

Republika ng Pilipinas
Kagawaran ng Edukasyon

REHIYON V – (Bikol)

TANGGAPANG PANSANGAY NG MGA PAARALAN NG CATANDUANES

05 March 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 347, s. 2026

PARTICIPATION TO THE 2026 SEARCH FOR OUTSTANDING 4Ps BICOLANO YOUTH (RSTOBY)

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors, CID & SGOD
Public Schools District Supervisors
Secondary School Heads
SSLG Advisers
All Others Concerned

1. The DSWD 4Ps Field Office V in coordination with this Office is set to organize its third year **Regional Search for Outstanding 4Ps Bicolano Youth (RSTOBY)** with the theme "4Ps Bicolano Youth Leading the Way in Excellence, Positive Change, and Service".
2. The activity aims to:
 - a. Promote outstanding adherence of youth beneficiaries to the program's conditions and shared responsibilities by acknowledging those who demonstrate exceptional commitment;
 2. Develop the 4Ps youth beneficiaries as advocates of the program and its thrusts in health and education;
 3. Recognize the contributions and achievements of the 4Ps youth in creating positive impacts on their families and communities; and
 4. Convey the advocacy efforts of the program, championing the value of health and education in poverty alleviation, and combating gender and culture-based discrimination and violence in families and communities.
3. The search is open to all 4Ps youth beneficiaries of the Bicol Region aged 15 to 18 years old only by October 31 of the current year regardless of sex, gender, religion, and cultural background.
4. The youth applicant must be:
 - a. currently an active monitored beneficiary (Client Status 1) of the Pantawid Program for at least one (1) year;
 - b. duly enrolled for the school year 2025-2026;
 - c. compliant with the school attendance requirement of the program (at least 90% school attendance from the preceding school year);
 - d. with good scholastic standing; and
 - e. have a good grasp, understanding, and appreciation of the 4Ps.
5. Application will commence on March 4, 2026, and entries should be submitted through this link: <https://bit.ly/2026RSTOBYApplication>. Deadline of application will be on **May 29, 2026**.



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6. Enclosed are the implementation guidelines for the 2026 RSTOBY for your reference.
7. All secondary schools are encouraged to send at least one (1) entry to represent their respective schools.
8. For clarifications, you may contact Mr. Dickson A. Tendido, 4Ps Youth Development Focal Person at t 0995-937-3754.
9. For information and guidance of all concerned.

By Authority of the OIC-Schools Division Superintendent:


EVA S. TOLENTINO
Administrative Officer V
Officer-In-Charge

SGOD/SocMobNet/mbb
03/05/2026



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GUIDELINES OF THE 2026 REGIONAL SEARCH FOR TEN OUTSTANDING 4Ps BICOLANO YOUTH

I. RATIONALE

In 2019, the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) was enacted into a law that made the program a “national poverty reduction strategy and a human capital investment program that provides conditional cash transfer to poor households for a maximum period of seven years”.¹ The cash grants are meant to help improve the education and health conditions of these households. Under the law, the 4Ps become a regular program of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

In light of Republic Act 11310, commonly referred to as the 4Ps Act, there is a necessity to enhance the communication of program messages to ensure the achievement of goals and objectives, along with adherence to established processes and guidelines. The collaboration between the Regional Program Management Office (RPMO), specifically the Youth Development Unit, and the Social Marketing Unit (SMU) has been established to execute social marketing and advocacy initiatives related to youth development. This partnership aims to bolster program operations, fostering the desired behavioral changes among stakeholders.

The third year of the Regional Search for Outstanding 4Ps Bicolano Youth (RSTOBY) with the theme *“4Ps Bicolano Youth Leading the Way in Excellence, Positive Change, and Service”* continuously complementing the annual advocacy activities of the Social Marketing Unit, namely the *Search for Huwaring Pantawid Pamilya* and the *Search for Pantawid Pamilya Exemplary Children*, which commenced in 2012. The yearly RSTOBY cultivated more advocates and ambassadors for conveying program messages and acknowledged the praiseworthy qualities, dedication, and proactive endeavors of 4Ps youth that can serve as inspirations for others. Additionally, the search yearly commends the 4Ps youth who have made positive contributions within their communities, showcasing their impact through active participation in various youth organizations both within educational institutions and the broader community. Furthermore, the stories of these young individuals are intended to encourage greater involvement of the youth in transforming their lives and lifestyles.

