

**RELEASED**

BY:  No. 120

DATE: JAN 27 2026 TIME: 4:30



Republika ng Pilipinas

**Kagawaran ng Edukasyon**

REHIYON V (BIKOL)

**TANGGAPANG PANSANGAY NG MGA PAARALAN NG CATANDUANES**

January 27, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 120, s. 2026

**ADMISSION TEST FOR INCOMING GRADE 1 SPECIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (SSES) LEARNERS AND GRADE 7 SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING (STE) LEARNERS**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
Chief Education Supervisor, CID  
Education Program Supervisors in Science  
Public Schools District Supervisors  
Catanduanes National High School  
Bato Rural Development High School  
San Miguel Rural Development High School  
Virac Pilot Elementary School  
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is Regional Memorandum No. 00058 s. 2026 Re: Admission Test for Incoming Grade 1 Special Elementary School (SSES) Learners and Grade 7 Science, Technology Engineering (STE) Learners.
2. For information, dissemination, and guidance of all concerned.

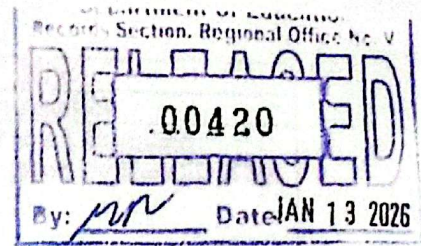
By Authority of the OIC-Schools Division Superintendent

**DELFIN A. BONDAD, PhD**

Assistant Schools Division Superintendent



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
 REGION V - BICOL



12 January 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 0058 s. 2026

**ADMISSION TEST FOR INCOMING GRADE 1 SPECIAL SCIENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (SSES) LEARNERS AND GRADE 7 SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING (STE) LEARNERS**

To: Schools Division Superintendents  
 Division Science Supervisors  
 School Heads of Science-Implementing Schools

1. Cognizant of the curricular reforms for Science and Technology-oriented schools in the Department of Education-Central Office, and in accordance with its directives, this Office advises all implementers to observe status quo in the operation of the Special Curricular Programs in Science. Accordingly, this Office provides the following guidelines and parameters in the administration and screening in the conduct of Admission Test to Incoming SSES and STE Learners for SY 2026-2027.

2. Admission process for SSES and STE is open to all incoming Grade 1 and Grade 7 learners who will meet the basic requirements below:

Special Science Program	Documentary Requirements	Age Requirement	Other Requirements
SSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PSA Birth Certificate</li> <li>ECCD Checklist</li> <li>Kindergarten Progress Report Card</li> <li>Duly accomplished Application Form with ID</li> </ul>	Must follow the age requirement in Kindergarten per DO 20 s. 2018 and DM CI-2020-00223	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kindergarten completer</li> <li>Proficient in reading</li> <li>must have already their Learner's Reference Number (LRN)</li> <li>must pass the qualifying admission test (oral and written)</li> </ul> <i>Average Grade of 85% in Q1 to 3 for ESM and 83% in other subjects for incoming G4 (for new implementers)</i>
STE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 6 Form 9 (up to 3<sup>rd</sup> Q)</li> <li>Duly accomplished Application Form with ID</li> </ul>	Must be at least 11 years old and not more than 13 years old by June, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Average Grade of 85% in Grade 6 English, Science, and Math (1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> Q)</li> <li>Average Grade of 83% in each of the other subjects (1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> Q)</li> <li>E-portfolio containing learners work/accomplishments in science/mathematics/research/robotics</li> </ul>

3. Selection shall be done in three (3) phases to determine the final qualifiers.



Regional Center Site, Rawis, Legazpi City 4500

0969 516 9555

region5@deped.gov.ph

	SSES	STE
Phase 1	Documentary evaluation	Documentary evaluation
Phase 2	Admission Test to all Qualified Learners (to be given by the CID ESM Supervisors)  • Shortlisting of Top 60 Learners	Admission Test to all Qualified Learners (to be given by the CID ESM Supervisors)  • Shortlisting of Top 100 Learners for big schools and Top 60 Learners for small schools (Ave. Grade, Test Score, and e-Portfolio included)
Phase 3	Face to Face Interview (w/ Reading and Demonstration of Skills)	Face to Face Interview

Ranking of final qualifiers shall be based on the following criteria:

Criteria	Equivalent	
	SSES	STE
Grade 6 Ave Grade	-	25%
Admission Test Score	60%	40%
e-Portfolio	-	10%
Interview	40%	25%
Total	100%	100%

4. Only the Top 35 learners will qualify to enter the SSES class (1 section), while the Top 70 learners (35/class) from big schools, and Top 35 for small schools will qualify to enter the STE program.

5. No Registration Fee shall be collected. Expenses relative to the conduct of screening and admission of learners in SSES, Legislated Science High Schools and Bicol Regional Science High School shall be charged to school MOOE.

6. Teachers and non-teaching staff who will render services in the selection and screening process, and supervisors who are involved in the development and checking of test papers during summer break/weekends and holidays shall be entitled to service credits/compensatory leave credits per DO 13 s. 2024, Revised Guidelines on the Grant of Vacation Credits for Teachers and as provided for in CSC and DBM Joint Circular no. 2 s. 2004, re: Non-Monetary Remuneration for Overtime Services Rendered.

7. The indicative schedule of activities are:

- Submission of Application
- Phase 1 (Pre-Screening)
- Phase 2 (Admission Test)
- Phase 3 (Interview)
- Ranking of Final Qualified Applicants:
- Posting of Results

February 9-27, 2026  
 March 2-20, 2026  
 March 26 to April 5, 2026  
 April 6-17, 2026  
 April 22-24, 2026  
 April 30, 2026

8. For information of all concerned.

  
**GILBERT T. SADSAD**  
 Regional Director