



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
 REGION IX - ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA  
**SCHOOLS DIVISION OF ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY**

DepEd, Division of Zamboanga Sibugay	
<b>RECORD SECTION</b>	
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BY: <b>f</b>	DATE: <b>09 MAR 2026</b>
<b>RELEASED</b>	

**Office of the Schools Division  
 Superintendent**

09 March 2026

**DIVISION MEMORANDUM**

No. **156**, s. 2026

**ADMINISTRATION OF COMPUTER-BASED ADMISSION TEST FOR SPECIAL  
 SCIENCE CURRICULAR PROGRAM (SCP) FOR INCOMING GRADE 1 (SSES) AND 7  
 (STE) LEARNERS AND SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND  
 MATHEMATICS (STEM) FOR THE INCOMING GRADE 11  
 LEARNERS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027**

TO: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
 Division Chiefs and Education Program Supervisors  
 Public Schools District Supervisors and DICs  
 Concerned Elementary & Secondary School Heads of SSC and STEM  
 This Division

1. In pursuit of quality, relevant and responsive education of all Science and Technology-oriented schools, this Office through the Curriculum Implementation Division (CID), announces the **Administration of Computer-Based Admission Test for the Special Curricular Program (SCP) for incoming Grade 1 (SSES) and Grade 7 (STE) Learners and Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) for incoming Grade 11 Learners for School Year 2026-2027 on March 25-26, 2026.**

2. Schools with certification from the Central Office/Region to implement/adopt the mentioned programs shall participate in the said simultaneous CBA. Enclosure 1 contains the List of Schools implementing Special Science Program.

3. Consequently, with the transition of the STEM cluster to an elective status on the new Strengthened SHS curriculum, this memorandum shall serve as the primary basis for approving student enrollment in any STEM elective subject for the upcoming term. Enrollment is strictly limited to students from schools currently authorized to offer the STEM curriculum. However, schools who are interested to offer STEM elective this opening of school year 2026-2027 may administer the qualifying exam.

4. Successful completion of this exam, alongside the verification of the school's STEM offering status, is mandatory before any enrollment applications are processed.

3. It is reiterated that students who will take the test should have undergone preliminary selection through **documentary evaluation** such as Birth Certificate/PSA Certificate of Live Birth, ECCD Checklist (Grade1), SF9 (Grade 7 & 10), Application Letter/Letter of Intent, 2x2 ID Pictures, Health Declaration Form/Medical Certificate and other forms deemed necessary by the receiving school and **interview** together with their parents. For incoming Grade 7 and Grade 11 aspirants, they should meet the required minimum grade which at least **85 or above in Science, Math & English** in every grading period and **83 in other subjects**, with a general average of **85 and above** based on the computed grades from first to fourth grading periods. Enclosure 4 contains the Pre-Qualifying Parameters for your reference and guidance.

*Note: A student who will not meet the requirements should not be allowed to take the test.*

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4. Pre-screening and interview of prospective takers shall be conducted from **March 9, 2026 to March 13, 2026**. These should be done by the school committee headed by the School Head and science head teacher or science coordinator of the receiving school.
5. In relation to the conduct of this activity, an On-line Orientation to all concerned School Heads and Special Science Program Focal will be conducted on **March 17, 2026** at **9:00 AM**. Meeting Link will be sent through PSDSs/School Heads/SCP Group GC.
6. Division Education Program Supervisors in Science, English and Math are in charge in supervising the administration of test and Public Schools District Supervisors of the concerned schools are encouraged to oversee and monitor the proper implementation of this activity.
7. Enclosed are the following documents:
  - a. Enclosure 1-Terms of Reference
  - b. Enclosure 2- List of Accredited Schools with Special Science Program
  - c. Enclosure 3- Pre-qualifying Parameters
  - d. Enclosure 4- Schedule of Admission Test
  - e. Enclosure 5-Evaluation Sheet for the Application on the Implementation of Special Curricular Programs in Science for Elementary Schools
  - f. Enclosure 6- Evaluation Sheet for the Application on the Implementation of Special Curricular Programs in Science for Secondary Schools
8. For any clarification regarding the memo's content or any inquiries you may have, please direct your communication to **Dr. Ulpiano L. Morales, Jr.**, Education Program Supervisor for Science/Division ARAL Focal. You can reach him efficiently via email [ulpiano.morales@deped.gov.ph](mailto:ulpiano.morales@deped.gov.ph).
9. Immediate and widest dissemination is earnestly desired.

