

Republic of the Philippines  
REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao  
Cotabato City

THIRD REGULAR SESSION

Begun and held in Cotabato City, the twenty-seventh day of April, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety Two.

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[ MUSLIM MINDANAO AUTONOMY ACT NO. 15 ]

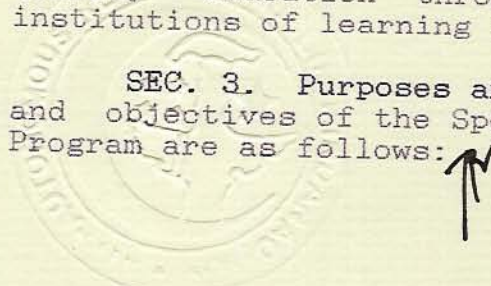
" AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Be it enacted by the Regional Legislative Assembly in session assembled:

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Special Scholarship Assistance Program Act of Muslim Mindanao."

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the declared policy of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao to extend and provide support for the education of the youth of the region in order to ensure the development of their spiritual, intellectual, social, cultural and political well-being. To this end, it shall endeavor to establish a special scholarship assistance program that will enable them to acquire quality education through any of the accredited institutions of learning in the country.

SEC. 3. Purposes and Objectives. - The purposes and objectives of the Special Scholarship Assistance Program are as follows:



- a) To provide the youth of the region an education committed to the total spiritual, intellectual, social, cultural and physical development of man;
- b) To inculcate upon the youth the values of patriotism, nationalism and love of God;
- c) To promote and foster awareness and discipline, love of humanity, respect for human rights and the rights and duties of citizenship; and
- d) To prepare the youth for leadership of the region, economically, socially and politically.

**SEC. 4. Special Scholarship Assistance.** - Unless otherwise provided by law, there is hereby established a Special Scholarship Assistance Program (SSAP), hereinafter referred to as "Scholarship Program", in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

**SEC. 5. Duration of Scholarship.** - The duration of scholarship benefits under the program shall be strictly in accordance with the length of years or number of semesters, whichever is appropriate, prescribed for each college degree as may be granted a scholarship awardee: Provided, That an academic average of 85% shall be maintained by the grantee in every school semester: Provided, likewise, That failure to obtain such rating shall be a sufficient cause for termination of scholarship, unless a valid reason is given within the criteria set forth by the Regional Department of Education, Culture and Sports.

**SEC. 6. Scholarship Limit.** - The Scholarship program shall be limited to the following:

- a) Any school children in the Autonomous Region who is, at least, eleven (11) years old or Grade V in the grade level;
- b) Effectivity of the scholarship shall commence after (5) years from the date of purchase and upon entering college; and

- c) Parents of the school children concerned shall have at least a gross annual income of not higher than Forty Thousand Pesos ( P40,000.00 ) each family.

This Scholarship Program includes tuition fee, standard school fees as defined by the Regional Department of Education, Culture and Sports (RDECS), a graduation gift in cash and an educational allowance based on a percentage of actual tuition and other standard school fees.

**SEC. 7. Scholarship Slots.** - The Scholarship Slots shall be distributed as follows:

- 7.1. Thirty percent (30%) for the Autonomous Regional Government;
- 7.2. Ten percent (10%) for each province; and
- 7.3. Thirty percent (30%) for the municipalities.

**SEC. 8. Memorandum of Agreement.** - The Regional Autonomous Government, in coordination with the Local Government Units, may enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with any scholarship institution or firm for the implementation of this Act.

Signatories to such agreement shall be the Regional Governor and the Provincial Governors as co-signatories, on one hand, representing the Autonomous Regional Government and the provinces concerned, and the accredited scholarship institution or firm on the other, respectively.

**SEC. 9. Management.** - The Scholarship program shall be managed and administered by the Regional Department of Education, Culture and Sports. It shall, within three (3) months from the approval of this Act, formulate and promulgate the criteria or guidelines that will govern the methods of the scholarship program.



SEC. 10. Screening and Selection Committee. - For the purpose of determining who shall qualify under this scholarship program, a Screening and Selection Committee is hereby organized, which shall be composed of the Regional Secretary of the Regional Department of Education, Culture and Sports as Chairman; the Division Superintendent of the province or district where the scholars come from as Vice-Chairman, and a representative of the NGO who shall be appointed by the Regional Governor as member.

The Screening and Selection Committee whose decision is final shall see to it that the criteria or guidelines as maybe formulated by the Regional Department of Education, Culture and Sports are strictly and properly observed in the screening and selection of applicants of this program.

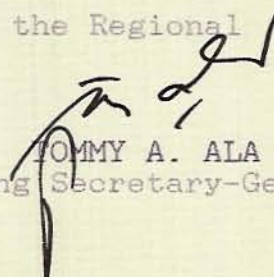
SEC. 11. Appropriation. - The sum of Twenty Five Million Pesos (P25,000,000.00) representing the initial payment for the program is hereby appropriated out of the funds in the Regional Treasury not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter, a similar amount of fund shall be included for appropriation in the Annual Regional Appropriations Act until such time that the gross amount of One Hundred Million Pesos (P100,000,000.00) shall have been paid.

SEC. 12. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect immediately upon approval.

APPROVED:

ALI PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG  
Speaker

This Act was passed by the Regional Legislative Assembly on August 4, 1992.

  
TOMMY A. ALA  
Acting Secretary-General

APPROVED:

ZACARIA A. CANDAO  
Regional Governor  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

