



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
ORD-2024-1076

TO : **SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS**

FROM : **JOCELYN DR. ANDAYA**
 Director IV *Chyf*

SUBJECT: **IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES ON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (SHS) ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION SUPPORT PROGRAM OF TESDA CIRCULAR NO. 045, S. 2024**

DATE : September 10, 2024

1. This is in reference to the attached DepEd Memorandum, dated August 22, 2024, from Asec. Alma Ruby C. Torio, Assistant Secretary for Curriculum and Teaching, DEpEd Central Office, Pasig City, relative to the **IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES ON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (SHS) ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION SUPPORT PROGRAM OF TESDA CIRCULAR NO. 045, S. 2024**, contents of which are self-explanatory, for information and appropriate action.
2. For inquiries, you may contact Mr. Rowell Capistrano, Supervising Education Program Specialist through rowell.capistrano@deped.gov.ph.
3. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.



6 Misamis St., Bago Bantay, Quezon City
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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CURRICULUM AND TEACHING

MEMORANDUM

TO : MINISTER, MBHTE-BARMM
REGIONAL DIRECTORS
TLE/TVL REGIONAL SUPERVISORS
SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
TLE/TVL DIVISION SUPERVISORS
SHS SCHOOL HEADS
TVL FOCAL PERSONS/COORDINATORS

[Handwritten Signature]

FROM : ALMA RUBY C. TORIO
Assistant Secretary for Curriculum and Teaching

SUBJECT : IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES ON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
(SHS) ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION SUPPORT
PROGRAM OF TESDA CIRCULAR NO. 045, S. 2024

DATE : AUGUST 22, 2024

The implementing guidelines on the Senior High School (SHS) Assessment and Certification Support Program, in accordance with the provisions outlined in the JOINT MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR (JMC) Series of 2024, have been established to guarantee the high-quality assessment and certification of Senior High Schools (SHSs) following the Technical Vocational Livelihood (TVL) Track.

As fiscal support, the General Appropriations Act (GAA) 2024 was enacted to materialize the implementation of this program. Hence, it is requested that SDOs shall follow the appropriate actions to comply to these guidelines. *(Please see attached JMC and TESDA Circular)*

For queries, you may contact Rowell Capistrano, Supervising Education Program Specialist through rowell.capistrano@deped.gov.ph.

Immediate dissemination and compliance to this memorandum is encouraged.

Attachments:

1. *Signed Joint Memorandum Circular Ensuring Quality-Assured Assessment for Certification of Senior High School Technical-Vocational Livelihood Track*
2. *TESDA Circular no. 45, s. 2024*

cc: Atty. Revsee A. Escobedo
Undersecretary for Operations



Republic of the Philippines
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



ISO 9001: 2015 Certified
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MAY 29 2024

RELEASED
June 13, 2024
By: *hady* Time: 3:39p
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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECEIVED
RECORDS DIVISION, CENTRAL OFFICE
JUN 05 2024
BY: GLORIA H. MENDOZA TIME: 2:12p

HON. SARA Z. DUTERTE
Vice President of the Republic of the Philippines
Secretary, Department of Education (DepEd)
DepEd Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City

Dear **Vice President Duterte:**

6/5/24
88 AS-06-12242

Greetings from the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)!

Building upon the recent Ceremonial Signing of the two (2) Joint Memorandum Circulars (JMCs) that shall benefit the Senior High School learners, may we respectfully provide you copy of one of the JMCs, the **Joint Memorandum Circular on Ensuring Quality-Assured Assessment for Certification of Senior High School Technical-Vocational Livelihood Track**, for your signature at your earliest convenience.

We shall be endorsing the other JMC to your office as soon as we have received the signed copies from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

Should you require further information regarding this matter, please contact Acting Executive Director Janet M. Abasolo of Certification Office at jmabasolo@tesda.gov.ph / co.oed@tesda.gov.ph or telephone no. 8893-2452. We look forward to collaborate closely with your office to finalize this process.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Very truly yours,



SUHARTO T. MANGUDADATU, Ph.D.
Secretary/Director General, TESDA





**JOINT MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
Series of 2024**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**ENSURING QUALITY-ASSURED ASSESSMENT FOR CERTIFICATION
OF SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL LIVELIHOOD TRACK**

I. BACKGROUND

Republic Act (RA) No. 10533 also known as the “Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013” states that a functional basic education system shall be created to develop productive and responsible citizens equipped with the **essential competencies, skills, and values for life-long learning, entrepreneurship, and employment**. In order to achieve this, the State shall:

- A. Give every learner an opportunity to receive quality education that is globally competitive based on a pedagogically sound curriculum that is at par with international standards;
- B. Broaden the goals of high school education for higher Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) or Higher Education preparation, **vocational and technical career opportunities** employment and/or entrepreneurial venture in a rapidly changing and increasingly globalized environment; and
- C. Make education learner-oriented and responsive to the needs, cognitive and cultural capacity, circumstances, and diversity of learners, schools, and communities through the appropriate languages of teaching and learning, including the mother tongue as a learning resource.