Similar to the abovementioned regional searches, the RSTOBY aspires to provide additional motivation for 4Ps families, particularly the 4Ps Youth, to adhere to program conditions. The aim is to highlight their extraordinary stories of resilience in the face of poverty, showcasing their dedication to education, the embodiment of positive Filipino values, and their efforts to make a positive impact within their families, schools, and communities.

II. LEGAL BASES

1. **Section 13, Article II, The 1987 Philippine Constitution.** The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.
2. **Presidential Decree No. 603 (The Child and Youth Welfare Code).** It states that "The child shall enjoy special protection and shall be given opportunities and facilities, by law and by other means, to ensure and enable his fullest development physically, mentally, emotionally, morally, spiritually and socially in a healthy and normal manner and conditions of freedom and dignity appropriate to the corresponding developmental stage."
3. **Republic Act 8044 Youth in Nation Building Act.** The State recognizes its responsibility to enable the youth to fulfill their vital role in nation-building and established the National Comprehensive and Coordinated Program on Youth Development. It also created the structures to implement the same and appropriated adequate funds to support the program and implement structures on a continuing, sustained basis.
4. **Philippine Youth Development Plan 2023-2028.** Enjoins all state duty bearers at the national and local levels to maximize the participation of the youth in nation-building as responsible and proactive citizens. It informs our development partners such as civil society and non-government organizations, international and national donors, the Church, media, and the business community of the rewarding social, economic, and ethical opportunities of fully engaging the youth in their respective programs.
5. **Section 22, Rule 10- Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 11310.** Youth Development Sessions or other similar activities shall be encouraged among the young members of the households as complementary learning to the FDS condition. It provides additional learning intervention to adolescent children of 4Ps households ages 10-18 years old.

III. IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES

A. Objectives

Generally, the activity seeks to acknowledge exceptional 4Ps youth who serve as role models within their homes, schools, and communities. Additionally, its goal is to inspire young individuals to become active and engaged citizens, surpassing mere compliance with the program's requirements.

Specifically, the RSOBY aims to:

1. Promote outstanding adherence of youth beneficiaries to the program's conditions and shared responsibilities by acknowledging those who demonstrate exceptional

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commitment.

2. Develop the 4Ps youth beneficiaries as advocates of the program and its thrusts in health and education
3. Recognize the contributions and achievements of the 4Ps youth in creating positive impacts on their families and communities.
4. Convey the advocacy efforts of the program, championing the value of health and education in poverty alleviation, and combating gender and culture-based discrimination and violence in families and communities.

B. Eligibility

1. The search is open to all 4Ps youth beneficiaries of the Bicol Region aged 15 to 18 years old only by October 31 of the current year regardless of sex, gender, religion, and cultural background.
2. The youth applicant must be:
 - currently an active monitored beneficiary (Client Status 1) of the Pantawid Program for at least one (1) year.
 - duly enrolled for the school year 2025-2026
 - compliant with the school attendance requirement of the program (at least 90% school attendance from the preceding school year)
 - with good scholastic standing
 - have a good grasp, understanding, and appreciation of the 4Ps.
3. The youth applicant is required to exhibit the following educational qualities/characteristics:
 - Academic excellence in learning areas in the school curriculum
 - Active in co-curricular activities such as engagement at all levels (school, division, regional, national, and international) in five (5) areas namely: (a) contests and competitions, (b) student leadership, (c) campus journalism, (d) officership and membership, and (e) participation or attendance
 - With good moral character. No records of behavioral and conduct problems.
 - Conversant on the thrusts and conditions of the program
4. Demonstrate leadership skills with strong potential for leadership roles in the future;
5. Demonstrate commitment to civic action, strong academic and social skills, and interest in community service.
6. Attended training on gender and development, youth leadership, and other relevant training.
7. With at least one (1) involvement in school organizations and one (1) organization in the community.
8. Have permission from parents/guardians and schools to participate in the entire program.

