



## MEMORANDUM FROM THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For : **ALL REGIONAL COORDINATORS**  
**ALL CHED REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

Thru : **ATTY. LILY FREIDA T. MACABANGUN-MILLA, CESO IV**  
Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Executive Director IV, CHED

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

Subject: **UNRECOGNIZED HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS WITH TULONG DUNONG PROGRAM GRANTEES**

Date : **20 May 2021**

The CHED-UniFAST released Memorandum Circular No. 02, Series of 2021, which stipulated the guidelines on the implementation of the Tulong Dunong Program (TDP) for Academic Year 2020-2021 and Onwards. However, during the initial validation and verification of the TDP grantees, the Field Operations Unit observed the following situations which are crucial bottlenecks of the TDP validation process:

1. A significant number of continuing and new grantees are enrolled in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and/or programs which are either not recognized by CHED, or do not have Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC).
2. A number of continuing and new grantees are enrolled but do not meet the "regular load per term" requirement as determined by HEIs.

As to the issue of grantees enrolled in HEIs not recognized by CHED, *Section 3. Coverage* of the above-mentioned guidelines states that, the grantees must be enrolled in "CHED-recognized programs of Private Higher Education Institutions (Private HEIs), State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), or CHED-recognized Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs) with Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC)". Hence, the UniFAST cannot accommodate students who are enrolled in HEIs not recognized by CHED.

With regards to the concern relative to "regular load per term", *Section 12.4* of the guidelines states that, "Failure to enroll a regular load per term, **as determined and approved by HEIs**, shall be grounds for termination of the grant." Therefore, if the students only enrolled a certain number of units and the same is approved by the HEI, that would be accepted. Additionally, since the TDP is under the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES), the HEIs will eventually follow the rule of 4+1 or 5+1 residency period of the student.

*Please be guided accordingly. Thank you.*