

K-Gabay: College Application Q&A Sheet (Philippines)

1. What are the basic requirements for college admission in the Philippines?

Most colleges require:

- High school report card (Form 138)
 - Certificate of Good Moral Character
 - Birth certificate (PSA)
 - Entrance exam results (if applicable)
 - 1x1 or 2x2 ID pictures
 - Application form (usually available on the school's website)
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2. What is the difference between CHED, TESDA, and DepEd?

- **CHED:** Oversees colleges and universities (higher education).
 - **TESDA:** Offers vocational/technical skills training (short courses).
 - **DepEd:** Handles basic education (elementary to senior high school).
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3. What is the difference between a state university and a private college?

- **State universities** are publicly funded and usually have lower tuition fees.
 - **Private colleges** are privately owned and funded, often with higher tuition.
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4. Are there scholarships available?

Yes! You can apply for:

- **CHED UniFAST** grants

- **DOST** scholarships (for STEM courses)
 - **Private university scholarships** (based on merit or need)
 - **Local government scholarships** (check with your municipality or city)
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5. What is UniFAST and how does it work?

UniFAST (Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education) helps implement free tuition for eligible students in public colleges, under **RA 10931** (Free Tuition Law).

6. What is a priority course under CHED?

These are courses the government wants to promote because they are in-demand (e.g. Engineering, Agriculture, Teaching, IT, Nursing). Students who take these may get scholarships.

7. Can I apply to more than one college?

Yes. You can apply to multiple colleges and choose where to enroll later.

8. When do college applications usually start?

- Most schools open applications between **September to January**.
 - Entrance exams or interviews follow soon after.
 - Always check specific deadlines on the school's website.
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9. What if I didn't pass the college entrance exam?

You may:

- Take a retest (if allowed)
- Apply to schools that don't require entrance exams
- Consider community colleges or TESDA-certified programs

10. What is the ALS (Alternative Learning System)?

ALS is a parallel learning system for students who did not complete formal education. ALS passers can apply to college once they meet the requirements.

11. What is the Free Tuition Law?

The **Free Tuition Law** (Republic Act 10931) provides free tuition and other fees for students in:

- SUCs (State Universities and Colleges)
- LUCs (Local Universities and Colleges)
- TESDA-accredited institutions

Note: Students must meet residency and academic requirements.

12. What is the difference between an Associate Degree and a Bachelor's Degree?

- **Associate Degree:** Usually 2 years; focuses on practical/technical skills.
 - **Bachelor's Degree:** Usually 4 years; prepares students for professional careers.
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13. What is a bridging program?

A **bridging program** helps students meet subject requirements they may have missed in SHS, often required for courses like Engineering or Nursing.

14. Can I enroll in college even if I didn't take a STEM strand in SHS?

It depends on the course. Some programs (e.g., Engineering, Accountancy, Nursing) require specific SHS strands. You might need a bridging program.

15. What are the common entrance exams in PH colleges?

- UPCAT (University of the Philippines)
- ACET (Ateneo de Manila University)

- DLSUCET (De La Salle University)
 - USTET (University of Santo Tomas)
Private colleges may have their own tests or interviews.
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16. What documents do returning students (balik-aral) need?

- Old school credentials
 - Honorable dismissal (if from another college)
 - Transcript of Records (TOR)
 - Updated ID photos and application form
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17. What is the difference between major and minor subjects?

- **Major subjects** are core to your course (e.g., Nursing Theory for BS Nursing).
 - **Minor subjects** are general education courses (e.g., PE, Filipino, Math).
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18. What if I want to transfer to another college?

You'll need:

- Honorable dismissal
 - Transcript of Records
 - Course descriptions for subject crediting
 - New college's entrance requirements
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19. What are ladderized programs?

These allow you to start with short-term certificates (TESDA-level) and continue into a full degree later, earning credits as you go.

20. How do I apply for CHED scholarships?

Visit chedscholarships.com or your regional CHED office. Requirements include:

- Income documents (ITR or certificate of indigency)
- Grades (at least 85% GWA)
- Application form
- Photocopies of school credentials