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AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CASH INCENTIVES TO NATIONAL TOPNOTCHERS IN THE PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS ADMINISTERED BY THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY COMMISSION (PRC) AND THE SUPREME COURT OF THE PHILIPPINES (SC) WHO ARE RESIDENTS OF TUGUEGARAO CITY AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF

SPONSORS:

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WHEREAS, Article II, Section 17 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution 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, Section 2 (3) of Article XIV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution also provides that the state shall establish and maintain a system of scholarship grants, student loan programs, subsidies and other incentives which shall be available to deserving students in both public and private schools, especially to the underprivileged;

WHEREAS, in line with the policy of the state to encourage and support the youth to excel in their educational endeavors, the Tuguegarao City Government deems it necessary to give commendations and due recognitions to Tuguegaraoños who performed remarkably in national licensure and bar examinations;

WHEREAS, examinees taking national licensure examinations experience not only physical and mental hardships but also the financial and economic problems prior and during the schedule examinations dates, thus the reward of cash incentives for topnotchers is deemed proper and equitable;

WHEREAS, it is deemed fit and proper to recognize the hard work of these successful professional board/bar topnotchers in pursuit of their academic excellence who are residents of Tuguegarao City for bringing pride and honor to their families, schools, our city and most importantly for inspiring the youth to strive in their studies;

BE IT ENACTED by the 9th City Council of Tuguegarao duly assembled in Session that:

SECTION 1. TITLE. This ordinance shall be known as the "Tuguegarao City National Topnotchers Incentives Ordinance."

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. The Tuguegarao City Government hereby institutionalizes the granting of cash incentives to Tuguegaraoños who become topnotchers in the National Licensure/Bar Examinations.

SECTION 3. COVERAGE. This ordinance shall cover qualified board/bar topnotchers who are bona fide residents of Tuguegarao City who took the latest Board/Bar Examinations conducted by PRC/SC and garnered the ranked from Top one to Top Ten.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean as follows:

- a. **BAR EXAMINATIONS** – refers to the professional licensure examination for lawyers in the Philippines exclusively administered by the Supreme Court of the Philippines through the Supreme Court Bar Examination Committee.
- b. **BOARD EXAMINATIONS** - refers to the Professional Licensure examinations administered by the Professional Regulatory Commission (PRC)
- c. **CASH INCENTIVES** – refers to the amount of money given to the national topnotchers of the Professional Licensure Examinations/Bar Examinations conducted by the Professional Regulatory Commission and the Supreme Court of the Philippines respectively.
- d. **PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY COMMISSION (PRC)** – refers to a government agency created under Presidential Decree No. 223 which is the licensing and regulatory agency of the National Government for the practice of regulated professions.
- e. **BONAFIDE RESIDENTS** – refers to the topnotcher-examinees who are registered voters of Tuguegarao City;
- f. **TOPNOTCHERS** – refers to persons who ranked top 1 up to 10th place in the national board/bar examination conducted by PRC and SC respectively.

SECTION 5. QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS. Examinees who obtained the top one (1) to top ten (10) places shall submit to the City Mayor's Office the following:

- a. Photocopy of Birth Certificate
- b. Photocopy of Diploma or Certificate from the school where the awardee graduated
- c. Certificate of Residency
- d. Authenticated Copy of Supreme Court/PRC certificate of rating/examination result
- e. Voters ID/Certification from COMELEC

SECTION 6. CASH INCENTIVES AND PLAQUE OF COMMENDATION. The awardee, upon verification of the submitted documents as provided under Section 5 hereof shall receive cash incentives and plaque of commendation.

PRC BOARD EXAMINATION

Top One (1)	-	30,000.00
Top Two (2)- Top Three (3)	-	25,000.00
Top Four (4) – Top Five (5)	-	20,000.00
Top Six (6)- Top Ten (10)	-	15,000.00

BAR EXAMINATION

Top One (1)	-	100,000.00
Top Two (2)- Top Three (3)	-	85,000.00
Top Four (4) – Top Five (5)	-	75,000.00
Top Six (6)- Top Ten (10)	-	50,000.00

SECTION 7. NON-RETROACTIVITY- This Ordinance is non-retroactive. The cash incentives shall only be applicable to the latest national board/bar examinations upon the effectivity of this ordinance and thereafter.

SECTION 8. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. The Office of the City Mayor shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 9. FUNDING AND APPROPRIATIONS. The funding and appropriations of this Ordinance shall be sourced from the General Fund of the city government.

SECTION 10. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any part of this Ordinance is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remainders of the ordinance not otherwise declared so shall remain valid and effective.

SECTION 11. REPEALING CLAUSE. All Ordinances, rules and regulations, executive orders and portions thereof inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed, amended and/or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVITY. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.