RA No. 10533 operationalizes the K to 12 Basic Education Program. Section 4 of the aforementioned, provides that “the enhanced basic education program encompasses at least one (1) year of kindergarten education, six (6) years of elementary education, and six (6) years of secondary education, in that sequence. Secondary education includes four (4) years of Junior High School (JHS) and two (2) years of Senior High School (SHS) education”.

The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) as created by RA No. 7796 or the “Technical Education and Skills-Development Act of 1994”, is mandated to set policies, supervise, and promote TVET in all post-secondary and

vocational training institutions in the country. TESDA, as an ISO 9001:2015 certified organization, strictly implements the quality management system in place that ensures that the organization meets the needs of its customers and stakeholders while meeting the statutory and regulatory requirements to its products and services.

The TESDA adheres to the Quality-Assured Technical Education and Skills Development (TESD) system framework which ensures that TVET programs follow the prescribed standards and have industry consultation as a key process, with the following major components: standards development, program registration, and assessment for certification. TESDA's mandate and extensive experience in the field of TVET positions it well to enhance and strengthen TVET in SHS education.

In view of the foregoing premises and with the inclusion in the Fiscal Year 2024 General Appropriations Act (RA No. 11975) Special Provisions for the SHS Assessment for Certification Support Program for learners, and Support to Expand the number of teachers as Accredited Assessors, a Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) shall be issued between Department of Education (DepEd) and TESDA to establish a collaborative framework to implement the said Special Provisions.

II. OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this JMC is to institutionalize the Mandatory Assessment for Certification of SHS Technical-Vocational Livelihood (TVL) track graduates, particularly to:

- A. Ensure the quality and integrity of competency assessment for certification program towards enhancing the job readiness of SHS-TVL learners;
- B. Establish clear and consistent guidelines for the capacity building and accreditation of competency assessors for the SHS-TVL track; and
- C. Conduct capability building program for DepEd SHS-TVL teachers as Competency Assessors.

III. COVERAGE

This JMC applies to all public schools offering SHS-TVL track covered by the available funding allocation under FY 2024 General Appropriations Act (GAA) through RA No. 11975 under the following special provisions:

SHS Assessment for Certification Support Program - This program is intended to assess the technical and vocational skills of SHS learners under the TVL track for the issuance of National Certification (NC). The DepEd and TESDA shall jointly develop guidelines for the operationalization and implementation of the program.

Support to Expand the Number of Accredited Assessors - This program is intended to support the accreditation of additional assessors that shall be

needed for the implementation of the SHS assessment for certification support programs. In the selection of potential assessors, the TESDA, in coordination with DepEd, shall identify and prioritize eligible SHS-TVL teachers in implementing SHS-TVL track.

It covers the following programs:

- A. Conduct of Mandatory Assessment for Certification of SHS-TVL learners on programs with corresponding Training Regulations (TR);
- B. Training and Accreditation of SHS-TVL teachers as Competency Assessors (CA); and
- C. Accreditation as Assessment Center (AC) or Designated Assessment Venue (DAV) of the DepEd Senior High Schools.

IV. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- A. **Accreditation** - refers to the process of recognizing or empowering an entity to perform certain roles or responsibilities on behalf of the TESDA organization.
- B. **Accredited Assessment Center** - refers to an establishment officially authorized by TESDA to manage the assessment of candidates for national certification.
- C. **Accredited Competency Assessor/ Competency Assessor** - refers to an individual authorized by TESDA to assess the competencies of a candidate for national certification.
- D. **Assessment** - refers to the process of evaluating an individual's knowledge, skills, and attitudes (competencies) based on the predefined standards.
- E. **Certification** - is provided to those who meet the competency standards.
- F. **Competency** - refers to the acquired knowledge, skills, and attitude in accordance with the standard performance in the workplace. It refers to the specification of the knowledge, skills and attitude and the application of that knowledge, skills and attitude to the standard of performance required in the workplace.
- G. **Conduct Competency Assessment (Trainers Methodology 1 - Certificate of Competency 2)** - This unit covers the knowledge, skills and attitudes in conducting assessment. It details the requirements for organizing assessment activities, preparing the candidate, gathering and evaluating evidence, making assessment decisions, recording and providing feedback on assessment outcomes.

