

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE EXPANDED STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ESFAP) FOR POOR BUT DESERVING STUDENTS OF TUGUEGARAO CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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HON. RESTITUTO C. RAMIREZ

**WHEREAS**, Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that “the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all;

**WHEREAS**, the 1987 Constitution further provides that “the State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress and promote total human liberation and development;

**WHEREAS**, Article IV, Section 10 (Sk) of Republic Act No. 8755, otherwise known as the “Tuguegarao City Charter”, provides that the Sangguniang Panlungsod shall establish a scholarship fund for poor but deserving students in schools located within its jurisdiction or for students residing within the City;

**WHEREAS**, many students from Tuguegarao City face significant barriers to higher education due to poverty and the high cost of tuition, making tertiary education nearly inaccessible for them;

**WHEREAS**, there is a pressing need to ensure that college and vocational education become accessible to all students, particularly those who are poor but deserving, through the implementation of a student financial assistance program for qualified students in Tuguegarao City;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to expand the existing ordinance to effectively address the evolving economic landscape and standards of living; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it **ORDAINED** by the Tenth City Council of Tuguegarao City in session assembled, to enact:

**CHAPTER I**  
**SHORT TITLE AND DECLARATION OF POLICY**

**SECTION 1. TITLE.** This Ordinance shall be known as “Establishing The Expanded Student Financial Assistance Program (ESFAP) Ordinance of 2025”

**SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY.** It is hereby declared to be a policy of Tuguegarao City Government to uplift the living condition of its less fortunate constituents by providing a financial assistance program for poor but deserving students for them to be given equal chance and opportunity to acquire a college and vocational education and to be able to participate in bringing a better society that is progressive, peaceful and prosperous.

## **CHAPTER II DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS.** When used under this Ordinance, the following terms and phrases shall mean as follows:

- a. "CITY" shall refer to Tuguegarao City covering all the areas within its territorial jurisdiction as provided for by law and its charter;
- b. "CITY GOVERNMENT" shall refer to the Tuguegarao City Government;
- c. "COMELEC" shall refer to Commission on Elections;
- d. "DESERVING STUDENTS" shall refer to students with good moral character and who have met all the requirements set forth in this accordance;
- e. "FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE" shall refer to the amount of Three Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P3,500.00) to be given by the City Government every semester to the grantees of this program;
- f. "MORAL TURPITUDE" shall refer to a gross violation of standards of moral conduct;
- g. "POOR" shall refer to a student who does not belong to a family whose gross annual income is over the current minimum wages of his/her father and mother;
- h. "ESFAP" shall refer to Expanded Student Financial Assistance Program; and
- i. "VOCATIONAL COURSE" shall refer to a two-year formal study in an accredited vocational school in the province.

## **CHAPTER III EXPANDED STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ESFAP)**

**SECTION 4. PROGRAM.** The City Government of Tuguegarao shall offer financial assistance to poor but deserving college students of the city. The program is open to all college students in any year level enrolled in a University/College or duly accredited Vocational School within the province.

The City Government shall open three hundred fifty (350) slots for the said program every school year. Each grantee shall be given the amount of Three Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P3,500.00) every semester until he/she finishes his/her course within the prescribed duration.

## **CHAPTER IV ESFAP APPLICATION, SCREENING AND SELECTION**

**SECTION 5. SECRETARIAT.** There shall be a secretariat who shall be responsible in screening and selecting the applicants for this program. The members of the Secretariat shall be designated by the City Mayor.

Each member of the City Council and the Regular Presiding Officer shall recommend seven (7) and fifteen (15) qualified applicants to the Secretariat, respectively, who shall be approved by the City Mayor.

## **CHAPTER V QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPLICATIONS**

**SECTION 6. QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE EXPANDED STUDENT'S FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.** To qualify for the Expanded Student Financial Assistance Program (ESFAP), the applicant must conform with the following requirements, to wit.

- a. The applicant must be a Bonafide resident of Tuguegarao City;
- b. The applicant must have the aptitude, willingness and diligence to finish his/her studies;
- c. The applicant must be of good moral character as certified by the Punong Barangay where the applicant resides and the school where the applicant has graduated from high school or by the university or college or vocational school where the applicant is currently enrolled;
- d. The applicant must not belong to a family whose gross annual income is over the current minimum wages of his/her father and mother; and
- e. The applicant must not be a holder of any other scholarship grant or recipient of any financial assistance program from a private or public entity.

## **CHAPTER VI ESFAP REQUIREMENTS**

**SECTION 7. DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE APPLICATION OF ESFAP.**

Any student who wishes to apply shall upon application submit the following requirements

- a. A certified copy of his/her birth certificate.
- b. A photocopy of his/her latest school registration and valid assessment form.
- c. A copy of parents income tax return (ITR) for the preceding year or if married, the applicant's ITR or if none, a certification to that effect issued by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.
- d. Barangay Residency Certificate.
- e. Certificate of Good Moral Character.
- f. A sworn statement that the applicant is not a grantee of any scholarship, study grant or financial assistance program from any private or public entity.

**SECTION 8. REQUIREMENTS DURING THE PERIOD OF THE ESFAP.**

- a) The grantee shall enroll immediately at the opening of the school year before the award of the financial assistance.
- b) The grantee shall finish his/her course within the prescribed course duration.
- c) Should the grantee desires to shift course, he/she is only allowed to shift once from his/her original course. This applies only to voluntary shifting upon valid reason.
- d) A grantee of the ESFAP shall maintain the passing grade of 75% during the semester.

## **CHAPTER VII DISQUALIFICATIONS FROM THE EXPANDED STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ESFAP)**

**SECTION 9. DISQUALIFICATIONS.** The grantee by his/her act or omission shall be disqualified from the Scholarship Program (ESFAP) on any of the following grounds or reasons:

- a. He/she has failed to meet the required grade as provided in this students financial assistance program.



- b. He/she has willfully misrepresented or withheld vital information relative to his/her SFAP application.
- c. He/she has committed a serious violation of any of the rules or regulations of the school where he/she is enrolled, giving cause for his/her suspension.
- d. He/she has discontinued or stopped schooling, unless due to serious illness.
- e. He/she has been charged with an offense involving moral turpitude.

**CHAPTER VIII  
APPROPRIATIONS**

**SECTION 10. APPROPRIATIONS.** An initial amount of Two Million Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (P2,450,000.00) shall be appropriated to implement the program of this Ordinance in the next 2025 Supplemental Budget subject to availability of funds and the amount necessary for the sustainable implementation of this Ordinance shall be appropriated in the Annual Budget of Tuguegarao City.

**CHAPTER IX  
FINAL PROVISIONS**

**SECTION 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be separable and in the event that one or more of the other provisions are held illegal or unconstitutional, the validity of the other provisions shall not be affected.

**SECTION 12. REPEALING CLAUSE.** Ordinances, executive orders and other local legislation inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby modified or repealed accordingly.

**SECTION 13. EFFECTIVITY.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Code. On motion of all members present, CITY ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

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I HEREBY CERTIFY TO THE CORRECTNESS OF THE FOREGOING:

**JOEL JOSEPH L. EGIPTO, Ph.D**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod

ATTESTED:

**HON. ROSAURO RODRIGO G. RESUELLO**  
City Vice Mayor  
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

**HON. MAILA ROSARIO S. TING-QUE**  
City Mayor  
Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_