

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3467



**Introduced by Hon. Bryan B. Revilla and
Hon. Ramon "Jolo" Revilla III**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 10931 or the "Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act" is a landmark measure passed into Law by the Duterte Administration. This measure was gladly received and rejoiced by most Filipinos who have been calling for a universal access to quality tertiary education.

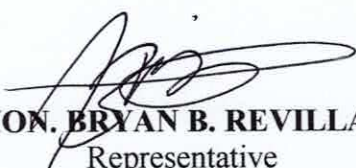
The RA 10931 institutionalized a voucher system to subsidize all State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs) and Technical Vocational Schools (TVS) students. Since its passage into law in 2017, around 1.6 million college students are no longer paying for their tuition and miscellaneous fees. Of this number, 1.3 million are beneficiaries from 112 SUCs while at least 300,000 are from local SUCs.¹

In 2019 to 2020, a total of 3,408,425 universities and college students were enrolled both in public and private tertiary institutions. This means that a considerable number of students are excluded from the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) despite being qualified and deserving to avail of the program. While we applaud the achievement of the government in ensuring universal quality tertiary education, we are also concerned for those students who are qualified and deserving of government assistance who are enrolled at private Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). At present, there are only 112 SUCs and 121 LUCs all over the country, thereby limiting access to free college education.

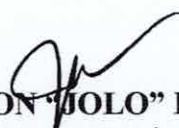
¹ Rocamora, Joyce Ann. 1.6M Pinoy students benefit from free higher educ program, retrieved from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1140715>

This bill seeks to expand the TES to include private HEIs. This bill will allow poor and academically competent student who opt to study in private HEIs and TVIs to avail TES. This will further ensure that quality tertiary education is available for all whether they are enrolled in public or private HEIs.

In view of the foregoing reasons, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



HON. BRYAN B. REVILLA
Representative
AGIMAT Partylist



HON. RAMON "JOLO" REVILLA III
Representative
1st District of Cavite



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3467

Introduced by Hon. Bryan B. Revilla and
Hon. Ramon "Jolo" Revilla III

AN ACT
EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF THE TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDY,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10931, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE "UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO QUALITY TERTIARY EDUCATION ACT"

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 SECTION 1. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 10931 or the "Universal Access to Quality
2 Tertiary Education Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3
4 "SEC. 7. *TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDY (TES) for Filipino Students.* – To
5 support the cost of tertiary education or any part or portion thereof, a TES is hereby
6 established IN ALL SUCs, LUCs, PRIVATE HEIs AND TVIs for all Filipino students
7 who [shall] enroll in THE FIRST undergraduate, post-secondary TERTIARY
8 EDUCATION program[s] [of SUCs, LUCs, private HEIs and all TVIs] OF THEIR
9 CHOICE. The TES shall be administered by the UniFAST Board and the amount
10 necessary to fund the TES shall be included in the RESPECTIVE budgets of the
11 CHED and the TESDA: *Provided*, That prioritization shall be given to students in the
12 following order: (a) students who are part of households included in the UPDATED
13 Listahanan 2.0, ranked according to the estimated per capita household income; and
14 (b) students not part of the Listahanan 2.0, ranked according on estimated per capita
15 household income based on submitted documentation of proof of income to be
16 determined by the UniFAST Board: *Provided, further*, That such prioritization shall
17 not apply to Filipino students in cities and municipalities with no existing SUC or
18 LUC campus AND PUBLIC TVI.

19
20 THERE SHALL BE A PROPORTIONAL BUDGETARY ALLOCATION IN
21 THE FORM OF A VOUCHER SYSTEM FOR POOR AND ACADEMICALLY
22 COMPETENT STUDENTS WHO OPT TO STUDY IN PRIVATE HEIs AND
23 PRIVATE TVIs IN CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES WHERE THERE ARE
24 EXISTING SUCs, LUCs AND PUBLIC TVIs. STUDENTS FROM LISTAHANAN
25 HOUSEHOLDS SHALL BE PRIORITIZED AS BENEFICIARIES OF THE TES IN
26 AREAS WHERE THERE ARE NO EXISTING SUCs, LUCs AND PUBLIC TVIs.
27

1 ALL VOUCHERS ISSUED UNDER THIS ACT SHALL BE USED EXCLUSIVELY
2 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING POOR AND ACADEMICALLY COMPETENT
3 STUDENTS WHO OPT TO STUDY IN PRIVATE HEIs AND PRIVATE TVIs IN CITIES
4 AND MUNICIPALITIES WHERE THERE ARE EXISTING SUCs, LUCs AND PUBLIC
5 TVIs.

6
7 TO SUPPORT THE COST OF TERTIARY EDUCATION OR ANY PART OR
8 PORTION THEREOF, [T]he TES may, among others, [and to support the cost of
9 tertiary education or any part or portion thereof,] cover the following:

10
11 (a) Tuition and other school fees in private HEIs, and private or LGU-operated
12 TVIs, which shall be equivalent to the tuition and other school fees of the nearest SUC
13 or state-run TVI in their respective areas;

14
15 (b) [An] Allowance for books, SCHOOL supplies, transportation TO AND FROM
16 SCHOOL, and [miscellaneous personal expenses, including a] reasonable allowance for
17 the documented rental or purchase of a [personal computer or laptop] DESKTOP OR
18 PORTABLE COMPUTER WHEN APPLICABLE [and other education-related
19 expenses];

20
21 (c) An allowance for room and board costs incurred by the student WHEN
22 APPLICABLE;

23
24 (d) xxx

25
26 (e) xxx

27
28 ALL TES BENEFICIARIES SHALL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE SUCH
29 BENEFITS OR SUBSIDY UNTIL THEY COMPLETE THEIR POST-SECONDARY
30 TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL COURSE OR HIGHER EDUCATION DEGREE
31 PROGRAM: *PROVIDED*, THAT THEY DO NOT FAIL IN ANY SUBJECT
32 ENROLLED IN AND COMPLY WITH RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS IN
33 ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF THE HEIS AND TVIS.”

34
35 SEC. 2. Republic Act No. 10931, otherwise known as the “Universal Access to
36 Quality Tertiary Education Act”, is hereby amended. All laws, presidential decrees,
37 executive orders, rules and regulations, and issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent
38 with the provisions of this Act are repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

39
40 SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
41 *Gazette* or in two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

42
43 Approved,