**VIRGILIO P. BATAN JR. CESO V**  
 Schools Division Superintendent

Reference:

Encl.: As Stated

Reference:

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index

under the following subjects:

ASSESSMENT SPECIAL SCIENCE PROGRAM

ZS-DM-CID-2026-03-049

ULM020260309



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DepEd Tayo Zamboanga Sibugay Division

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Enclosure 1 to Division Memorandum No. 156, s. 2025

**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF DepEd PERSONNEL DURING THE CONDUCT OF SSC, STE AND STEM ADMISSION TEST**

Responsibilities of the Division Education Program Supervisors and Public Schools District Supervisors

1. Monitors the conduct of the SSC, STE and STEM Admission Test.
2. Collects the results of the admission test from the School Testing Coordinators.
3. Determines the quota/cut-off score per school.

Responsibilities of the designated Division Testing Coordinators and System Developers

1. Coordinate with the School Testing Coordinator in facilitating the admission test.
2. Assist the School Testing Coordinator and Proctors in the conduct of admission Test.
3. Submits the results of the test to the Education Program Supervisor In Charge, PSDS and School Heads. (Soft Copy)

Responsibilities of the School Testing Coordinator

1. Submits to the Division Testing Coordinator the exact number of takers in their school to the Division Testing Coordinator two weeks before the conduct to the test.
2. Assigns Room Examiners/Proctors, correctors and encoder who are competent teachers. The number of Room Examiners should be based on the number of testing rooms that can accommodate 30 takers each.
3. Prepares list of examinees by thirty (30) for every testing room and posts it in their assigned room.
4. Schools with more than Thirty (30) examinees, shall arrange the conduct of admission test into batches.
5. Orients the Room Examiner/Proctors on the guidelines relative to the Admission Test.

Responsibilities of the Test Examiners/Proctors (Preferably IT Teacher)

1. Reports any discrepancy to the School Testing Coordinator for immediate action.
2. Checks if the examinees have the necessary materials needed in the test such as pencil/ballpen, blank sheets of paper for computation purposes and calculators.
3. Informs the examinees that the composition and time schedule of test.



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Enclosure 2 to Division Memorandum No. 156, s. 2025

**List of accredited schools with certification from the Region that offered Special Science Curricular Program (SCP), Special Science Elementary School (SSES), Science, Technology and Engineering (STE) and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)**

No.	Name of School	Special Science Curricular Program Offered / Implemented	District
<b>ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</b>			
1	Ipil Central School	SSES	Ipil
<b>SECONDARY SCHOOLS</b>			
1	Kabasalan Science and Technology High School	Special Science Curriculum for JHS and STEM	Kabasalan
2	Bug National High School	STEM	Bug
3	Diplahan National High School	STE and STEM	Diplahan
4	Francisco Ramos National High School	STE and STEM	Kabasalan
5	Imelda National High School	STEM	Imelda
6	Ipil National High School	STE and STEM	Ipil
7	Mabuhay National High School	STEM	Mabuhay
8	Malangas National High School	STEM	Malangas
9	Naga National High School	STEM	Naga
10	Olutanga National High School	STEM	Olutanga
11	Siay National High School	STEM	Siay
12	Sta. Clara National High School	STEM	Naga
13	Surabay National High School	STEM	RT Lim
14	Talusan National High School	STEM	Talusan
15	Titay National High School	STEM	Titay
16	Tungawan National High School	STEM	Tungawan



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Enclosure 3. DM **156** s. 2026

**Qualifying Parameters for Special Science Programs (SY 2026-2027)**

Feature	SSES (Elementary)	STE (Junior High)	STEM (Senior High)
<b>Target Grade</b>	Incoming Grade 1	Incoming Grade 7	Incoming Grade 11
<b>General Average</b>	Highly Advanced (ECCD Checklist)	At least <b>85%</b>	At least <b>85%</b>
<b>Subject Grades</b>	"Consistent" in Math, Science, & Language	At least <b>85%</b> in Science, Math, & English; <b>83%</b> in others	At least <b>85%</b> in Math and Science (Grade 10)
<b>Admission Test</b>	Aptitude & Logical Reasoning (Written)	Proficiency in ESM (English, Science, Math)	STEM Subtest / Specialized Qualifying Exam
<b>Critical Score</b>	Ranking based on 60% Exam + 40% Reading	Weighted: 40-50% Exam + 25% Grades + 25% Interview	Percentile Rank of <b>86 or higher</b> (NCAE/Qualifying Test)
<b>Other Phases</b>	Reading & Comprehension Test; Parent Interview	Face-to-Face Interview; Behavioral Assessment	Essay/Scientific Inquiry Project (Optional per school)
<b>Documentary Req.</b>	ECCD Checklist, PSA Birth Cert, Medical Cert	SF9 (Report Card), PSA Birth Cert, Good Moral	SF9 (Grade 10 Card), NCAE Results, Good Moral

**Key Considerations:**

- **The "Rule of 83":** For the **STE** program, it is a strict requirement that while the core subjects (English, Science, Math) must be 85% or above per quarter, **no other subject** should fall below 83%.
- **STEM Electives:** Students should specifically be screened for their **Aptitude Score** in Math and Science to ensure they can handle the specialized Tier 1 and Tier 2 electives (like Calculus and Physics).
- **The Exam Venue:** As per the 2026 guidelines, the exam is typically administered at the specific implementing school.



