



To help the poor

*RP Department of Education continues implementation
of student financial assistance programs*

MANILA , Jan. 6 (PNA) – The Department of Education (DepEd) announces the continuing implementation of the Education Service Contracting (ESC) and the Education Voucher System (EVS) to enable poor but deserving elementary school graduates to attend private secondary schools.

Education Secretary Jesli Lapus said the ESC scheme is implemented by contracting private schools to accommodate students from the public schools in order to decongest the public school system.

This is under the expanded Government’s Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education (GASTPE).

The EVS, on the other hand, awards education vouchers to poor but deserving elementary graduates. It is an on-going program under the Office of the President.

A maximum subsidy of P6,000 or the private school’s actual tuition and other fees are given to each beneficiary.

“Through the EVS and ESC schemes, we wish to have equitable access to basic education,” Lapus said.

“It is the duty of the government to promote and make quality basic education available to all Filipinos,” he added.

Under the program, beneficiaries of ESC and EVS are awarded certificates or vouchers as evidence of the government’s commitment to support their education in a private high school of their choice.

The program is being managed by Fund for Assistance to Private Education in coordination with the DepEd’s field offices. (PNA) #

released 1/6/2008