure of schools to issue official receipts shall cause the withholding of the following year's grant payments.
3. Overpayment to a school due to errors and mistakes in the ESC Billing Statements shall be refunded by the school only through check payment issued to DepEd Central Office. The checks must be submitted to the concerned FAPE RPC who will acknowledge receipt of the checks and forward the same to FAPE Central Office for consolidation and submission to DepEd

Central Accounting Division. Official receipts issued by DepEd for cleared check refunds shall be turned over to FAPE for delivery to the schools concerned. Failure by the school to do so shall cause, among others, the suspension of the school's privilege to admit new ESC grantees.

V. TEACHER SALARY SUBSIDY (TSS)

Pursuant to Section 14, "Teachers' Salary Subsidy Fund" of Republic Act (RA) 8545, the DepEd, following the implementation of the TSS in SY 2009-2010, has earmarked a portion of its GASTPE Appropriations to finance the grant of salary subsidy to teachers in private high schools participating in the ESC Program.

The following guidelines are issued to ensure the smooth implementation of the grant:

A. Coverage and Amount of Teacher Salary Subsidy

1. As defined in Section 14 of RA No. 8545, there is hereby established a Teachers' Salary Subsidy Fund in DepEd to grant salary subsidy to teachers in private high schools participating in the ESC program of GASTPE, provided, that private high school teachers qualified to receive such subsidy are those that meet all the following criteria:
 - a. LET passers with valid licenses from the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) as of August 15 of the current school year;
 - b. Bachelor in Secondary Education graduates or AB-BS with 18 units in professional education courses;
 - c. Teachers of ESC grantees of an ESC participating school

Non-teaching staff are not entitled to the salary subsidy.

2. The amount of salary subsidy to qualified teachers shall be P12,000.00 per teacher per year or equivalent to P1,000.00 per month of service that is subject to withholding tax.
3. Teachers who have resigned or retired from the service at the time of payment of the TSS due to health reasons and in accordance with school regulations shall likewise be entitled to payment of the salary subsidy

proportionate to actual services rendered. Unexpended subsidies must be returned to DepEd and are not transferrable to teachers not listed among those billed by the school for the school year. See Section IV H item 3 on how to return funds to DepEd.

4. The government reserves the right to verify the PRC licenses of teachers listed by participating schools to claim the TSS. Any false claims shall subject the school to a suspension of its entire TSS program support.

B. Procedure for Paying TSS Participating Private Schools

1. Schools shall submit to the FAPE RPC, along with their ESC Billing Statements, a form indicating its certified list of licensed teachers and their PRC license numbers and other related information. The form is available in the FAPE website.
2. Upon receipt of the Teachers' Salary Subsidy payment, the head of the participating school shall prepare a payroll in five (5) copies, consisting of the following:
 - a. Names of ESC teachers;
 - b. Corresponding PRC license number;
 - c. Amount received; and
 - d. Signatures of recipients
3. The school payroll must bear the signature/s of its authorized officials and the head of the faculty organization, or its equivalent, in said school. The payroll shall be filed separately with DepEd BSE, FAPE, DepEd Regional Office, DepEd Division Office and the school concerned within two (2) weeks from date of the payroll, for records purposes.
4. In case where there is no faculty organization operating in the ESC participating private high school, the teachers whose names appear in the payroll prepared by school authorities shall elect an official representative who shall then witness the grant of TSS to qualified teachers.
5. Non-compliance with these guidelines by heads of ESC participating schools shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

6. The DepEd Division Office is tasked to monitor the smooth implementation of the Teachers' Salary Subsidy and to report immediately to DepEd Regional Office, cc: Central Office, all violations, if any, that have been committed by ESC participating private high schools.

VI. GROUNDS FOR PENALTIES, SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION OF SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

- A. Falsification of data or information in any of the program forms and related attachments

The penalty for this shall be a minimum suspension of one (1) year whereby the school shall not be allowed to recruit freshman grantees.

- B. Padding and/or inclusion of "ghost students" in the list of grantees. This refers to the following:

1. Listed grantees who are absent during a joint FAPE and DepEd field audit of the school, whose existence and whereabouts cannot be sufficiently explained and supported by school authorities;
2. Grantees listed as being enrolled in a specific school campus or unit but who are actually attending classes in a different school campus or unit;
3. Grantees listed as "enrolled" but who have not been attending classes since the opening of classes;
4. Grantees double-listed under the ESC program.

The penalty for this shall be termination from the program whereby the school shall no longer be allowed to recruit freshman grantees and accept transferees from other ESC schools. The school shall be allowed to graduate its grantees at the higher year levels and will be under close monitoring.

- C. Charging grantees in excess of the school's tuition and other standard and non-standard fees

The penalty shall be a documented return of the excess funds charged by the school and a 50% discount on any TFOF differential the grantee has to pay the school the following school year.

- D. Non-reimbursement or undue delay in the reimbursement of tuition and other fees advanced by grantees after the school has been paid by DepEd

The penalty shall be the same as in Item C above.

- E. A **retention rate** on the total number of ESC grantees **below 90%** except for reasons due to force majeure (e.g. calamities, armed conflict)

The penalty shall be a reduction in the school's fixed slot allocation by the number of slots based on the percentage needed to meet the 90% retention rate and no additional slot allocation.

- F. Refusal to release transfer credentials to grantees that opt to transfer to other schools.

The penalty shall be a documented release of the transfer credentials and reduction in the fixed slot allocation of the school by the number of grantees affected and no additional slot allocation.

- G. Requiring transferring grantees to pay for unattended school years

The penalty shall be a reduction in the fixed slot allocation by the number of affected grantees and no additional slot allocation.

- H. Schools with unresolved ownership disputes filed in court.

Once an ownership dispute is established through receipt of court documents supporting such or when the adverse party makes a claim over the grants received by the school, the school's participation in the programs shall be suspended beginning with ESC freshman recruitment the following school year.

Payment for continuing grantees of the school shall be made only upon the written Endorsement by the DepEd Regional Office after consulting its Legal Department.

- I. Schools unduly withholding TSS payments to qualified licensed teachers.

The penalty shall be a 10% reduction in the school's fixed slot allocation and no additional slot allocation.

Schools found to be in violation of any of the above by, among others, the field audits jointly conducted by FAPE and DepEd representatives, shall be reported to the DepEd Central Office and the RCom. The DepEd Central Office shall notify the concerned DepEd Regional Offices (RO) of its receipt of the findings and instruct the RO to investigate and/or confirm the findings as a basis for levying sanctions. The Office of the DepEd Secretary shall exercise veto power over investigative findings of the DepEd RO.

The sanctions against schools for the above violations shall become effective the following school year. In cases such as schools with ghost students, DepEd shall expect the school to immediately return the subsidies for the ghost students, otherwise, DepEd may pursue charges against the school for the return of the subsidies.

VII. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

This shall remain the same as that provided in Section VII of DepEd Order No. 35, S. 2012

CONTACT NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES:

1. Inquiries regarding GASTPE at the DepEd may be sent to the following contact numbers and addresses:

Office of Planning Service
(02) 633-7216 and 638-8634
ppdopsdepd@gmail.com

Bureau of Secondary Education
(02) 633-7242 and 636-5173
lolitaandrada@yahoo.com

Accounting Division
(02) 633-7961 and 633-7233
ma.teresa.guledew@gmail.com

2. The FAPE may be reached at the following contact numbers and address:

Fund for Assistance to Private Education (Main Office – Makati)
Trunkline (02) 845-0169 (ask to be connected to ESC staff) and 09175013237
www.fape.org.ph