- H. **Designated Assessment Venue** - refers to the facility appropriately equipped and designated/approved by the Provincial Office where actual assessment may take place.
- I. **National Certificate (NC)** - refers to the document issued by TESDA to individuals after being subjected to a National Competency Assessment and proven competent in all the required units of competency of a national qualification defined under the promulgated Training Regulations.
- J. **Qualification** - refers to a package of competencies describing a particular function or job role existing in an economic sector, covering the work activities required to undertake a particular job. It also refers to a formal certification that a person has successfully achieved specific learning outcomes relevant to the identified academic, industry or community requirements.
- K. **Trainers Methodology (TM) Certificate I (TMC I)** - refers to the document issued to trainers who have achieved all the required units of competency identified in Level I (Trainer/Assessor) under the Philippine TVET Trainers Qualification Framework (PTTQF).

V. ACCREDITATION OF SHS-TVL TEACHERS AS TVET COMPETENCY ASSESSORS

- A. The DepEd Schools Division Superintendent (SDS), through the Education Program Supervisor (EPS) in charge of the SHS - TVL of the Schools Division Office (SDO), shall identify and endorse to the TESDA Regional and Provincial/District Offices the list of the SHS-TVL teachers who will undergo training on at least TM I - Certificate of Competency 2 (COC 2) Conduct Competency Assessment. They shall undergo accreditation as Competency Assessors.

The SHS-TVL teachers to be endorsed by DepEd are those:

1. with or without NC in the qualification he/she intends to be an Accredited Competency Assessor;
2. with or without training on TM 1 - COC 2 Conduct of Competency Assessment program; and
3. have not undergone accreditation as Competency Assessor.

DepEd must ensure full participation of the aforementioned SHS-TVL teachers in the process.

- B. In accordance with the provisions of existing TESDA Operating Procedure, SHS-TVL teachers seeking to become accredited competency assessors, must fulfill the following requirements:

B.1 Eligibility Requirements for SHS-TVL Teachers with NC:

1. Practitioner of the occupation / trade or a teacher/instructor/trainer in the trade area for at least two (2) years, or as defined in the Implementing Guidelines of the qualification; Candidates without required industry work experience shall be granted Provisional Accreditation, subject to guidelines promulgated by the TESDA Board for the purpose;
2. Holder of NC at the same or higher level of the Qualification where the assessor is accredited;
3. Holder of TMC I and/or COC 2 — Conduct Competency Assessment under TM I;
4. Fluent, both in writing and oral, in the language of the examination; and
5. Have assisted in the conduct of actual assessment:
 - 5.1 New applicant-competency assessor must have conducted actual assessment (also known as “loading”) to at least ten (10) candidates under the supervision of a Lead Assessor, as part of capability building of competency assessors; and
 - 5.2 Accredited competency assessors in related qualification shall only be required to conduct actual assessment/ loading to at least two (2) candidates under the supervision of a Lead Assessor.

B.2 List of Requirements

1. Endorsement from the DepEd SDS through the EPS in charge of the SHS - TVL of the SDO where the teacher is assigned;
2. Accomplished Application Form with an attached passport-size picture, white background, and with handwritten name and signature;
3. One (1) piece picture, 2”x 2”, white background, and with handwritten name and signature;
4. Transcript of Records;
5. Certificate of Employment indicating compliance to the required number of years of relevant work/industry experience for the qualification as specified in the promulgated Training Regulations;

6. NC Level 2 or higher;
7. TM I - COC 2 Conduct Competency Assessment; and
8. Certification of Loading attested by the Assessment Center Manager, National/ Regional/ Provincial/ District Lead Assessor, and the TESDA Representative, that the Applicant-Competency Assessor has assisted in the assessment to at least ten (10) / two (2) candidates under the supervision of the National/ Regional/ Provincial/ District Lead Assessor.

B. SHS-TVL Teachers without NC:

1. Practitioner of the occupation / trade or a teacher/ instructor/trainer in the trade area for at least two (2) years, or as defined in the Implementing Guidelines of the qualification; Candidates without required industry work experience shall be granted Provisional Accreditation, subject to guidelines promulgated by the TESDA Board for the purpose;
 2. Must undergo and pass competency assessment in the related qualification he/she intends to be an Accredited Competency Assessor;
 3. Must undergo training on TM I or TM I COC 2 and pass the National Assessment before applying for accreditation as Competency Assessor; and
 4. Must have conducted actual assessment (also known as "loading") to at least ten (10) candidates under the supervision of a Lead Assessor, as part of capability building of competency assessors.
- C. The TESDA, through its Regional/Provincial Office, shall identify the training providers with registered TM I program for the conduct of TM I - COC 2 training. The training cost on TM I COC 2 shall be shouldered by TESDA subject to the availability of funds.
- D. The TESDA Provincial Office shall coordinate the conduct of the competency assessment in TM I COC 2 of SHS teachers and issue the TM I COC 2 certificate if deemed competent.
- E. After the TM training and assessment, accreditation as SHS Competency Assessor is mandatory. For the first two (2) years, commencing from the date of signing until December 2025, TESDA Regional Office shall accredit the SHS-TVL teachers as Competency Assessors to assess only SHS graduates. Accreditation process shall adhere to the existing procedure on accreditation of Competency Assessors, unless otherwise stated in this JMC for identified specific provisions

