



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

DIGOS CITY DIVISION

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

SGOD-2026-745

To : All Public Schools District Supervisors
Elementary and Secondary School Administrators
School Health and Nutrition Section Personnel
All Other Concerned

Subject : **REITERATION OF POLICY AND GUIDELINES ON HEALTHY
FOOD AND BEVERAGE CHOICES IN SCHOOLS AND IN DEPED
OFFICES**

Date : August 3, 2026

1. Attached is the Regional Memorandum ESSD-2026-235 dated July 20, 2026 regarding the Reiteration of Policy and Guidelines on Healthy Food and Beverage Choices in Schools and in DepEd Offices, which is self-explanatory.
2. For strict compliance.

Melanie P. Estacio
MELANIE P. ESTACIO, PhD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

DepEd Schools Division of Digos City
RECORDS SECTION

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DATE: 06 AUG 2026 TIME: 1:29
BY: *[Signature]*

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DAVAO REGION



July 20, 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
ESSD-2026-235

**REITERATION OF POLICY AND GUIDELINES ON HEALTHY FOOD AND
BEVERAGE CHOICES IN SCHOOLS AND IN DEPED OFFICES**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Chiefs of the Functional Division

1. In line with the Department's unwavering commitment to the health and well-being of basic education stakeholders (teaching and non-teaching personnel and learners), this Office reiterates the implementation of the following guidelines in the operation and management of school canteens and feeding centers for School-Based Feeding Program (SBFP):

- a. **DepEd Order No. 13, s. 2017** entitled "Policy and Guidelines on Healthy Food and Beverage Choices in Schools and DepEd Offices"
- b. **DepEd Order No. 08, s. 2007** entitled "Revised Implementing Guidelines in the Operation of Canteens in Elementary and Secondary Schools"
- c. **DepEd Order No. 14, s. 2005** entitled "Instructions to Ensure the Consumption of Nutritious and Safe Food in Schools"

2. In this regard, this Office, through the Education Support Services Division (ESSD), hereby instructs the field to strictly comply with the specific provisions outlined in the guidelines, particularly the following:

- a. Schools and school-related activities must not be used as platforms for marketing unhealthy food and beverages to children. This includes **all forms of advertising, sponsorship, and promotional activities** within schools and DepEd offices.
- b. Marketing of **Red Category** food and beverages is strictly prohibited in offices, schools, and educational events, as stated in Item V.A.3.d of DepEd Order No. 13, s. 2017.
- c. This region and division offices must create a Food Safety Monitoring Team (FSMT) composed of the following: Medical Officer/Health and Nutrition Unit Head, Food Safety Focal Person, School Canteen Focal Person, EPS (TLE), and two representatives from other divisions/sections/units. Designation memoranda or similar documents must be issued to identified members and submitted to this Office on or before **August 5, 2026**.
- d. Schools must also create their FSMT, composed of: School Head, School Canteen In-Charge, Chairperson of the Canteen Cooperative (if applicable), School/District Nurse, and PTA President. Designation documents must be submitted to their respective SDOs on the agreed date.
- e. Division and School FSMTs are responsible for evaluating food products sold in school canteens using the Nutrition Facts Assessment Form (Enclosure 1).
- f. Food and beverages prepared, cooked, or consigned in school canteens must follow the nutritional guidelines in DepEd Order No. 13, s. 2017:
 - **Green Category** – may be served daily



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- **Yellow Category** – may be served up to twice a week
 - **Red Category** – strictly prohibited
- g. Beyond monitoring sugar, fat, and sodium levels, schools must ensure that food items offer a wide range of essential nutrients (e.g., Vitamins A, C, B-complex, Iron, Calcium) to support learners' growth and development.
 - h. The provisions also apply to food and beverages served in offices and during activities organized by SDOs and FDs, including meetings, conferences, seminars, and other events.
 - i. All food handlers must be oriented on food safety standards, secure a health certificate from the Local Health Unit, and wear appropriate PPE/garments.
 - j. Sharing and utilization of canteen proceeds must be properly recorded and reported in accordance with Sections 6.5 and 7.10(c) of DepEd Order No. 8, s. 2007. Emphasis must be placed on allocating:
 - 35% for the Supplementary Feeding Program for undernourished pupils/students
 - 5% for the School Clinic Fund
 - k. Only school-managed and cooperative-managed canteens shall be officially recognized. Cooperative-managed canteens must have CDA accreditation and/or SEC registration as per DepEd Order No. 8, s. 2007.
 - l. School canteens must secure a Sanitary Clearance or Sanitary Permit from the Local Health Unit before beginning operations.
3. Moreover, teaching and non-teaching personnel are strictly prohibited from selling food and beverages, especially inside classrooms, for personal gain. This ensures a healthy, distraction-free learning environment and allows teachers to focus solely on their instructional duties.
4. School heads shall be fully responsible and accountable for the proper implementation of these policies and guidelines. Schools are advised to keep a filed copy of the directives for guidance and easy reference.
5. The Regional FSMT shall closely monitor the implementation of these directives through the Division FSMT. Any violations or concerns should be promptly reported and addressed.
6. For further details, Reissa T. Silda, Regional Food Safety Focal Person, may be contacted at (082) 224-0748.
7. Immediate dissemination and compliance with this Memorandum is desired.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - DAVAO REGION
RECORDS SECTION

RELEASED

Encl.: As stated
ROB6/rtb

By: *[Signature]*

Date: *July 29, 2016*

Time: _____

MARIA INES C. ASUNCION
Director IV *[Signature]*



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