

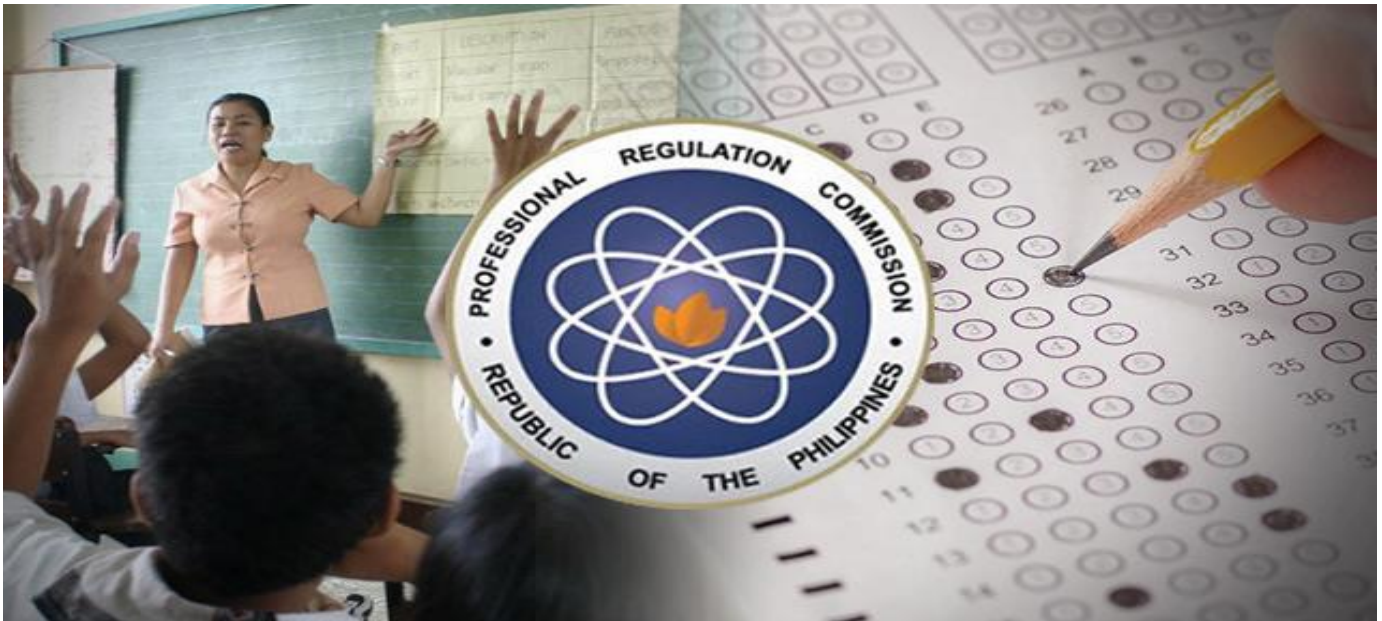


Philippine Normal University
The National Center for Teacher Education

Policy Brief Series

A Special Series on Policy Research | Issue 3 | 2017

Is Government Investment in Teacher Education Worth It?



Source: <http://www.rappler.com/bulletin-board/170571-results-licensure-examination-for-teachers-march-2017>

This policy brief tackles the issue on whether government investment in teacher education is being maximized. Studies revealed that it is not. Thus, policy recommendations in order to address this issue are provided.

The large number of education graduates who opt for non-teaching professions (Abulon et al., 2014) and below par performance in licensure examination for teachers (LET) (Bedural, David, Abulon, & Luceño, 2014) from a state university for teacher education give an impression of wastage of government investment in teacher education. This prompts for a review of policies on government spending in teacher education.

On the other hand, the finding that scholastic ratings do not have good predictive value of performance in LET (Marquez et al., 2013) is indicative of the need for revisions in the curriculum and assessment to make it more consistent with the demands of licensure exams. While LET is supposed to be an indicator of future teacher performance, it was found that the relationship between LET scores and performance assessment of in-service teachers is negligible (Diaz et al., 2013). It is possible that besides competencies measured by LET, there are other factors that contribute to actual teaching performance. The misalignment between education, LET performance, and actual teaching performance can inform policies with regard to how teacher education students should be prepared for the LET, as well as their actual teaching career thereafter.



For further information, please contact:

Educational Policy Research and Development Center (EPRDC)

Tel No: 317-1768 loc 751 | Email: eprdc@pnu.edu.ph | URL: www.pnuresearchportal.org

Here is a summary of policy recommendations for these issues:

1. TEIs should consider examining factors that contribute to positive LET outcomes and mindfully use government funds in the development and implementation of programs that could strengthen these factors. Further, continuous monitoring on the outcome of programs where government funds are spent must be conducted.
2. TEIs must consider finding ways to retain teacher education students in the program (Abulon et al., 2014), as well as provide opportunities and support for their graduates to pursue a career in the teaching profession.
3. The curriculum and assessment procedures must be revisited to see if it is aligned with the competency requirements of subjects included in LET, and if the students are properly being assessed for their readiness to take LET.
4. While it is important for TEIs to focus on improving their students' LET performance, they should also be mindful that there are other indicators of teaching performance besides LET scores, as implied in the literature (Diaz et al., 2013). Thus, these factors must be explored and be included in their goals, along with preparing students to perform well in LET.

REFERENCES:

- Abulon, E. L. R., Orleans, A. V., Bedural, Z. L., David, A. P., Florentino, J. V., & Rungduin, T. T. (2014). Exploring wastage in teacher preparation investments in the Philippines. *The Normal Lights*, 8(2), 8-29.
- Bedural, Z. L., David, A. P., Abulon, E. L. R., & Luceño, J. G. (2014). Philippine government's investment on teacher preparation and the performance of graduates in the licensure examination. *The Normal Lights*, 8(2), 30-37.
- Diaz, R. V., Morales, G. S., Diana, R. A., Ubina, M. M., Jocson, J. V., Ilanan, C. M., ... & Pastor, C. J. M. (2013). LET as predictor of teacher performance: The case of PNU graduates across disciplines (2007-2010). *The Normal Lights*, 7(2), 19-36.
- Marquez, F. F., Jocson, J. V., Fumar, V. R., Lomboy, R. R., Suatengco, R. T., & Mendiola, C. M. (2013). Predictors of LET Performance of PNU Graduates in Literature Majorship. *The Normal Lights*, 7(1), 54-69.



For further information, please contact:

Educational Policy Research and Development Center (EPRDC)

Tel No: 317-1768 loc 751 | Email: eprdc@pnu.edu.ph | URL: www.pnuresearchportal.org