



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 CARAGA REGION



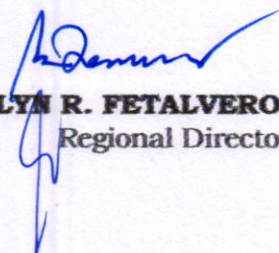
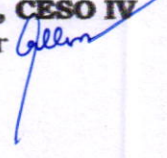
March 8, 2021

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
 No. 136, s. 2021

To: SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
 This Region

**GUIDELINES ON THE COUNSELLING AND REFERRAL SYSTEM
 OF LEARNERS FOR S.Y. 2020-2021**

1. The Department of Education Office of the Undersecretary for Curriculum and Instruction issued Memorandum No. 055 s, 2021 on the Guidelines on Counselling and Referral System of Learners for S.Y. 2020-2021, which aims to give DepEd schools the mechanisms to address the need of learners on mental health services.
2. Attached are the guidelines for your reference.
3. For your information and guidance.


EVELYN R. FETALVERO, CESO IV
 Regional Director 

Encls.: GUIDELINES ON THE COUNSELLING AND REFERRAL SYSTEM OF LEARNERS FOR S.Y 2020-2021

Reference: NONE

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
 under the following subjects:

COUNSELLING GUIDELINES LEARNERS REFERRAL SYSTEM

ESS/jcc
 03/08/2021



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
UNDERSECRETARY FOR CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

(Enclosure to DM-OUCI-2021- 055)

**Guidelines on the Counseling and Referral System of Learners for
S.Y. 2020-2021**

I. Rationale

1. The Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 11036 otherwise known as the Mental Health Law, Section 25 stipulates that, "Educational institutions such as schools, colleges, universities, and technical schools shall develop policies and programs for students, educators and other employees designed to: raise awareness on mental health issues, identify and provide support services for individuals at risk, and facilitate access, including referral mechanisms of individual with mental health conditions to treatment and psychosocial support.

The DepEd, CHED, and TESDA in coordination with other relevant government agencies and stakeholders, shall provide guidance in the development and implementation of mental health policy and programs to educational institutions to: a. promote mental health; b. provide basic support services for individuals at risk or already have a mental health condition; and c. establish efficient linkages with other agencies and organizations that provide or make arrangements to provide support, treatment and continuing care."

2. Awaiting the release of the Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Program Policy, which is the overall umbrella of all mental health programs and activities in schools, the Department tries to address the pressing issues concerning the mental health of learners most especially during this crisis situation by issuing guidelines on the conduct of counseling and referral mechanisms in schools.
3. In view of the above, this Memorandum aims to establish guidelines and procedures that will guide DepEd schools in addressing learners who need counseling and should be referred to other mental health professionals/services.