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Enclosure 4. DM 156 s. 2026

**1.1.1 Evaluation Sheet for the Application on the Implementation of Special Curricular Programs in Science for Elementary Schools**

School Name			
Address			
Division		Date Applied	
School Head		Cellphone No.	
SSES Coordinator		Cellphone No.	

**CHECKLIST OF REQUIREMENTS**

No.	Parameters	MOVs	/ or X
<b>A. Admission Process</b>			
1	The school widely disseminates information on SSES admission.	Photos of posters, information drive, web posts, etc	
2	The school annually conducts pre-screening and shortlisting of learner-aspirants through document evaluation and interview.	Accomplishment report	
3	The school conducts admission exam, reading comprehension test, and admission procedures as prescribed by the Regional Office	Accomplishment report and evaluation results	
4	The school conducts mental ability test (optional).	Evaluation results	
<b>B. Class Management</b>			
5	The school has a maximum 35 pupils per class/ section.	List of successful learner-aspirants	
6	The school has two sections for SSES pupils.		
<b>C. Curriculum and Instruction</b>			
7	The class schedule provides longer instruction time for English, Mathematics, and Science.	Approved class program from Grades 1 to 6	
8	The system of grading shall be based on recent DepEd Orders on assessment (DepEd Order No. 8, s. 2015 and DepEd Order No. 31, s. 2020).	Class record	
9	Performance tasks in Science include regular laboratory activities distributed across all quarters.	Learners' evaluated laboratory activities	
10	Written tests and performance tasks across all subjects promote the development of critical thinking and 21st-century skills.	Sample written test and performance tasks	



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11	Written tests (summative tests) and periodical tests are constructed using Table of Specifications.	Approved TOS and TQ	
12	Designs special programs (extra and co-curricular activities) to enhance talents and expertise of pupils including those in other learning areas.	Narrative report with photos on school-based extra and co-curricular activities	
13	Participation of pupils in development activities such as leadership training workshops, seminars, and conferences for the past three (3) years related to the program.	Narrative report with photos	
14	The school has student interest and academic clubs and organizations like Campus Journalism, Science Club, Mathematics Club, etc.	List of club officers, club action plans or implemented projects	
15	All SSES learners across all grade levels have maintained a very satisfactory average rating of at least 88% for any grading period, and at least 85% grade for English, Filipino, Mathematics, and Science subjects per grading period.	Randomly evaluated report card or SF9	
16	The school conducts intervention activities to pupils who need special attention to be able to cope with the program requirements. (If not yet observed by the school, label cell with "N/A".)	Accomplishment report with photos for the conducted remedial activity	
17	The school transfers in a pupil for SSES based on the prescribed guidelines enforced by a Memorandum from the Regional Office or Central Office.	School Memorandum (parallel memo)	
<b>D. Human Resources</b>			
18	SSES teachers teaching Science and Mathematics have specialization in either Science and Math and/or relevant trainings.	Relevant certificates	
19	SSES teachers have clear professional and personal development plan as reflected in their Individual Plan for Professional Development (IPPD) formulated annually.	Filled IPPD	
20	SSES teachers have participated in program-related seminars, conferences, and workshops.	Relevant certificates	
21	The School Head created a committee for SSES Admission Process.	School Memorandum	



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22	The School Head monitored and provided guidance to SSES teachers in formulating their Individual Program for Professional Development (IPPD).	Monitoring Report with photos	
23	The School Head allocates enough MOOE budget for the implementation of SSES.	Approved WFP and SIP.	
24	The School Head maintains active partnership with GOPs and NGOs for the continuous implementation of the project.	Documentation on school and external stakeholder partnerships dedicated for SSES	
<b>E. Physical Resources</b>			
25	The school has a functional Science and Mathematics Laboratory.	STEM Laboratory	
26	The school has functional Computer Laboratory.	ICT Laboratory	
27	The school has functional Library with sufficient print resources for all subjects.	School Library	
28	The STEM Laboratory is equipped with Science and Mathematics apparatuses and equipment.	Inventory of STEM Laboratory apparatuses and equipment.	
29	The STEM Laboratory is properly managed by a laboratory in-charge who has no advisory.	Borrower's receipts, laboratory signages/posters and other relevant lab structuring	
30	The STEM Laboratory is regularly utilized for Science and Mathematics activities.	Filled logbook	

Evaluation: [ ] Complete [ ] Not Complete

Summary of Findings:

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Recommendations:

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Evaluated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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Enclosure 5. DM 156 s. 2026

**1.1.2 Evaluation Sheet for the Application on the Implementation of  
Special Curricular Programs in Science for Secondary Schools**

School Name			
Address			
Division		Date Applied	
School Head		Cellphone No.	
Program Coor		Cellphone No.	