- G. The accreditation shall be valid only until the expiry date of the relevant NC. Upon expiration, the holder shall file for renewal of both the NC and accreditation as Competency Assessor subject to Implementing Guidelines of the qualification.
- H. SHS-TVL teachers that have expired NC in the qualification aligned to the DepEd requirements, provided that the TR has not been amended, shall automatically be subjected for renewal by any TESDA Provincial/District Office.
- I. The accreditation fee of Php 500.00 of competency assessor per qualification shall be shouldered by TESDA subject to availability of funds. The said fee shall be paid to the respective TESDA Sariling Sikap Program (SSP) account of the Provincial/District Office prior to the issuance of the Accreditation Certificate.
- J. The SHS-TVL teachers with complete requirements shall be prioritized in the availment of free TM-1 COC 2 training and/or free accreditation fee as Competency Assessor, whichever is applicable.
- K. SHS-TVL teachers who have been accredited may be allowed to claim the assessor's fee for competency assessments conducted subject to existing government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

VI. ACCREDITATION OF SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS AS ASSESSMENT CENTERS

A. Requirements for Accreditation

- 1. Letter of Intent on the application as Assessment Center duly noted by the SDS through the EPS in charge of the SHS - TVL of the SDO;
- 2. Self-Assessment Checklist;
- 3. Checklist of tools, equipment, supplies and materials, and facilities;
- 4. Affidavit of Undertaking for Assessment Center;
- 5. Special law creating the institution (for public institution) e.g. Republic Act, Executive Order, Sanggunian Resolutions;
- 6. Fire Safety Certificate;
- 7. Building Layout/Floor Plan/Shop layout;
- 8. Company and Staff Profile;
- 9. Location Map;
- 10. Complete facilities, tools, equipment and materials appropriate to the Qualification/s applied for, specified in the CATs;
- 11. Lease Contract/Proof of Ownership of the location/premises of the Assessment Center;
- 12. CCTV camera (functional, with audio recording and motion detection);
- 13. Computer System with Internet Access;
- 14. White backdrop for registration of assessment candidates;
- 15. Web Camera (according to specifications);
- 16. Signature pad (according to specifications); and
- 17. Organizational structure to support the following activities:
 - a) Scheduling of assessment;

- b) Encoding and Processing of data regarding the conduct of assessment; and
 - c) Collecting assessment fees.
- B. Accreditation of Assessment Centers shall be valid for two (2) years, subject to renewal or cancellation based on the results of the compliance audit conducted by TESDA.
- C. Accreditation process shall adhere to the existing procedure on accreditation of Assessment Centers.
- D. For Senior High Schools as Designated Assessment Venues (DAV):
 1. An Accredited Assessment Center shall designate the SHS as an Assessment Venue subject to the approval of the Provincial/District Director;
 2. The Designated Assessment Venue shall comply with the required tools, equipment, supplies and materials specified in the Competency Assessment Tools (CATs); and
 3. The assessment accomplishment shall be accounted to the Accredited Assessment Center.

VII. ASSESSMENT OF SHS-TVL LEARNERS

The conduct of assessment of Grade 12 SHS-TVL learners shall be conducted following the existing TESDA Operating Procedures (OP) on the Conduct of Competency Assessment in adherence with the quality standards of TESDA. To facilitate implementation, both agencies shall work together to prepare the following:

- A. **Assessment Centers:** Senior High Schools shall prepare the requirements for the accreditation as Assessment Centers to be submitted to the respective TESDA Provincial Offices having jurisdiction over their school address.
- B. **Competency Assessors:** Accredited Competency Assessors from the SHS shall be included in the pool of assessors only for SHS Assessment for Certification for the initial implementation of the program, and shall be scheduled by the TESDA Provincial Offices in accordance with the OP on Competency Assessment.
- C. **Application and Assessment Process:** DepEd shall provide TESDA the list and number of SHS-TVL learners, as well as the qualifications for competency assessment.

The SHS-TVL teachers shall assist the candidates on their application for assessment to be submitted at the TESDA Provincial/District Office within the area.

- D. Conduct of Assessment:** All assessments shall be conducted in an Accredited Assessment Center or Designated Assessment Venue with the presence of a TESDA Representative. All shall adhere to the standards indicated in the Operating Procedure on the Conduct of Competency Assessment.

The SHS Grade 12 in the TVL track shall be covered by this provision and can avail a full subsidy for one (1) qualification only.