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Procedures

C. 1. Submission of Application

1. Applicants must complete and submit an application through the provided this link: <https://bit.ly/2026RSTOBYApplication>. The submitted answer per question and information will serve as a reference of the Selection Committee in identifying and shortlisting applicants for panel interviews.
2. The application will commence on March 4, 2026. Call for applications will be communicated through the DSWD 4Ps Provincial/Cluster/Municipal/ City Operations Offices, Department of Education (DepEd) and to be posted through the various social media platforms of the DSWD.
3. Applicants must upload scanned copies of documents needed by each area of the form. See the annexes of this document for the template of the certifications. The following documents must be scanned (PDF format) and submitted during the application:

3.1. To be Prepared by the Applicant

- Brief write-up about the applicant and his/her family written in either English or Filipino Language
- 2 x 2 picture with White Background (photo should be in school uniform)
- Birth Certificate
- Certificates of training and seminars attended.
- Certificates or awards won by the youth, if any
- Certification from community organizations the youth is involve of (Annex B)

3.2. To be Issued by the School

- Certification from school organizations where the youth is part of (Annex A)
4. The presence of any inaccuracies in the submitted documents or requirements will result in the disqualification or exclusion of the applicant from the selection process. The 4Ps program ensures the protection of all personal data collected from families by DSWD staff, aligning with the guidelines set forth in the Republic Act 10173, also recognized as the Data Privacy Act of 2012.
 5. The deadline for application will be on **May 29, 2026; at 11:59 pm.**

C. 2. Shortlisting of the Applicants

1. The members of the Regional Selection Committee will shortlist the applicants based on the submitted answers to the questions and submitted documents.
2. The regional selection committee will be composed of the following:
 - 4Ps Regional Youth Development Focal Person
 - 4Ps Regional Compliance Verification Officer (RCVO)

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- 4Ps Regional Gender and Development Officer (RGADO)
- 4Ps Regional Indigenous Peoples Focal (RIPF)
- 4Ps Information Officer II
- DSWD Youth Sectoral Focal
- Representative/s from DepEd and other partner NGAs
- Representative/s from Civil Society Organizations

3. Each member of the selection committee will score the answers in the essay portion of the application. Averaging of scores will be employed to determine the score for the first part of the application.
4. A standard pointing system will be used by the committee in scoring the organizations engagement and training attended/ participated supported with official documents. Please refer below for guidance.

Criteria	Points
School and Community Organizations Engagement	
Key Positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and other equivalent positions)	3 pts per organization
Other Positions	1 pt per organization
Training Attended/ Participated/ Spearheaded starting 2024-onwards	
Gender and Development and Indigenous Peoples/Culture Sensitivity Related Activities (as attendee/participant)	1 pts per activity
Leadership Trainings and other related trainings (as attendee/participant)	1 pts per activity
Other trainings and activities participated	1 pt per activity
Gender and Development and Indigenous Peoples/Culture Sensitivity (as proponent/facilitator/volunteer)	3 pts per activity
Youth Leadership Trainings and other related trainings (as proponent/facilitator/volunteer)	3 pts per activity
Other trainings and activities spearheaded (as proponent/ facilitator/volunteer)	2 pt per activity
Awards and Recognitions Received (starting SY 2024-onwards)	
With Highest Honor	4 pts per award

With High Honor	3 pts per award
With Honors	
Leadership Awards	2 pts per award
Awards for Outstanding Performance in Specific Disciplines	
Work Immersion Awards	
Awards for Research/ Innovations	
Special Recognitions	
Non-Academic Competitions (talent, pageant, etc.).	1 pt per award
International Academic and Non- Academic Competitions	10 pts per participation
National Academic and Non- Academic Competitions	7 pts per participation
Regional Academic and Non- Academic Regional Competitions	4 pts per participation
Provincial/Congressional Competitions Academic and Non- Academic	3 pts per participation
City/ Municipal/ School Level Competitions Academic and Non- Academic	2 pts per participation
Answers to the Short Essay (Google Form)	150 pts

5. Twenty-five applicants with highest accumulated points will be selected for the online panel interview.
6. The shortlisted applicants will be notified at least one (1) week before the scheduled online interview.

