



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
Region VI – Western Visayas  
**SCHOOLS DIVISION OF CAPIZ**

January 26, 2026

**DIVISION MEMORANDUM**  
No. 048 s. 2026

**SELECTION AND ADMISSION GUIDELINES FOR THE SPECIAL SCIENCE  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (SSES) AND SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY,  
ENGINEERING (STE) PROGRAMS**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
OIC - Chief Education Supervisors  
Education Program Supervisors  
Public Schools District Supervisors  
Senior Education Program Specialists

1. Attached is Regional Memorandum No. 75, s. 2026 dated January 26, 2026 titled **Selection and Admission Guidelines for the Special Science Elementary Schools (SSES) and Science, Technology, Engineering (STE) Programs**.

2. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

  
**ROEL F. BERMEJO**  
Schools Division Superintendent

Encl: As stated  
Reference: Regional Memorandum No. 075, s. 2026  
To be included in the Perpetual Index  
Under the following subjects:

ADMISSION  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

EXAMINATIONS  
SECONDARY SCHOOLS



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Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
REGION VI-WESTERN VISAYAS

JAN 21 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM  
No. 075, s. 2026

**SELECTION AND ADMISSION GUIDELINES FOR THE SPECIAL SCIENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (SSES) AND SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENGINEERING (STE) PROGRAMS**

To: Schools Division Superintendents  
All Others Concerned

1. This Office, through the Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD), issues the Selection and Admission Guidelines for the Special Science Elementary School (SSES) and Science, Technology, and Engineering (STE) Programs.
2. The specific guidelines are provided in Enclosure No. 1 of this Memorandum.
3. The Schools Division Offices, through the Division Science Supervisors shall monitor and evaluate the selection process of the SSES and STE learners and submit a report to the Regional Office through the CLMD for validation.
3. Participation to this activity is voluntary and subject to the no-disruption of classes policy per DepEd Order No. 09, s. 2025 (Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance therewith), and no collection policy per DepEd Order No. 09, s. 2008 (Implementation of No Collection Policy in All Public Elementary and Secondary Schools).
4. The teaching and non-teaching personnel who will render services during the said activities are entitled to service credits/compensatory overtime credits where it applies following DepEd Order No. 53, s. 2003 and CSC and DBM Joint Circular No. 2, s. 2024.
5. It is understood that in the conduct of this activity, there shall be no discrimination on account of age, school, gender, civil status, disability, religion, or other similar factors, personal circumstances that run counter to the principles of equitable opportunity.



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6. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

*[Signature]*  
**CRISTITO A. ECO, CESO III**  
Assistant Regional Director  
Officer-in-Charge  
Office of the Regional Director

Encl.: As stated

Reference: None

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

ADMISSION  
CURRICULUM  
EXAMINATIONS  
LEARNING AREA, SCIENCE  
PROGRAMS  
TESTS

MAD/CLMD-RM-Selection and Admission Guidelines for...  
030/January 20, 2026



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Enclosure No. 1 of Regional Memorandum No. s. 2026

**SELECTION AND ADMISSION GUIDELINES FOR THE SPECIAL SCIENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENGINEERING PROGRAMS**

SPECIAL SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (SPSTEM) PROGRAM	ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS	DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS
Special Science Elementary School (SSES)	Must complete the Kindergarten Program in any DepEd-accredited schools and centers  Must pass the Qualifying Examination, Face-to-face Interview and Reading and Comprehension Test	a. Duly Accomplished Application Form with Passport size ID Picture  b. Learner's Progress Report Card and ECCD Checklist  c. Photocopy of PSA Birth Certificate or any of the Secondary Documents  d. Medical Certificate
Science, Technology, and Engineering (STE)	Must be a Grade 6 Graduate  For the learner to qualify for the examination and face-to-face interview, the applicant must obtain an average rating of at least 85 in Grade 6 English, Science, and Mathematics and with no grades lower than 83 in any subject from First to Third Quarters  Must pass the Qualifying Exam and Face-to-face Interview	a. Duly Accomplished Application Form with Passport size ID Picture  b. Certified Photocopy of Learner's Progress Report Card (SF 9)  c. Medical Certificate



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	For the learner to be admitted to the program, the applicant shall maintain the grades of 85 in Grade 6 English, Science, and Mathematics with no grades lower than 83 in any subjects up to the Fourth Quarter	
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The selection for incoming Grade 1 SSES and Grade 7 STE Applicants shall be done in the following phases to determine the final qualifiers:

<b>PHASE</b>	<b>SSES</b>	<b>STE</b>
1	Qualifying Exam	Qualifying Exam
2	Reading and Comprehension Test	Face-to-face Interview
3	Face-to-face Interview	Ranking of qualified applicants
4	Ranking of qualified applicants	

Ranking of the final qualified applicants shall be based on the following criteria:

<b>CRITERIA</b>	<b>EQUIVALENT</b>	
	<b>SSES</b>	<b>STE</b>
Reading and Comprehension Test	25%	
Qualifying Exam Score	50%	60%
Face-to-face Interview (Behavioral Test)	25%	25%
Grade 6 Final Rating in English, Science, and Mathematics		15%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

The following is the indicative schedule of activities:

<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>EXPECTED DATES</b>
Submission of Application Documents	One week after the scheduled distribution of Learner's Progress Report Cards for the Third Quarter



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	until the Fourth Friday of the Fourth Quarter
Conduct of Qualifying Examination	Saturday of the Sixth Week of the Fourth Quarter of the current school year
Reading and Comprehension Test and Face-to-face Interview with the parents or legal guardians (SSES)	Succeeding two Saturdays after the conduct of the Qualifying Examination
Face-to-face Interview with the parents or legal guardians (STE)	
Selection and Ranking of Final Qualified Applicants	One week after the End of the School Year (EOSY)
Posting of Grade 1 and 7 Qualifiers	One week after the End of the School Year (EOSY)

#### **A. Qualifying Examination**

- ✓ The Regional Office, through the Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD), will prepare the qualifying examination in coordination with Curriculum Implementation Divisions for the incoming Grade 1 SSES and 7 STE applicants. The components include English/Reading, Science, and Mathematics;
- ✓ The mode of administration will be paper and pencil test at the identified testing centers of the Schools Division Office;
- ✓ The results of the qualifying examination will be posted on the testing center where the applicant took the exam;
- ✓ The qualifying examination will be administered **ONCE** every school year; and
- ✓ All testing materials shall be treated with utmost confidentiality.

#### **B. Reading and Comprehension Test (SSES)**

- ✓ The Regional Office, through the CLMD, will prepare the Reading and Comprehension Test for the incoming Grade 1 SSES learners and to be administered by the school on a face-to-face basis; and
- ✓ All testing materials shall be treated with utmost confidentiality.



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**C. Face-to-Face Interview (SSES/STE)**

- ✓ The interview for admission is a crucial component of the selection process. It is designed to evaluate learner's communication skills, behavior, and overall aptitude beyond what can be measured by a written examination. This face-to-face assessment will be conducted by the school;
- ✓ A unified assessment tools and rubric, prepared by the Regional Office, shall be used to evaluate the applicants. Furthermore, it shall be treated with utmost confidentiality; and
- ✓ Completion of the Special Science Elementary Schools (SSES) program does not guarantee automatic admission to the Grade 7 Science, Technology, and Engineering (STE) program. Completers of the SSES program must still undergo the standard admission and qualification process to be considered for the STE program.