VIII. FINANCIAL GUIDELINES

A. Management of budget:

1. The funding for the implementation of the provisions of this JMC shall be sourced from the GAA for FY 2024;
2. For the conduct of competency assessments for Grade 12 SHS-TVL learners, the budget allocation shall be managed by TESDA, in adherence to government accounting rules and regulations;
3. For the accreditation of assessors, the budget allocation shall be managed by TESDA. The same fund source shall be utilized for the TM I COC 2 training course to be conducted by TESDA through its registered providers; and
4. In the event of excess in the budget allocated for the learners assessment, the remaining fund will be used for an additional qualification assessment, subject to the usual auditing and accounting rules and procedures. DepEd will issue guidelines for selecting beneficiaries among the learners.

B. Details on Assessment Fee

1. The Accredited Assessment Center shall collect and bill the TESDA Provincial/District Office, having jurisdiction over the school address, with particulars on the Assessment Fee and Assessor's Fee as prescribed and approved by the TESDA Board.
2. The cost of assessment shall be billed after encoding of results in the TESDA Training Management Information System (T2MIS) and after submission of the required documents to the TESDA Provincial/District Office.

IX. SANCTIONS AND PENALTIES

DepEd and TESDA personnel who will be proven to have taken part in violating these guidelines and other relevant issuances shall be subject to proper disciplinary action in accordance with the 2017 Rules on Administrative Cases

in the Civil Service (2017 RACCS) and other related issuances. This is without prejudice to any criminal liability which may be incurred under the Revised Penal Code and other special laws.

X. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

DepEd and TESDA shall commit to continuous improvement of the implementing guidelines on the assessment for certification of SHS-TVL learners and the accreditation of SHS-TVL teachers as assessors.

XI. IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES

DepEd and TESDA shall issue their respective internal guidelines for the implementation of the JMC.

XII. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE

If for any reason, any part or provision of these guidelines is declared invalid or unconstitutional, any part or provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

XIII. EFFECTIVITY

This JMC shall take effect immediately upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation or the Official Gazette and shall remain in effect until the validity of appropriation under RA No. 11975.

The Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR) of the UP Law Center shall be provided three (3) certified copies of this JMC.

HEREUNTO, signed and agreed upon.


SUHARTO T. MANGUDADATU, Ph.D.

Secretary/Director General
Technical Education and
Skills Development Authority


SARA Z. DUTERTE

Vice President of the Republic of the
Philippines
Secretary
Department of Education



TESDA CIRCULAR

Subject: Implementing Guidelines on Senior High School (SHS) Assessment and Certification Support Program		Page 1 of 11 Number <u>045</u> , Series of 2024
Date Issued: JUL 17 2024	Effectivity: Immediately	Supersedes:

In the interest of the service and in line with the provisions indicated in the JOINT MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR (JMC) series of 2024, this Implementing Guidelines is being issued to ensure quality-assured assessment for certification of Senior High School (SHS) learners under the Technical-Vocational Livelihood (TVL) Track.

I. BACKGROUND

The Assessment and Certification, through the National Assessment being offered by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), is one of the Agency's core businesses. The assessment and certification system is one of TESDA's mandates enrolled in ISO 9001:2015. Also, as mandated by law through Republic Act No. 7796, TESDA is the governing body for technical vocational education and training (TVET) in all post-secondary and vocational training institutes in the country implementing other major components such as standards development and program registration.

The program was lifted from the concept of Senate Bill No. 2022, or the Act ensuring that Senior High School (SHS) graduates under the K to 12 program are equipped with the knowledge, training and skills demanded in the labor market, enhancing their employability and competitiveness, creating the Batang Magaling Councils to strengthen multi-stakeholder collaboration and support for their employment, allowing full deduction of training expenses incurred for their skills development, appropriating funds therefor, and for other purposes.

Under the 2024 General Appropriations Act (GAA), the fund was allotted under the TESDA Regulatory Program to assess SHS learners taking the TVL track for the issuance of National Certification (NC). The rationale for funding the assessment and certification of Grade 12 learners taking the TVL track is because of the low certification rate recorded in School Years (SY) 2019 - 2020 (25.7%) and 2020 - 2021 (6.8%). The low certification rates as to the total number of graduates were attributed to the prohibited cost of NC Assessments. Despite the low certification rates, the passing rates among those who took the assessment were 98% in SY 2019 - 2020 and 97% in SY 2020 - 2021. The outcome of the program is for Grade 12 graduates taking the TVL track to boost their employability.

As fiscal support, the General Appropriations Act (GAA) 2024 (Republic Act No. 11975) Special Provisions for SHS Assessment and Certification Program for learners was enacted to materialize the implementation of this program, hence the guidelines shall be issued.

TESDA CIRCULAR

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Date Issued: JUL 17 2024	Effectivity: Immediately	Supersedes:

II. OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this guidelines is to:

- A. Implement the competency assessment of Grade 12 SHS TVL track public learners; and
- B. Ensure the quality and integrity of competency assessment and certification program geared towards enhancing job readiness of SHS TVL learners.