C. 3. Online Panel Interview of the Shortlisted Applicants

1. The members of the Regional Selection Committee will be convened for the online panel interview. Three (3) additional panelists will be invited for the online panel interview namely:
 - One (1) Representative from the Civil Society Organization (CSO) catering children and youth sector
 - One (1) Representative from the Department of Education (DepEd)
 - One (1) Representative from the National Youth Commission

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2. Each applicant will receive a set of questions that they must answer within the specified time frame.
3. A uniform set of criteria and percentage weighting for evaluation will be employed in the search. All scores will be back to zero. The criteria outlined below will serve as the foundation for presenting the Top 10 regional winners.

Criteria	Weight
Composure and Confidence	25%
Relevance and Impact	35%
Social Awareness	30%
Overall Impression	10%
Total	100%

4. After the completion of interviews for all shortlisted applicants, the Regional Selection Committee members will engage in deliberations to determine the winners.
5. Applicants with highest scores in the panel interview will form part of the 2026 TOBY.
6. Ten (10) successful applicants will receive notifications via email from the DSWD 4Ps. Additionally, the announcement of the ten winners will be posted on the Agency's social media platforms.

C. 4. Regional Confirmation and Recognition of the Ten Outstanding 4Ps Bicolano Youth

1. The winners will participate in the regional awarding event scheduled to take place in Legazpi City, Albay in September 2026.
2. The winners will engage in a series of workshops, seminars, and sessions aimed at enhancing their knowledge and skills.
3. The winners will be awarded and received with Php 5,000.00 cash, plaques, and tokens.

IV. ROLES OF THE WINNERS OF THE SEARCH

1. Serve as the *Pantawid Pamilya* Youth Ambassador for youth-focused initiatives in the areas of education, health, gender, and cultural sensitivity.
2. Represent the child and youth sector as a special member to 4Ps-led councils such as City/Municipal Advisory Councils (CMAC).
3. Participate in training on personality development, skills enhancement, and meetings on PYGADTP.
4. Act as resource persons during the youth development sessions and other youth

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- activities.
5. Attend national/regional/local conferences, trainings, press conferences and radio/local television programs/guesting for the *Pantawid Pamilya* that the regional office will coordinate.
 6. Serve as a model for audio-visual presentations, radio plugs, and photo shoots.
 7. Deliver messages/speeches for activities about or relevant to children's rights, health, and education.
 8. Must at all times exhibit proper manners and conduct as outstanding youths of the program.
 9. The title may be stripped or withdrawn anytime during the period if any negative reports on the youth are received by the NPMO and RPMO, subject to due process and validation.

V. ACTIVITY TIMELINE

Date	Activity	Responsible Persons
February 2026	Preparation and Distribution of Communication Letters to the Regional and School Division Offices	YDS Focal, IPDU
February 23, 2026	Posting of Announcement of the Activity to the DSWD Social Media Platforms	SMU
March 4, 2026	First day of the Application	YDS Focal
May 29, 2026	Last Day of the Application	YDS Focal
June 1-11, 2026	Shortlisting of the Application/ Table Validation and Deliberation	Selection Committee
June 26, 2026	Notification of the Shortlisted Applicants for Online Interview	YDS Focal
July 15-17, 2026	Online Panel Interview of the Shortlisted Applicants	Selection Committee and External Partners
August 12, 2026	Announcement of Winners	YDS Focal
Yet to be determined	Awarding and Conferment	YDS Focal

VI. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE

The nullification or later modifications of any portion or clauses within this set of guidelines will not impact the validity of the remaining content.

VII. REPEALING CLAUSE

This set of guidelines supersedes all issuances inconsistent herewith. All matters not covered by this procedure that require clarification shall be brought to the attention of the Regional Program Management Office for immediate resolution.

VIII. EFFECTIVITY

This set of implementing guidelines shall take effect immediately and shall be circulated to all Provincial/City/Municipal Operations Offices, Local Government Units and national government agencies.


NORMAN S. LAURIO
Regional Director
DSWD Field Office V

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