

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC }  
OF THE PHILIPPINES }  
*First Regular Session* }

8 FEB 2015

RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

**SENATE**

S. B. No. 2128

---

**INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ALAN PETER S. CAYETANO**

---

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In the 2003 Functional Literacy, Education and Mass Media Survey (FLEMMS) conducted by the National Statistics Office on out-of-school youth in national level, it was stated that 11,640,000 or 34% percent of the 34 million population 6 to 24 years old population were not attending school or out of school youth. The survey also revealed that the foremost reasons for that were: 1) high cost of education; 2) employment/looking for work; and 3) lack of personal interest, which when taken together, is indicative of the need to provide means to make education more accessible to the students.

Taking into consideration these circumstances, this bill aims to provide ways to help students have access to College Education despite meager resources. This would encourage these students to study harder and excel academically to become part of the top five (5) of their graduating class in order to avail of the provisions of this Act. Also, this would be made possible by requiring all state colleges and universities to admit these students automatically thereby giving opportunity to deserving but underprivileged students to finish their studies. Consequently, it would serve as an incentive for students to do better in elementary and high school by rewarding their hardwork and dedication to studies with free and guaranteed college education.

Notably, there are 4,981 public high schools and 110 State Universities and Colleges in the Philippines. Yearly, there will be a total of 24,905 top five (5)

students coming from these public high schools who will be given the chance to continue their studies in reputable educational institutions. In doing so, the state universities and colleges will be good vehicles to further invest in our youth, since the top five (5) students are the best, the crème of the crop of public schools.

Further, it is the policy of the State to protect and uphold the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.

In light of the vital significance of education in nation building, the approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

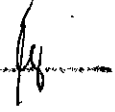


**ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO**  
Senator

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC }  
OF THE PHILIPPINES }  
*First Regular Session* }

8 27 13

RECEIVED



SENATE

S. B. No. 2128

---

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ALAN PETER S. CAYETANO

---

AN ACT  
MANDATING ALL STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO CONFER  
AUTOMATIC ADMISSION AND PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS TO THE  
TOP FIVE (5) PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THEIR GRADUATING  
CLASS, AND ALLOCATE FUNDS THEREFOR.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in  
Congress assembled:*

**SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** - This Act shall be known as the ***“Iskolar Ng Bayan  
Act of 2008.”***

**SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** — The State recognizes the vital role of  
youth in nation building and shall promote their intellectual well-being. It is the  
policy of the State to protect and uphold the right of all citizens to quality  
education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education  
accessible to all.

Similarly, it is the policy of the State to provide quality education to the  
best of the best of our Public School students.

To achieve these aims, automatic admission to state colleges and  
universities shall be accorded and scholarship granted to the top five (5) public  
high school students of their graduating class, subject to such reasonable rules

and regulations of the state universities and colleges aimed at maintaining schools' standards, policies and requirements.

**SECTION 3. *Form of Scholarship Grants.*** - Scholarship grants are hereby granted in the form of:

- a. free tuition fee and other school fees to the top five (5) public high school students of their graduating class in all state colleges and universities;  
and
- b. exemption from taking the entrance examinations administered by state colleges and universities to select students for college admission.
- c. Such other allowances that may be provided by the state universities and colleges and/or other agencies implementing scholarship programs.

**SECTION 4. *Top Five (5) Rule.*** - High school students who graduate in the top five (5) of their graduating class shall have automatic admission to state colleges and public universities. Class rank shall be based on the end of final grading period.

**SECTION 5. *Requirements for Automatic Admission.*** - Top five (5) students who graduate in public high schools shall have automatic admission to state colleges and public universities if they meet the following conditions:

- a. The students graduated from public high schools within two years prior to the academic year for which the student is applying;
- b. The students submitted a complete application as defined by the college or university before the expiration of their established deadline;
- c. The students' ranks shall be reported by the applicants' high school principal/administrators in a certificate bearing the school's name,

location, number of students, rank of student in his/her graduating class and other relevant information.

- d. A state college or university may limit the number of students admitted under this Act if the number of applicants eligible and applying for admission to the college or university exceeds by more than 5% of the average number of first-time freshmen admitted the previous two academic years. Clear guidelines must be established by the college or university for the selection of students.

**SECTION 6. *Annual Reporting.*** – Each state or university shall annually report to the Commission on Higher Education and the Department of Education the composition of the entering class of first-time freshmen students admitted under this Act. This report shall be submitted to the Commission on Higher Education and Department of Education on or before a date set by the Commission/Department.

**SECTION 7. *Allocation of Funds.*** – The funds for the scholarship grants shall be appropriated from the national budget and shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act as part of the budget of the Department of Education.

**SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Secretary of the Department of Education (DEPED) shall issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations for the speedy and effective implementation of this scholarship Act.

**SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions thereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.*** — All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are not consistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 11. *Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*