III. SCOPE/COVERAGE

This guidelines, as aligned to the JMC, applies to all public schools offering SHS TVL Track covered by the available funding allocation under FY 2024 GAA through Republic Act No. 11975 under the following provision:

SHS Assessment and Certification Support Program - This program is intended to assess the technical and vocational skills of SHS learners under the TVL Track for the issuance of National Certification (NC).

The TESDA and DepEd shall jointly develop guidelines for the operationalization and implementation of the program.

This Implementing Guidelines covers:

- A. Competency Assessment of K-12 SHS TVL track learners; and
- B. Accreditation of Department of Education (DepEd) as Assessment Center (AC) or as Designated Assessment Venue (DAV).

IV. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- A. **Accreditation** - refers to the process of recognizing or empowering an entity to perform certain roles or responsibilities on behalf of the TESDA organization.
- B. **Accredited Assessment Center** - refers to an establishment officially authorized by TESDA to manage the assessment of candidates for national certification.

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- C. **Accredited Competency Assessor/ Competency Assessor** - refers to an individual authorized by TESDA to assess the competencies of a candidate for national certification.
- D. **Assessment** - refers to the process of evaluating an individual's knowledge, skills, and attitudes (competencies) based on the predefined standards.
- E. **Certification** - is provided to those who meet the competency standards.
- F. **Competency** - refers to the acquired knowledge, skills, and attitude in accordance with the standard performance in the workplace. It refers to the specification of the knowledge, skills and attitude and the application of that knowledge, skills and attitude to the standard of performance required in the workplace.
- G. **Designated Assessment Venue (DAV)** - refers to the facility appropriately equipped and designated/approved by the Provincial Office where actual assessment may take place.
- H. **National Certificate (NC)** - refers to the document issued by TESDA to individuals after being subjected to a National Competency Assessment and proven competent in all the required units of competency of a national qualification defined under the promulgated Training Regulations.
- I. **Qualification** - refers to a package of competencies describing a particular function or job role existing in an economic sector, covering the work activities required to undertake a particular job. It also refers to a formal certification that a person has successfully achieved specific learning outcomes relevant to the identified academic, industry or community requirements.

V. Conduct of Competency Assessment

- A. The Department of Education (DepEd) shall provide TESDA the list and number of Grade 12 SHS TVL learners, as well as the qualifications for competency assessment, that shall serve as basis in developing the Qualifications Map (QM).

The Grade 12 SHS in the TVL track can avail a full subsidy for one (1) qualification, or multiple qualifications in the event of excess in the budget allocated for the learners.

- B. Number of assessments will be based on the QM submitted by the Regional Office (RO) to the Certification Office (CO).

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Date Issued: JUL 17 2024	Effectivity: Immediately	Supersedes:

- C. DepEd School Division Superintendent (SDS), through the Education Program Supervisor (EPS) in charged of the SHS - TVL of the Schools Division Office (SDO), shall submit/endorse the list of SHS learners with the accomplished Assessment Application Form and Self-Assessment Guide (SAG) to the respective TESDA Provincial/District Office (PO/DO).
- D. The TESDA PO/DO shall evaluate the application documents of the candidates. If the SAG indicates that the candidate is not yet ready for assessment, he/she shall not be allowed to undergo the competency assessment.
- E. The TESDA Provincial/District Director (PD/DD) shall officially endorse the qualified applicants to the Assessment Centers.
- F. The TESDA Provincial/District Director (PD/DD) shall assign candidates among the Accredited Assessment Centers and create the assessment schedule in the T2MIS according to the number of applicant-candidates indicated in the regional qualification map. Assessment schedules shall be encoded in the system five (5) working days before the assessment date.
- G. The TESDA PO/DO CAC Focal encoding the schedule in the T2MIS must ensure proper tagging of the assessment schedule based on the dropdown list of values in the modality (SHS must be selected from the list).
- H. The TESDA PD/DD shall assign TESDA Accredited Competency Assessor on a rotation basis.
- I. Competency Assessors are strictly prohibited from assessing their own and other trainees/learners within the same institution.

However, given there are any geographical challenges and resource limitations involved in conducting National Assessments, Competency Assessors shall be permitted by the Provincial/District Office to assess other learners from the same institution.

The competency assessment must be conducted at the Accredited Assessment Center or Designated Assessment Center. In case there is no SHS Competency Assessor available, the PO/DO shall assign TESDA Accredited Competency Assessor.

