



Republic of the Philippines
City of Malolos, Bulacan
BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs
STUDENT POLICY AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

**GUIDELINES ON BulSU's AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAM
FOR FRESHMAN ADMISSION IN THE NEW NORMAL**

Rationale

The promotion of the principles of equality and equity is among the avowed goals of the University. Affirmative action refers to a set of policies and practices within a government or organization seeking to increase the representation of particular groups based on their gender, race, sexuality, creed or nationality in areas in which they are underrepresented such as education and employment (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy,2015). In the Philippines, many policy decisions have been reflected in laws that attempt to tip the balance in favor of a sector of society deemed discriminate upon (Business World,2015). To this end, the Bulacan State University shall formulate and implement guidelines to ensure her commitment to promote the *affirmative actions*. This will validate the claim of the University as among the SUCs/HEIs that adhere to the policy of non-discrimination and provision of equal opportunity to all, without neglecting that she has to provide enabling opportunities to some select marginalized sectors of the society especially in the new normal learning environment.

A. Legal Bases

Among others, a number of legal bases serve as the premises upon which the Bulacan State University will uphold the promotion of accessible and equal quality education to all levels of students and ensure non-discriminatory practices in all its processes and procedures, especially those that deal with new entrants to all the undergraduate academic programs. They are as follows:

1. Republic Act No. 10931, Series of 2016 also known as **"Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act"** which states that quality education is an inalienable right of all Filipinos and it is the policy of the State to protect and promote the rights of all students to quality education at all levels. Therefore, the State shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.
2. Republic Act No. 8371, Series 1997, also known as **"The Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997"** which states that State shall recognize and promote all the rights of Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples (ICCs/IPs) hereunder enumerated within the framework of the Constitution. Further, Chapter 6, Section 30, Educational System mandates that the State shall provide equal access to various cultural opportunities to the Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples (ICCs/IPs) through the educational system, public or private cultural entities, scholarships, grants and other incentives without prejudice to their right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions by providing education in their own language, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning. Indigenous children/youth shall have the right to all levels and forms of education of the State.
3. Republic Act No. 11310, Series 2018, also known as **"Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) Act"** which states that the State shall promote a just and dynamic social order thereby uplifting its citizens and marginalized sectors from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all. This law also emphasizes Section 4. The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps).
-The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) is the national poverty reduction strategy and a



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human capital investment program that provides conditional cash transfer to poor households for a maximum period of seven (7) years, to improve the health, nutrition and education aspect of their lives. The National Advisory Council (NAC) may recommend a longer period under exceptional circumstances.

4. Republic Act No. 7277, Series 1992, otherwise known as “**Magna Carta for Disabled Persons**” which states that rights and privileges for disabled persons should be granted. Chapter 2, Section 12, further discussed that the State shall take into consideration the special requirements of disabled persons in the formulation of educational policies and programs. It shall encourage learning institutions to take into account the special needs of disabled persons with respect to the use of school facilities, class schedules, physical education requirements, and other pertinent consideration.
5. Republic Act No.9872 also known as “**Solo Parents’ Welfare Act of 2000**” which provides for benefits and privileges to the solo parents and their children, appropriating funds thereof and for other purposes.

B. The BulSU Affirmative Action Program for Freshman Admission

The Bulacan State University, beyond providing accessible and equal opportunity to quality education, will uphold utmost humane considerations in selecting freshman applicants. The Student Policy and Program Development Office under the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs proposes the “*Guidelines on BulSU’s Affirmative Action Program for College Freshman Admission in the New Normal*”. It likewise recommends that the guidelines be observed by Colleges and Campuses to demonstrate through concrete procedures the promotion of equality and equity.

1. In the light of the Affirmative Action Program of the University, the following criteria among others shall be considered in the selection of the qualifiers to the academic programs:
 - b. Member of an Indigenous Cultural Community (ICC) / Indigenous People (IP);
 - c. Member of Pantawid Pamilya Pilipino Program (4Ps);
 - d. Student with Special Needs (SSN)² and other Types of Disabilities;
 - e. Graduate of Alternative Learning System (ALS); and
 - f. Member of a BulSU Adopted Community
2. Table 1 below enumerates the requirements and the corresponding percentage allocation for the above-mentioned criteria (highlighted)

Table 1. Criteria for the Selection of Qualifiers

Criteria	Requirements	Percentage
A. Scholastic Records		
1. Mean GPA for Grade 11 and Grade 12 (1st Sem)	Form 138	30
2. Strand Taken (See Appendix A & C)		20
3. Grades in Specialized Subjects ¹ (See Appendix B)		20
4. Admission Assessment Score	Admission Assessment Form	10
B. Personal Data		
1. Resident of the:		



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1.1. Province of Bulacan	Barangay Certification	2
1.2. Other Province/s in Region III		1
2. (only one of the criteria is to be considered)		
2.1. Member of an Indigenous Cultural Community (ICC)/Indigenous People (IP);	Membership Certificate/Barangay-issued Certificate	3
2.2. Member of Pantawid Pamilya Pilipino Program (4Ps);	Membership Certificate/Barangay-issued Certificate	
2.3. Student with Special Needs (SSN)² and other Types of Disabilities	Membership Certificate / Identification Card (ID)	
2.4. Graduate of Alternative Learning System (ALS)	Accreditation & Equivalency Assessment and Certification	
3. Child of a Solo Parent³	Solo Parent ID	3
4. With Exemplary Artistic and Athletic Ability	Certificate from the Heads of the school- or community-based organizations (civic and/or religious orgs)	3
5. Member of a BulSU Adopted Community / Child of a BulSU Employee⁴	Certificate from the University Extension Office/Parent's latest Employee ID	5
6. Graduate of BulSU-LHS	Form 138	3
TOTAL		100

3. Procedures

- a. The Admission and Orientation Services Office (AOSO) will provide each College/Campus Dean with the lists (per program) of the ranked applicants based on the BulSU Admission Assessment results.
- b. Each College/Campus shall establish a Local Admission Committee to assist the AOSO and to look into an applicants' other requirements.
- c. Each College/Campus will submit the initial lists of qualifiers to the BulSU AOSO for the generation of the shortlist of qualifiers.
- d. The shortlisted names of qualifiers will be submitted to the Office of the President for perusal and approval.

C. References

Business World (2015) . The most trusted source of Philippine business news and analysis. Retrieved February 20, 2021, from Bworldonline.com website: <https://www.bworldonline.com/>



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Republic Act No. 7277. (1992). An Act Providing For The Rehabilitation, Self-Development And Self Reliance Of Disabled Persons And Their Integration Into The Mainstream Of Society And For Other Purposes. <http://hrlibrary.umn.edu/research/Philippines/RA%207277%20-%20Magna%20Carta%20of%20Disabled%20Persons.pdf>

Republic Act No. 8371. (1997). An act to recognize, protect and promote the rights of indigenous cultural communities/indigenous peoples, creating a national commission on indigenous peoples, establishing implementing mechanisms, appropriating funds therefor, and for other purposes

Republic Act No. 10533. (2013) "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013". Retrieved from <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/k-12/>

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (2015). Retrieved February 20, 2021, from Stanford.edu website: <https://plato.stanford.edu/search/searcher.py?query=Affirmative+action>

The guidelines were approved during the EXECOM meeting held last February 24, 2021.