**CHECKLIST OF REQUIREMENTS**

No.	Required Documents	MOVs	/ or X
<b>A. Admission Process</b>			
1	The school widely disseminates information on RSHS, LSHS, or STE admission.	Photos of posters, information drive, web posts, etc	
2	The school annually conducts pre-screening and shortlisting of learner-aspirants through document evaluation and interview.	Accomplishment report	
3	The school conducts admission exam, reading comprehension test, and admission procedures as prescribed by the Regional Office	Accomplishment report and evaluation	
<b>C. Curriculum and Instruction</b>			
6	The class schedule provides longer instruction time for Enhanced Science and Enhanced Mathematics subjects.	Approved class program from Grades 7 to 10	
7	The school includes at least two additional S&T oriented elective subjects per grade level.		
8	The school has produced scientific researches either as outputs and/or as entries for research competitions/presentations/publications.	Research papers	
9	The system of grading shall be based on recent DepEd Orders on assessment (DepEd Order No. 8, s. 2015 and DepEd Order No. 31, s. 2020).	Class record	
10	Performance tasks in Science include regular laboratory activities distributed across all quarters.	Learners' evaluated laboratory activities	
11	Written tests and performance tasks across all subjects promote the development of critical thinking and 21st-century skills.	Sample written test and performance tasks	
12	Written tests (summative tests) and periodical tests are constructed using Table of Specifications.	Approved TOS and TQ	



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13	Designs special programs (extra and co-curricular activities) to enhance talents and expertise of pupils including those in other learning areas.	Accomplishment report on school-based extra and co-curricular activities	
14	Participation of students in development activities such as leadership training workshops, seminars, and conferences for the past three (3) years related to the program.	Accomplishment report	
15	The school has student interest and academic clubs and organizations like Campus Journalism, Science Club, Mathematics Club, Research Club, etc.	List of club officers, club action plans or implemented projects	
16	All students across all grade levels have maintained a very satisfactory average rating of at least 88% for any grading period.	Randomly evaluated report card or SF9	
17	The school conducts intervention activities to students who need special attention to be able to cope with the program requirements. (If not yet observed by the school, label cell with "N/A".)	Accomplishment report with photos for the conducted remedial activity	
18	The school transfers in a student based on the prescribed guidelines enforced by a Memorandum from the Regional Office or Central Office.	School Memorandum (parallel memo)	
<b>D. Human Resources</b>			
19	Teachers teaching Science and Mathematics have specialization in either Science and Math and/or relevant trainings.	Relevant certificates	
20	Teachers have clear professional and personal development plan as reflected in their Individual Plan for Professional Development (IPPD) formulated annually.	Filled IPPD	
21	Teachers have participated in program-related seminars, conferences, and workshops.	Relevant certificates	
22	The school has Scientific Review Committee.	Approved list of SRC Officers/ Members (School Memorandum)	
23	The School Head created a committee for SCP-Science Admission Process.	School Memorandum	



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23	The School Head created a committee for SCP-Science Admission Process.	School Memorandum	
24	The School Head monitored and provided guidance to teachers in formulating their Individual Program for Professional Development (IPPD).	Monitoring Report with photos	
25	The School Head allocates enough MOOE budget for the implementation of SCP-Science.	Approved WFP and SIP.	
26	The School Head maintains active partnership with GOPs and NGOs for the continuous implementation of the project.	Documentation on school and external stakeholder partnerships dedicated for SCP-Science	
<b>E. Physical Resources</b>			
27	RSHS and LSHS have separate laboratories for Physical Sciences and Life Sciences.	Physical Science Laboratory and Life Science Laboratory	
28	RSHS and LSHS have functional research centers.	Research center with equipment for scientific researches	
29	STE schools have functional Science and Mathematics Laboratory.	STEM Laboratory	
30	The school has functional Computer Laboratory.	ICT Laboratory	
31	The school has functional Library with sufficient print resources for all subjects.	School Library	
32	The STEM Laboratory is equipped with Science and Mathematics apparatuses and equipment.	Inventory of STEM Laboratory apparatuses and equipment.	
33	The STEM Laboratory is properly managed by a laboratory in-charge who has no advisory.	Borrower's receipts, laboratory signages/posters and other relevant lab structuring	



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34	The STEM Laboratory is regularly utilized for Science and Mathematics activities.	Filled logbook	
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Evaluation: [ ] Complete [ ] Not Complete

Summary of Findings:

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Recommendations:

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Evaluated by:

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Date:

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