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- J. The TESDA PD/DD shall designate the TESDA Representative among the PO/DO employees and/or following the Approved Work Instructions. The personnel from the TESDA Technology Institutions (TTIs) may also be designated as TESDA Representatives.
- K. The conduct of competency assessment shall adhere to existing procedures on competency assessment. Those covered by the Joint Delivery Voucher Program (JDVP) shall be **excluded** in the availment of free assessment.
- L. The E-Certificate issued to competent Senior High School learners shall be valid for five (5) years. Renewal shall be subject to existing and prevailing policies and guidelines.

VI. Accreditation of Senior High Schools as Assessment Centers

A. Requirements for Accreditation

1. Letter of Intent on the application as Assessment Center duly noted by the SDS through EPS in charge of the SHS - TVL of the SDO;
2. Self-Assessment Checklist;
3. Checklist of tools, equipment, supplies and materials, and facilities;
4. Affidavit of Undertaking for Assessment Center;
5. Special law creating the institution (for public institution) e.g. Republic Act, Executive Order, Sanggunian Resolutions);
6. Fire Safety Certificate;
7. Building Layout/Floor Plan/Shop lay-out;
8. Company and Staff Profile;
9. Location Map;
10. Complete facilities, tools, equipment and materials appropriate to the Qualification/s applied for, specified in the CATs;
11. Lease Contract/Proof of Ownership of the location/premises of the Assessment Center;
12. CCTV camera (functional, with audio recording and motion detection);
13. Computer System with Internet Access;
14. White backdrop for registration of assessment candidates;
15. Web Camera (according to specifications);
16. Signature pad (according to specifications); and
17. Organizational structure to support the following activities:
 - a) Scheduling of assessment;

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- b) Encoding and Processing of data regarding the conduct of assessment; and
- c) Collecting assessment fees.

B. Accreditation of Assessment Centers shall be valid for two (2) years, subject to renewal or cancellation based on the results of the compliance audit conducted by TESDA.

C. Accreditation process shall adhere to the existing procedure on accreditation of Assessment Centers.

D. For Senior High Schools as Designated Assessment Venues (DAV):

1. An Accredited Assessment Center shall designate the Senior High School as an Assessment Venue subject to the approval of the PD/DD;
2. The DAV shall comply with the required tools, equipment, supplies and materials specified in the Competency Assessment Tools (CATs); and
3. The assessment accomplishment shall be accounted to the Accredited Assessment Center.

VII. Sanctions and Penalties

TESDA and DepED personnel who will be proven to have taken part in violating these guidelines and other relevant issuances shall be subject to proper disciplinary action in accordance with the 2017 Rules on Administrative Cases in the Civil Service (2017 RACCS) and other related issuances. This is without prejudice to any criminal liability which may be incurred under the Revised Penal Code and other special laws.

VIII. Financial Guidelines

A. Management of Budget:

1. The funding source for the implementation of this program shall be sourced from the FY 2024 GAA.
2. For the conduct of competency assessment for Grade 12 SHS - TVL learners, the budget allocation for assessment fee and processing fee shall be managed by TESDA, in adherence to government accounting rules and regulations.

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3. In the event of excess in the budget allocated for the learners and teachers, the remaining fund will be used for an additional qualification for assessment through preparation of another Qualification Map covering SHS TVL learners and subject to the same rules and regulations provided, however subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and procedures.
4. Funds which remain unutilized as of December 31, 2025 shall be reverted to the National Treasury.

B. Details on Assessment Fee and Processing Fee

1. The Accredited Assessment Center shall submit billing statement and collect from TESDA Provincial/District Office with particulars on the Assessment Fee as prescribed and approved by the TESDA Board.

Accordingly, the Accredited Assessment Center (AAC) shall to pay the Competency Assessor the corresponding Assessor's Fee. Subsequently, the cost of assessment shall be billed to the Provincial/District Office within seven (7) working days after the conduct of the assessment and shall be paid upon submission of Billing Statement and Certified True Copy of the RWAC stamped "received" by the POs/DOs.

2. The Processing Fee payment amounting to thirty five pesos (Php 35.00) only per scheduled candidate shall be retained by the Regional Office until after assessment has been conducted.

The collected Processing Fee shall be paid to Provincial/District Office through their respective Sariling Sikap Program (SSP) fund. The payment shall be done after the conduct of assessment and shall be based on the number of candidates' applications processed for assessment.

The utilization of Processing Fee must be directly related to the expenses/activities in processing the assessment and certification of the candidates such as, but not limited to, E-Certificate e-mail delivery subscription, supplies and materials in printing the Competency Assessment Tools (CATs), and other assessment and certification related activities.

