



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Cordillera Administrative Region
Schools Division of Tabuk City



Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

Reference Number: RU-2026-023

10 SEPT 2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM
No. 036, s. 2026

**PARTICIPATION IN THE TINIG AT PANULAT PARA SA LINGKOD BAYANI
COMPETITIONS**

To: The School Heads of the Following:
Tabuk City National High School
Kalinga National High School
Dilag Integrated School

1. In reference to the Advisory of the Civil Service Commission on Tinig at Panulat Para sa-Lingkod Bayani, entries from the identified schools above were accepted at the CSC-CAR.
2. As the activity supports learner development, values formation, and the promotion of civic consciousness consistent with the Department of Education's educational objectives, the schools are requested to participate in the Tinig at Panulat Para sa Lingkod Bayani: Essay Writing and Oratorical Competitions in celebration of the 126th Philippine Civil Service Anniversary (PCSA) for the onsite performance on September 16, 2026 at the CSC Regional Office, ensuring compliance with the competition guidelines, requirements, and procedures prescribed in the advisory.
3. All concerned shall ensure the safety and protection of learner-participants throughout the conduct of the activities.
4. All expenses to be incurred by 1 learner and 1 teacher- coach from each school in the regional up to the national level participation which are not covered by CSC shall be charged against local funds or any other school funds subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations of the Department of Education.
5. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.


CHRISTOPHER C. BENIGNO PhD, EdD, CESO VI
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OIC- Office of the Schools Division superintendent

Encls: CSC Advisory
cid/dmd/memo_tinig_at_panulat_csc



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ADVISORY

126th Philippine Civil Service Anniversary **Tinig at Panulat Para sa Lingkod Bayani:** *Essay Writing and Oratorical Competitions*

Aligned with the theme of the 126th Philippine Civil Service Anniversary (PCSA), “*Bawat Kawani, Lingkod Bayani: Puso, Dangal, at Galing Para sa Bayan*”, the Civil Service Commission invites qualified students to participate in the *Tinig at Panulat Para sa Lingkod Bayani: Essay Writing and Oratorical Competitions*. The competitions are intended to provide students with an avenue to express their ideas, insights, and appreciation of public service and the values of compassion, integrity, and excellence.

This advisory summarizes the key participation requirements, competition structure, and official schedules relevant to the conduct of the competitions. Interested participants are advised to coordinate with the concerned CSC Regional Offices for submission and other administrative requirements.

I. ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

Theme: “***Kung Ako ay Lingkod Bayani...***”

Participants are invited to imagine themselves as future public servants and reflect on how they would embody the values of *Puso, Dangal, at Galing* in serving the Filipino people. Through their essays, students are encouraged to articulate their aspirations, ideas, and vision for a more compassionate, ethical, and excellence-driven public service. The competition aims to inspire civic consciousness, patriotism, and a deeper appreciation of the role of public servants in nation-building.

The essay shall be anchored on the 126th PCSA theme, “*Bawat Kawani, Lingkod Bayani: Puso, Dangal, at Galing Para sa Bayan*,” specifically focusing on the sub-theme, “*Kung Ako ay Lingkod Bayani...*”



A. General Guidelines

These provisions apply to both the High School and College categories of the competition:

1. The competition shall be open to college and high school students from public and private schools nationwide, subject to the qualifications and requirements prescribed in the competition mechanics.
2. The competition shall be conducted in two (2) categories:
 - High School Category; and
 - College Category.
3. No registration fee shall be charged to any participant.
4. Each participant shall submit only one (1) essay entry.
5. Entries must be written in Filipino.
6. All submissions must be the participant's original work and must not have been previously published, awarded, or submitted to any other competition or similar undertaking.
7. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools shall be limited to a maximum of twenty percent (20%) of the overall work and may only be utilized for brainstorming, outlining, grammar checking, and language refinement. The participant must remain the principal author of the essay, ensuring that the ideas, analysis, organization, and written expression are substantially his or her own. Essays determined to contain substantial or predominantly AI-generated content shall be disqualified.
8. All participants shall accomplish and submit the **Entry Form** (Annex A). The form shall further affirm that the participant is currently enrolled in the school and is qualified to participate in the competition.
9. All participants shall submit a duly accomplished **Student Authorship Pledge** (Annex B) affirming that:
 - the essay is their original work;
 - AI use, if any, does not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the overall output; and
 - AI assistance was limited to brainstorming, outlining, grammar checking, and language refinement.

