Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF PAMPANGA

August 26, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No.495, s. 2026

ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMPUTER-BASED NATIONAL CAREER ASSESSMENT EXAMINATION FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
Chief Education Supervisors
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors
Public/Private Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. In accordance with DepEd Advisory No. 18, s. 2026, dated August 20, 2026, this Office, through the Curriculum Implementation Division, shall administer the Computer-Based National Career Assessment Examination (CB-NCAE) for School Year (SY) 2026–2027 to all Grade 9 and Grade 10 learners currently enrolled in public and private schools with government permit or recognition. The examination shall be administered during regular class hours from October 2026 to February 2027, which shall serve as the testing window.

2. In this regard, a virtual orientation on test administration shall be conducted for all public and private secondary school heads, school testing coordinators, and school ICT leaders on August 27, 2026, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The meeting link shall be shared with all participants one day prior to the activity through the designated Facebook group chat.

3. The NCAE is designed to provide career guidance to individual learners for their future educational and career choices and a basis for profiling learners' aptitude, which covers the following domains: General Scholastic Aptitude (GSA), and Career and Occupational Roles Explorer (CORE). The GSA covers Abstract Reasoning, Logical Reasoning, Mechanical Reasoning, Numerical Reasoning, Spatial Reasoning, Verbal Reasoning (English and Filipino), and Perceptual Accuracy and Response Efficiency (PARE). The CORE covers CORE-A (RIASEC) and CORE-B (Thurstone Model), which is an inventory of occupational interests that provides assessment on inclinations/preferences for comprehensive career guidance.

4. The testing dates for the administration of the CB-NCAE in all public and private schools shall be issued in a separate memorandum.

5. In light of the limited availability of functional computer units and challenges in internet connectivity in some schools, institutions are encouraged to coordinate and collaborate with nearby or partner schools and institutions that have adequate technological resources. When necessary, laptop/tablet units and other

testing resources may be temporarily transferred to schools with limited facilities to enable them to conduct the computer-based testing. This initiative aims to optimize the use of existing technological resources and ensure that all students have equitable access to the tools required for test-taking. The transfer of learners shall be permitted only if the nearby school is located within the school district.

6. The Division Testing Coordinator (DTC) and the Division Information Technology Officer (DITO), together with the Cluster Testing Coordinators and Cluster ICT Coordinators, shall conduct monitoring activities and provide technical assistance to schools in ensuring that all computer laboratories and equipment are fully functional and ready for the assessment.

7. Learners with Disabilities (LWDs) may also be assessed, provided that the test accommodations stipulated in Section 9 of DepEd Order No. 55, s. 2016, are met. Learners who have difficulty seeing, including Visually Impaired (VI) learners, may opt to skip subtests that contain image-heavy items, such as Abstract Reasoning, Mechanical Reasoning, and Spatial Reasoning.

8. Health and safety protocols must be followed in all activities related to the national test administration.

9. This Memorandum shall serve as the official travel authority for all personnel involved in the activities related to the administration of the CB-NCAE for School Year 2026–2027.

10. Immediate dissemination of this memorandum is highly anticipated.

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Schools Division Superintendent

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