

TESDA CIRCULAR

Subject: Guidelines in the Implementation of TESDA's Role in the Protection of Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Stateless Persons in the Philippines		Number <u>24</u> series of 2018 Page 1 of 2 pages
Date Issued: March 13, 2018	Effectivity: Immediately	Supersedes:

As part of the country's commitment to provide protection to the refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons in the country (hereinafter referred to as Persons of Concerns or POCs) , the following guidelines are hereby being issued:

I. BACKGROUND

The Philippines is a signatory to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, and the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons. This means that the country has committed to provide protection to the refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless persons, who are also called Persons of Concerns.

In order to fully comply with the said mandate and institutionalize the policies of relevant agencies as well as ensure that services are provided to the POCs, an Inter-agency Steering Committee for the protection of POCs was created and an inter-agency agreement was finalized, with TESDA as one of the signatories. The Inter-agency agreement is based on each agency's task as mandated by law.

II. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this guideline is to provide the POCs assistance in identifying their skills needs and providing them access to TVET Institutions of their choice where they are qualified to enroll.

III. COVERAGE

This guideline covers all asylum seekers, refugees, stateless persons, and stateless applicants as defined under the Inter-agency Agreement who will be endorsed by the Department of Justice (DOJ) to TESDA.

IV. SERVICES

As indicated in the Inter-agency Agreement, the following will be TESDA's tasks in the provision of services to the POCs:

1. Identification of needed skills training of the POC necessary to establish his livelihood to support his/her family; and
2. Access to TVET Institutions / providers offering regular programs.

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Regular programs as defined in this Circular pertain to courses / qualifications offered by the said institutions not subsidized by government funds.

TESDA Circular No. 3 series of 2018 otherwise known as the "Omnibus Guidelines for 2018 Training for Work Scholarship Program and Special Training for Employment Program" stipulates that the beneficiaries of the scholarship program are Filipino citizens (Section VII).

V. REQUIREMENTS:


In order to qualify under this guideline, the POC should be endorsed by the DOJ to the TESDA Central Office, who in turn shall be endorsed to the TESDA Regional Office having jurisdiction over the place of residence of the POCs.

VI. MONITORING

The TESDA Regional Offices shall submit a report to the Partnership and Linkages Office indicating the names of the beneficiaries and services provided.

VIII. EFFECTIVITY

These guidelines shall take effect immediately. Wide dissemination and strict implementation of this Circular by all concerned is hereby enjoined.


GULING "GENE" A. MAMONDIONG
Director General /Secretary