Entries submitted without the required pledge shall not be accepted.

10. All entries shall undergo plagiarism and AI-detection screening at both the regional and national levels. Results generated by screening tools shall serve as preliminary indicators and shall be subject to validation through further review. Any entry found to contain plagiarized material, fabricated information, or substantial AI-generated content inconsistent with the participant's declaration may be disqualified.
11. Participants shall submit a certification signed by the School Principal, Dean, Academic Head, Adviser, or other authorized school official attesting that, to the best of the school's knowledge and based on its review, the submitted essay is the original work of the

participant and was prepared in accordance with the competition guidelines. Attached in Annex C is the **certification template**.

12. Entries shall be submitted electronically to the appropriate CSC RO on or before the prescribed deadline. Each contestant must use only one (1) email for submission.
13. The essay shall be typewritten and submitted in Portable Document Format (PDF). Handwritten, scanned handwritten, photographed handwritten, or manually written entries shall not be accepted and shall be automatically disqualified.
14. The competition shall undergo a two-level screening and evaluation process, as follows:
 - Regional Level Screening – CSC ROs shall evaluate all qualified entries and select one (1) essay winner per category to represent their respective regions in the National Level Competition.
 - National Level Evaluation – The CSC CO shall conduct the final evaluation of all regional winning entries and determine the national winners for each category.
15. The Board of Judges shall be composed of three (3) members. Any person who has a relationship, interest, or circumstance that may give rise to an actual or perceived conflict of interest, or compromise the impartiality of the evaluation process, shall be disqualified from serving as a member of the Board of Judges at any level of the competition.
16. The decision of the Board of Judges on the determination of winners shall be final and non-appealable.

B. Competition Structure

Regional Level

1. All contestants shall submit their essay entries and documentary requirements to the CSC ROs which has jurisdiction over their region through the prescribed electronic submission platform or Google Drive folder/link created by the concerned CSC RO.
2. All CSC ROs shall create and manage a dedicated Google Drive folder or submission link where contestants may upload their entries. The online submission folder/link shall be properly managed to ensure accessibility, organization, security, and timely receipt of all submitted documents.
3. Interested students shall submit the following within the prescribed submission period:
 - Essay manuscript in PDF format;
 - Accomplished Entry Form; Student Authorship Pledge; and School Certification of Authorship.
4. A Regional Board of Judges composed of three (3) members shall be constituted in each region to evaluate all qualified entries.
5. The Regional Board of Judges shall review and assess the submitted essays based on the prescribed criteria for judging.

6. Based on the results of the evaluation, the Regional Board of Judges shall select one (1) winning essay per category to represent the region and endorse the same to the CSC CO for National Level Evaluation.
7. The same entry submitted at the regional level shall serve as the basis for national evaluation.

National Level

1. The regional winning essays shall advance to the National Level Evaluation, with no revisions, amendments, substitutions, or resubmissions.
2. A National Board of Judges composed of three (3) members shall be constituted by the CSC CO to evaluate all regional winning entries.
3. The National Board of Judges shall review and assess the submitted essays based on the prescribed criteria for judging. To ensure fairness, objectivity, and consistency in the evaluation process, the Board shall conduct a collective deliberation of the scores and evaluation results.
5. Based on the results of the evaluation, the National Board of Judges shall determine the following winners for each category:
 - Champion;
 - 2nd Place; and
 - 3rd Place.
6. The winners shall be officially announced by the CSC and shall be recognized during the conduct of the *Tinig at Panulat Para Sa Lingkod Bayani* Oratorical Competition (Championship) on 28 September 2026 at the National Library of the Philippines, T.M. Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila.

