

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS
Meralco Drive, Pasig, Metro Manila

June 7, 1993

DECS Order No. 35, s. 1993

**ALLOWING STUDENT ABSENCES IN EXCESS OF 20 PER CENT
IN INDIVIDUAL CASES IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS**

To: Bureau Directors, Regional Directors, School Superintendents
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

1. In view of a number of instances where absences by students in private schools for valid reasons may exceed the twenty per cent limit set forth in the Manual of Regulations for Private Schools, heads of private schools, colleges, and universities may henceforth exercise their discretion in permitting absences by individual students in excess of such a limit. In effect, a student with excess absences may still be given a passing grade, if in the opinion of the school head the excess absences were for valid reasons.

2. Section 73 of the 1992 Manual of Regulations for Private Schools is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 73. Absences. A student in a private school who incurs absences of more than twenty per cent of the prescribed number of class or laboratory periods during the school year or term should be given a failing grade and given no credit for the course of subject. However, the school may adopt an attendance policy to govern absences of its students who belong to the upper half of their respective classes. Furthermore, the school head may at his discretion and in the individual case exempt a student who exceeds the twenty per cent limit for reasons considered valid and acceptable to the school.

"Such discretion shall not excuse the student concerned from responsibility in keeping up with lesson assignments and taking examinations where indicated. The discretionary authority is vested in the school head, and may not be availed of by a student nor granted by a faculty member without the consent of the school head."

3. This Order shall be effective immediately.



ARMAND V. FABELLA
Secretary

Reference: DECS Order: No. 92, s. 1992
Allotment: 1-2-4- - (M.O. 1-87)
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

✓ ABSENCES
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