



**MEMORANDUM FROM THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FHE-01-2021**

For : ALL PRESIDENTS, OFFICERS-IN-CHARGE, REGISTRARS
AND ACCOUNTANTS OF STATE UNIVERSITIES AND
COLLEGES (SUCs) AND CHED-RECOGNIZED LOCAL
UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (LUCs)

From :  **ATTY. RYAN L. ESTEVEZ**
OIC, Executive Director IV, UniFAST

Subject : REIMBURSEMENT OF ATHLETIC AND CULTURAL FEES FOR
FREE HIGHER EDUCATION (FHE) IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-
2021

Date : January 26, 2021

During the 33rd Regular Meeting of the UniFAST Governing Board on November 27, 2020 the Board through Resolution No. 2020-86 (Annex "A") instructed the UniFAST Secretariat to seek advice from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) on whether cultural and athletic fees may be paid in view of the prohibition of the conduct of cultural and sports activities during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, relative to the IATF Omnibus Guidelines on Community Quarantine with Amendments as of October 15, 2020. Moreover, pending advice from the DBM the Board approved the reimbursement of billings for athletic and cultural fees for the 1st semester of AY 2020-2021.

The SUCs/LUCs whose billings of athletic and cultural fees have been deducted from the amount previously billed by the HEIs may opt to re-bill the said fees by submitting the following documents (hard and soft copies) to support the re-billing of fees:

1. Billing Statement (Form 1)
2. Billing Details (Form 2)
3. Duly Notarized Registrar Certification

Should you need more clarification on the above concern, please communicate directly with the UniFAST Billing Staff assigned to your institution.

For your information and guidance. Thank you

cc: UniFAST Governing Board Members
CHED Commissioners
CHED Regional Directors
Atty. Septon A. De La Cruz, CESE, OIC, Director IV, CHED-AFMS
UniFAST Regional Coordinators





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Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education

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UNIFAST BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2020-86

Authorizing the Secretariat to Seek Advice from the Department of Budget and Management on the Payment of Cultural and Athletic Fees in View of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Approving the Payment of Cultural and Athletic Fees Pending Said Advice

WHEREAS, Section 4.3.1.5 of the National Budget National Budget Circular (NBC) No. 580 dated April 22, 2020 provided that the conduct of celebration and cultural or sports activities not related to the core function of an agency, including athletic competitions conducted by public schools and SUCs are discontinued;

WHEREAS, even with the expiration of NBC No. 580 on June 24, 2020, Section [4] 12 of the Omnibus Guidelines on Community Quarantine in the Philippines with Amendments as of October 15, 2020 provides that “Mass gathering such as but not limited to movie screenings, concerts, sporting events, and other entertainment activities, community assemblies, and non-essential work gatherings shall be prohibited”;

WHEREAS, Section 3 (e) of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 10931 or the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act defines athletic fees as “fees collected for the use of sports facilities and equipment, the conduct of sports-related trainings and/or participation in local, provincial, regional, and national sports competitions. These fees cover related fees such as intramural, sports, varsity, and State Colleges and Universities Athletic Association (SCUAA) fees”;

WHEREAS, Section 3 (t) of said IRR defines cultural fees as “fees intended for conducting or participating in socio-cultural activities designed to provide opportunities to enhance and develop talents, abilities, and values of students to help them appreciate, promote, and conserve our national culture and heritage”;

WHEREAS, there is need to clarify with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) whether State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs) may bill cultural and athletic fees in view of the mass gatherings imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes the Secretariat to seek advice with the DBM, based on the position papers to be submitted by Board Members PASUC and ALCU, on whether cultural and athletic fees may be paid in view of the prohibition of the conduct of cultural and sports activities during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board approves the payment of billings of SUCs and LUCs for athletic and cultural fees for the 1st semester of AY 2020-2021 pending advice from DBM: Provided, That in the event DBM rules that athletic and cultural fees should not be billed in view of the prohibition of said activities, the payments for those fees paid in the 1st semester of AY 2020-2021 shall be deducted from the billings of the 2nd semester of AY 2020-2021.

I hereby certify that Board Resolution 2020-86 was approved and adopted in the 33rd Regular Meeting of the UniFAST Board on November 27, 2020.


ATTY. RYAN L. ESTEVEZ
OIC, Office of the Executive Director IV
UniFAST Secretariat