C. Submission and File Specifications

To ensure uniformity and facilitate the evaluation process, contestants shall comply with the following submission and file specifications:

1. The essay manuscript shall be submitted in Portable Document Format (PDF) only.
2. The PDF file shall contain only the essay title and the body of the essay. The participant's name, school, region, pen name, logo, watermark, photograph, or any identifying mark shall not appear anywhere in the manuscript.
3. The essay manuscript shall have a minimum of eight hundred (800) words and maximum of one thousand two hundred (1,200) words and shall conform to the following format:
 - Language: Filipino;
 - Font Style: Arial;
 - Font Size: 12;

- Line Spacing: Double-spaced;
 - Paper Size: A4; and
 - Margin: One (1) inch on all sides.
4. The essay manuscript shall be saved using the following file name format:
 Essay_Region_School_LastName_FirstName (example: Essay_RegionIV_ BatasanHS_Santos_Juan)
 The CSC RO shall assign the corresponding entry number upon receipt of the submission.
 5. The Entry Form shall be submitted in PDF format using the file name:
 EntryForm_Region_School_LastName_FirstName (example: EntryForm_RegionIV_ BatasanHS_Santos_Juan)
 6. The Student Authorship Pledge shall be submitted in PDF format using the file name:
 Pledge_Region_School_LastName_FirstName (example: Pledge_RegionIV_ Batasan HS_Santos_Juan)
 7. The School Certification of Authorship shall be submitted in PDF format using the file name:
 SchoolCert_Region_School_LastName_FirstName (example: SchoolCert_RegionIV_ Batasan HS_Santos_Juan)
 8. Entries shall be submitted via electronic submission platform or Google Drive folder/link created by the concerned CSC RO.
 9. Contestants shall ensure that all uploaded files are complete, readable, and free from corruption or password protection.
 10. The CSC ROs shall not be responsible for incomplete, unreadable, corrupted, misfiled, or late submissions.
 11. Any submission that fails to comply with the prescribed deadline of submission and/or file specifications shall be disqualified.

D. Criteria for Judging

Criteria	Description	Weight
Content and Relevance	Alignment with the theme, depth of discussion, clarity of message, and significance of ideas presented.	40%
Originality and Insight	Freshness of perspective, authenticity of ideas, and ability to provide meaningful reflection or analysis.	25%
Organization and Coherence	Logical arrangement of ideas, effective flow of arguments, and unity of the essay.	20%

Criteria	Description	Weight
Language Use and Mechanics	Correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, and appropriate use of language.	15%
TOTAL		100%

Failure to comply with the prescribed requirements shall result in the following deductions from the final score:

Unable to meet the minimum word count (800 words) or exceeding the maximum word count (1,200 words)	Five (5) point deduction from the final score
Did not follow the prescribed formatting requirements (font, spacing, paper size, margins)	Three (3) point deduction from the final score

For transparency and consistency, the same criteria shall be used in both the regional screening and final screening stages.

E. Schedule

Activity	Schedule
Deadline of Submission of Entries to CSC ROs	10 September 2026
Regional Screening	14 – 17 September 2026
National Screening	22 September 2026
Awarding Ceremony (During the conduct of the Oratorical Competition Championship Round)	28 September 2026

F. Prizes and Awards

Regional Awards

- Non-winners shall receive a Certificate of Participation.
- Winners shall receive a Certificate of Recognition, PCSA Token, and ₱10,000.00 cash prize.

National Awards

- Non-winners shall receive a Certificate of Participation
- The winners shall receive the following:

Awards	Cash Prizes	Recognition
Champion	₱50,000.00	Certificate of Recognition
2 nd Place	₱40,000.00	Certificate of Recognition
3 rd Place	₱30,000.00	Certificate of Recognition

The National Winners may opt to join the Awarding Ceremony which will be held during the conduct of the *Tinig at Panulat Para sa Lingkod Bayani: Oratorical Competition* on 28 September 2026 at the National Library of the Philippines, T.M. Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila.