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C. For the transfer of funds:

1. The corresponding Sub-ARO and Notice of Transfer Allocation (NTA) shall be released by the Central Office to the Regional Offices based on the approved NQMs.
2. The Financial and Management Service (FMS) - Budget Division (FMS - BD) shall issue Sub-ARO to the ROs within five (5) working days from the receipt of the following:
 - o Memorandum Request;
 - o ORS/DV; and
 - o Approved Qualification Map (QM).
3. The PO/DO Office shall issue the Notice to Proceeds after the Local Advice of Allotment/Sub-ARO is issued to the province.
4. In the preparation of the Fund Utilization Report, the following should be followed:
 - Fund should reflect the provincial level report;
 - Provincial Office/TTI/School's Financial Analysts/Budget Officer shall submit their report to the Regional Office (RO); and
 - The RO Budget Officer shall consolidate the reports and reflect the same in the FARs.

IX. Monitoring and Reporting

- A. The Certification Office (CO) and Financial Management Service (FMS) shall jointly monitor and evaluate the physical and financial status of the program in the ROPODOs.
- B. The ROPODO Financial Officers/ Budget Analysts shall monitor the actual utilization and unutilized funds based on the submitted QM. Accordingly, the Finance Officers at the RO/PO/DO shall maintain a separate subsidiary ledger for the purpose.
- C. To ensure compliance of all Operating Units to policies and procedures in the implementation of the program, the Certification Office together with the Provincial/District Directors shall conduct regular inspection of the Assessment Centers particularly those granted with slots for the assessment of SHS TVL track graduates.

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- D. The TESDA Provincial/District Offices shall maintain a separate registry of SHS Learners Assessed and Certified, and SHS Accredited Assessment Centers.
- E. The Registries shall be consolidated by the TESDA Regional Offices and for submission to the Certification Office every 1st working day of the succeeding month.
- F. The assessment of SHS learners shall also be counted in the report on Process Cycle Time (PCT).

X. Risk Management

The following are the identified risks in implementing the Senior High School Assessment and Certification program:

1. Compromised assessment delivery if proper training to DepEd SHS teachers is not provided.
2. Limited resources that may cause delay in the implementation of the program, to include, but not limited to the available registered TM I training providers and unavailability of the Regional Expert Panel Members (REPMs or the TM Assessors) on the scheduled date of assessment.
3. Inconsistent and unfair assessment practices of different assessors may occur if robust quality assurance mechanisms are not in place.
4. The stakeholders including the parents, learners and employers may not perceive/accept SHS graduates with National Certificates as credible or valuable assets.
5. Low certification rate of SHS graduates given that the TVL subjects were not aligned to the TESDA quality- assured processes and requirements.
6. Unavailability of SHS graduates that are subject to assessment.
7. Unauthorized access, loss or mishandling of Competency Assessment Tools (CATs).

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To mitigate, if not eliminate the risks, the following measures shall be undertaken:

1. Ensure that the DepEd SHS TVL teachers who undergo training shall have enough experience in competency assessment methods and have accurately interpreted the required performance standards as indicated in the Competency Assessment Tools.
2. Proper area management and scheduling of training and assessment of the Regional and Provincial/District Office is essential. It is also the role of the Certification Office to increase the number of REPMs through the conduct of Capability Building Program for Prospective/New REPM applicants.
3. Quality Assurance mechanisms such as presence of the TESDA Representative, functional CCTV, conduct of regular inspection and compliance audit must be strictly adhered to in order not to jeopardize the credibility and integrity of the assessment.
4. Clear information on how the National Certificates are earned, how the competencies are validated and quality assurance mechanisms in place must be communicated to the stakeholders. Success stories of graduates who have benefited from the certifications in securing employment, advancing their education or partnership with industry leaders must also be showcased or highlighted through various multimedia channels.
5. To mitigate risk for those assessments to be conducted immediately, there should be a thorough screening of the readiness of the SHS learners before endorsement.
6. The ROPODOs should provide multiple assessment dates to accommodate the availability of the learners and plan the assessment schedule well in advance.

If this is not feasible, the ROPODOs should prepare contingency or back-up plans for situations that might prevent learners from attending assessments.

For learners residing in far-flung areas, ROPODOs should work closely with DepEd and ensure smooth scheduling of learners and assessors and designation of assessment venues. The ROPODOs may seek assistance from LGU or NGO and/or if capable, must provide transportation and/or accommodation assistance for distant learners.

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To mentally prepare the learners, they should be educated on the importance of having National Certification and how it could help them in their future career/s or employment opportunities.

7. PODOs should strictly adhere to the retrieval of paper-based assessment tools after the conduct of assessment. Regular audits or inspections should be conducted to ensure compliance in handling of Competency Assessment Tools (CATs).

Store paper-based CATs in locked cabinets and rooms. Ensure digital repositories are accessible only to authorized personnel.

XI. Separability Clause

If for any reason, any part or provision of these guidelines is declared invalid or unconstitutional, any part or provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

XII. Effectivity

This Circular shall take effect immediately.


SUHARTO T. MANGUDADATU, Ph.D.
Secretary/Director General, TESDA

