



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education


DepEd O R D E R
No. **9** , s. 2013

14 FEB 2013

2013 GRADUATION RITES

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools City/Division Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools
All Others Concerned

1. The **2013 Graduation Rites** shall focus on the theme *Building the Nation's Future Leaders Through the K to 12 Basic Education Program* or the *K to 12 Basic Education Program-Tungo sa Paghubog ng mga Makabagong Lider ng Bansa*. It should be scheduled either on March 18 or 19, 2013.
2. In line with the government's austerity program, the Department of Education (DepEd) reiterates its graduation rites policy as contained in DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2012, to wit:
 - a. Public school heads (SHs), teachers and other DepEd personnel should **not be allowed to collect any graduation fees or any kind of contribution** for the graduation rites;
 - b. PTAs may give donations in cash or in kind for the graduation ceremonies and celebrations;
 - c. No non-academic projects should be imposed as requirements for graduation;
 - d. No extravagant special attire or extraordinary venue for the ceremonies should be required;
 - e. Graduation rites should not be exercised in splurging and display of pomp and pageantry but should be Spartan affairs which exhort civic duties, sense of community and personal responsibilities and should be memorable, exciting and animated without baggage of extra cost and excessive spending; and
 - f. Contributions for the annual yearbook, if any, should be on a **voluntary basis**.
3. Furthermore, the graduation rites should be conducted in an appropriate solemn ceremony befitting the graduating students and their parents and **shall not be used as political forum**.
4. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Order is directed.


BR. ARMIN A. LUISTRO FSC
Secretary

Reference: DepEd Order: (No. 9, s. 2012)
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

CONTRIBUTION

GRADUATION

POLICY

R-MCR/DO-Graduation Rites-final
0163/ February 8, 2013/2-10-13