Each winner may be accompanied by one (1) companion. The CSC Central Office (CSC CO) shall reimburse the round-trip transportation expenses of the winner and his or her companion, covering Economy Saver/Value airfare or land transportation fare, as applicable, upon submission of the required supporting documents, such as Travel/Office Order, Itinerary of Travel, Certificate of Travel Completed, Certificate of Appearance/Attendance, receipts, Reimbursement Expense Receipt (RER), boarding passes, airline or bus tickets, and other applicable documents. Accommodation and meals shall be provided by the CSC CO. All expenses shall be subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

G. Final Provision

- By participating in the competition, contestants grant the Civil Service Commission (CSC) the right to reproduce, publish, display, and feature their speeches and recordings for official, educational, advocacy, and promotional purposes, with proper acknowledgment of authorship.

In this regard, the CSC shall process the contestants' personal information, including their names, photographs, audio and video recordings, and other information collected in connection with the competition, in accordance with Republic Act No. 10173, or the Data Privacy Act of 2012, and its implementing rules and regulations.

- Participants must not be related, within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity, to any member of the Board of Judges or any official or employee of the Civil Service Commission (CSC), regardless of the nature or status of employment.

II. ORATORICAL COMPETITION

Theme: “*Puso, Dangal, at Galing Para sa Bayan*”

All speeches shall be anchored on the 126th PCSA theme, specifically focusing on the Oratorical Competition theme, “*Puso, Dangal, at Galing Para sa Bayan*”

Contestants are encouraged to articulate their aspirations, ideas, and vision for public service while demonstrating an appreciation of the values of compassion, integrity, and excellence in nation-building.

A. General Guidelines

1. The competition shall be open to junior and senior high school students from public and private schools nationwide, subject to the qualifications and requirements prescribed in the competition mechanics.
2. No registration fee shall be collected from any participant at all levels.
3. Each contestant shall submit and deliver only one (1) original entry.
4. Entries shall be written and delivered in Filipino. The contestant must be the principal author of the oratorical piece and shall be responsible for its content.
5. The oratorical piece must be the contestant’s original work and must not have been previously published, awarded, or submitted to any other competition.
6. Contestants must wear appropriate attire: *Barong* for male and *Filipiniana* for female.
7. All participants shall ensure that the Entry Form attached as Annex A is fully accomplished and submitted to the proper CSC Regional Office before the deadline.
8. Any false information provided in the Entry Form shall constitute a ground for disqualification.
9. The timing of the oratorical piece shall begin with the contestant’s first spoken word and shall end upon the contestant’s final bow.
10. Noncompliance with the prescribed requirements shall warrant the corresponding deductions from the total raw score, as follows:

Overtime Duration (over 7 minutes)	Deduction/s
1 second to 59 seconds	1 point
1 minute to 1 minute and 59 seconds	2 points
More than 2 minutes	3 points

11. The Board of Judges shall be composed of three (3) members.
12. The decision of the Board of Judges on the determination of winners shall be final and non-appealable.

B. Competition Structure

The competition shall be conducted in three (3) progressive rounds—Elimination, Semi-Finals, and Championship. These rounds shall correspond to the Regional, Cluster, and National phases of the competition, as follows:

1. Elimination Round – This round shall be conducted at the Regional Level. The CSC Regional Offices shall receive, verify, evaluate all qualified entries, conduct the in-person competition, and select one (1) Regional Winner to advance to the Semi-Finals.

The competition proper shall be held at a venue to be determined by the concerned CSC Regional Office.

2. Semi-Finals Round – This round shall be conducted at the Cluster Level (i.e., Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao). The designated CSC Cluster Focal Region shall organize and conduct the in-person Semi-Finals among the Regional Winners within its respective cluster to determine the one (1) finalist who shall represent the cluster in the Championship.

The competition proper shall be held at a venue to be determined by the Cluster Focal Region concerned.

