



**Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

**Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 7477



Introduced by Representative Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill provides a voucher system for poor and academically competitive students who choose to study in private or local government unit (LGU)-operated tertiary vocational institutions (TVIs) in cities and municipalities with existing state and local universities and colleges (SUCs and LUCs) and public TVIs.

Among other salient provisions, this measure covers tuition and other school fees, room and board costs, books, school supplies, transportation, transportation to and from school, and other education-related expenses, as well as an allowance for books, school supplies, transportation to and from school, and miscellaneous personal expenses. In addition, all beneficiaries of the voucher system will continue to receive such benefits or subsidies until they complete their post-secondary education.

Hence, this representation seeks the passage of this measure.

RUDYS CAESAR G. FARIÑAS I



**Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

**Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 7477

Introduced by Representative Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I

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
2 Quality Tertiary Education Act” is hereby amended to read as follows:

3
4 “SEC. 7. *TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDY (TES) for Filipino*
5 *Students.* –To support the cost of tertiary education or any part or portion
6 thereof, a TES is hereby established IN ALL SUCs, LUCs, PRIVATE HEIs
7 AND TVIs for all Filipino students who [shall] enroll in THE FIRST
8 undergraduate, post-secondary TERTIARY EDUCATION program[s] [of
9 SUCs, LUCs, private HEIs and all TVIs] OF THEIR CHOICE. The TES shall
10 be administered by the UniFAST Board and the amount necessary to fund
11 the TES shall be included in the RESPECTIVE budgets of the CHED and
12 the TESDA: *Provided*, That prioritization shall be given to students in the
13 following order: (a) students who are part of households included in the
14 UPDATED *Listahanan 2.0*, ranked according to the estimated per capita
15 household income; and (b) students not part of the *Listahanan 2.0*,
16 ranked according to estimated per capita household income based on

submitted documentation of proof of income to be determined by the UniFAST Board: *Provided, further,* That such prioritization shall not apply to Filipino students in cities and municipalities with no existing SUC or LUC campus AND PUBLIC TVI.

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

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

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

- (a) Tuition and other school fees in private HEIs, and private or LGU-operated TVIs, which shall be equivalent to the tuition and other school fees of the nearest SUC or state-run TVI in their respective areas;
- (b) [An] Allowance for books, SCHOOL supplies, transportation TO AND FROM SCHOOL, and [miscellaneous personal expenses, including a] reasonable allowance for the documented rental or purchase of a [personal computer or laptop] DESKTOP OR PORTABLE COMPUTER WHEN APPLICABLE [and other education-related expenses];
- (c) An allowance for room and board costs incurred by the student WHEN APPLICABLE;
- (d) xxx
- (e) xxx

1 ALL TES BENEFICIARIES SHALL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE SUCH
2 BENEFITS OR SUBSIDY UNTIL THEY COMPLETE THEIR POST-
3 SECONDARY TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL COURSE OR HIGHER
4 EDUCATION DEGREE PROGRAM: *PROVIDED*, THAT THEY DO NOT FAIL IN
5 ANY SUBJECT ENROLLED IN AND COMPLY WITH RESIDENCY
6 REQUIREMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF THE HEIS AND
7 TVIS.”

8
9 SEC. 2. Republic Act No. 10931, otherwise known as the “Universal Access to
10 Quality Tertiary Education Act”, is hereby amended. All laws, presidential
11 decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, and issuances or parts thereof
12 which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are repealed, amended or
13 modified accordingly.

14 SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
15 *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,