3. Championship – This round shall be conducted at the National Level. The CSC Central Office shall organize and conduct the in-person Championship, during which the qualified winners from the Semi-Finals shall compete for the national awards of Champion, Second Place, and Third Place.

The competition proper shall be held at the National Library of the Philippines, T.M. Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila.

C. Criteria for Judging

The contestants shall be judged based on the following criteria:

Criterion	Percentage
Content – Relevance to the theme, originality, organization, depth of ideas, and logical development	40%
Delivery – Voice quality, fluency, confidence, poise, and stage presence	30%
Language Proficiency – Correct grammar, vocabulary, clarity, and effective use of the Filipino language	15%
Audience Impact – Ability to engage, persuade, inspire, and leave a lasting impression	15%
Total	100%

D. Prizes and Awards

The following prizes and awards shall be conferred upon the winners and participants at each level of the competition:

1. Elimination Round

- a. Contestants who do not qualify for the Semi-Finals Round shall each receive a Certificate of Participation.
- b. The seventeen (17) Regional Winners shall each receive the following:
 - Certificate of Recognition;
 - PCSA Token; and
 - Cash Prize of Ten Thousand Pesos (₱10,000.00).

Each Regional Winner may be accompanied by one (1) companion to the Semi-Finals Round. The Cluster Focal Region shall reimburse the round-trip transportation expenses of the contestant and his or her one (1) companion, covering Economy Saver/ Value airfare or land transportation fare, as applicable, subject to existing government accounting and auditing rules and the submission of the required supporting documents, such as Travel/Office Order, Itinerary of Travel, Certificate of Travel Completed, Certificate of Appearance/Attendance, receipts, Reimbursement Expense Receipt (RER), boarding passes, airline or bus tickets, and other applicable

documents. Accommodation, meals, and other incidental expenses shall be borne by the contestant and his or her companion.

2. Semi-Finals Round

- a. Contestants who do not qualify for the Championship shall each receive a Certificate of Participation
- b. The three (3) Cluster Qualifiers shall each receive the following:
 - Certificate of Recognition;
 - Medal; and
 - Cash Prize of Fifteen Thousand Pesos (₱15,000.00).

Each finalist may be accompanied by one (1) companion. The CSC CO shall reimburse the round-trip transportation expenses of the winner and his or her companion, covering Economy Saver/Value airfare or land transportation fare, as applicable, upon submission of the required supporting documents, such as Travel/Office Order, Itinerary of Travel, Certificate of Travel Completed, Certificate of Appearance/Attendance, receipts, Reimbursement Expense Receipt (RER), boarding passes, airline or bus tickets, and other applicable documents. Accommodation and meals shall be provided by the CSC CO. All expenses shall be subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

3. Championship

The three (3) winners shall receive the following awards:

Award	Prize
Champion	Certificate of Recognition, Trophy, and Cash Prize of Seventy-Five Thousand Pesos (₱75,000.00)
Second Place	Certificate of Recognition, Trophy, and Cash Prize of Sixty Thousand Pesos (₱60,000.00)
Third Place	Certificate of Recognition, Trophy, and Cash Prize of Fifty Thousand Pesos (₱50,000.00)

E. Schedule

Activity	Schedule
Deadline of Submission of Entries	7 September 2026
Elimination Round (In-person)	16 September 2026
Semi-Finals Round (In-person)	21 September 2026
Championship and Awarding Ceremony (Essay Writing and Oratorical Competitions)	28 September 2026

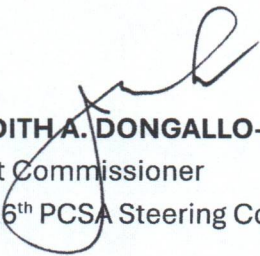
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- Participants must not be related, within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity, to any member of the Board of Judges or any official or employee of the Civil Service Commission (CSC), regardless of the nature or status of employment.

For clarifications, you may reach the concerned CSC Regional Office through the contact details provided in the CSC website, www.csc.gov.ph.


Atty. JUDITH A. DONGALLO-CHICANO
Assistant Commissioner
Head, 126th PCSA Steering Committee