



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region VI – Western Visayas
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF CAPIZ

Division Advisory No. 016, s. 2026

March 1, 2026

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013

This advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001, but only for the information of DepEd Capiz officials, personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public.
(Visit www.deped.gov.ph)

Attached is the letter from **UPV Visayas Ugnayan ng Pahinugód/Oblation Corps** regarding the **Aabutin ang Pangarap (UPV-AAP) Caravan**.

Participation to this activity is voluntary and subject to compliance with DepEd Order No. 66, s. 2017 titled **Implementing Guidelines on the Conduct of Off-Campus Activities** and DepEd Memorandum No. 041, s. 2024 titled **Reiteration of the “No Collection Policy” in Schools**. The details and overview of this program are attached for reference.

For more information and verification, contact:

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UP Visayas Ugnayan ng PAHINUNGÓD/OBLATION CORPS

The Volunteer Service Program of UP

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February 12, 2026

DR. ROEL F. BERMEJO, CESO VI

Schools Division Superintendent

Schools Division of Capiz

Roxas City

Dear Dr. Bermerjo:

Warm greetings with a spirit of service!

The **UP Visayas Ugnayan ng Pahinungód/Oblation Corps** is the volunteer service arm of the University of the Philippines that serves the underserved communities in the country. It provides volunteer opportunities and promotes different advocacies through various programs with UPV students, faculty, staff, and alumni, serving as its core support system.

We have always believed in the transformative power of education. Hence, we are committed to providing opportunities for underserved students and public secondary school teachers across Western Visayas to pursue their dreams. In 2024 and 2025, our **Aabutin ang Pangarap (UPV-AAP) Caravan** directly empowered **1529 students** and **244 teachers**, and many others indirectly through word of mouth, in six provinces: Iloilo, Guimaras, Antique, Aklan, Capiz, and Negros Occidental.

Aiming to bridge more students and teachers to their dreams, we will once again conduct the **UPV-AAP Caravan** from **February to July 2026**, a program designed to empower aspiring students with the knowledge, resources, and guidance to navigate their path to college and democratize access to quality education in higher education institutions, such as the University of the Philippines. It comprises four sub-programs:

1. **Affirmative Action Program (AAP):** Seeks to provide crucial guidance to students from underserved communities, particularly those from Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDA), by providing them with career talks and comprehensive information about available degree programs, scholarship opportunities, and admission processes in UP;
2. **College Admission Test Simulation and Refresher (CATSaR):** Aimed at reducing the anxiety and stress of college admission tests such as the UP College Admission Test (UPCAT) by offering simulations and test-taking strategies; and,
3. **Teacher Development Program (TDP):** Designed to enhance the teaching capacity of public secondary school educators by equipping them with effective and inclusive instructional strategies that foster student engagement and improve learning outcomes. Strengthening the pedagogical skills of teachers supports DepEd's continuous efforts to elevate the quality of education in public schools.
4. **Tulay Tungo sa Pangarap (TTP):** A midyear expanded version of the Affirmative Action Program and a bridging program that offers an in-depth refresher on core academic subjects in selected areas to support aspiring UPCAT takers.

Please see the attached primer for more details about the program. You may also view our video recap in one of the legs of last year's UPV-AAP Caravan:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nYewnamhczGgi3luFdLZlwmi4DrP_fg/view?usp=sharing





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In line with this, we respectfully invite the Schools Division of Capiz to once again be our **official partner** in implementing this meaningful endeavor. As our partner, we would like to request your assistance in the following:

- Designate a Focal Person to coordinate matters related to UPV-AAP Caravan, especially the facilitation of the MOA at the SDO level;
- Send a memorandum to all high schools in Schools Division of Capiz, encouraging them to:
 - select and send four (4) Grade 11 students for the AAP and CATSaR and one (1) teacher to attend the two-day TDP. GIDA/last mile schools will be given ten (10) student slots, and,
 - conduct an echo seminar with the assistance of their guidance office to extend the learning impact of the program.
- Provide access to the list of high schools in the SDO and other relevant databases (e.g., GIDA/last mile schools, telephone, e-mail address) to facilitate coordination and assist in the dissemination of activity announcements and promotional materials in the communication channels (e.g., Facebook Groups, mailing list) of the DepEd;
- Update UPV Pahinungód regarding the confirmed slots for students and teachers, preferably two (2) weeks before the schedule of the activity in the province/leg;
- Suggest and assist in facilitating the request for a suitable venue or host school per province/leg with two (2) large halls (e.g., gymnasium, auditorium) for holding the simultaneous activities for students (150 - 200 pax) and teachers (30 - 50 pax);
- Assist in facilitating the needs assessment of UPV Pahinungód for the TDP topics for each province/congressional district, such as the provision of student performance assessment results (e.g., Aral Implementation, Regional Achievement Measure) of DepEd and possible CPD-granting trainings/seminars;
- Coordinate with the UPV Pahinungód on other matters that may arise during the preparation and implementation of the Program;
- Assist in monitoring the implementation of the echo seminar in participating schools and provide the UPV Pahinungód updates on schools that conducted the echo seminar; and,
- Assist in the evaluation of the implementation of the Program.

Believing in the program's significance, we have also sent a partnership invitation to DepEd Secretary Sonny Angara, through the UP System Ugnayan ng Pahinungód, to streamline the coordination with DepEd Regional Offices and SDOs nationwide for the AAP implementations by other UP constituent universities. Attached herewith is the advisory from the Schools Division of Capiz.

We look forward to working with you in bridging students from underserved communities toward their dreams of higher education. Should you need any clarification, please contact Ms. Aileen N. Lachica, UPV Pahinungód Junior Project Associate, at 09278743348 or via email at pahinungod.upv@up.edu.ph.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. *Para sa Bayan!*

Respectfully yours,

PROF. JERRY IAN L. LEONIDA
Director





UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES VISAYAS
UGNAYAN NG PAHINUNGÓD / OBLATION CORPS

UPV AABUTIN ANG PANGARAP CARAVAN



BRIDGING DREAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR
EVERY FILIPINO STUDENT.

UPV AABUTIN ANG PANGARAP CARAVAN



"Treading the provinces in Western Visayas, leaving impactful footprints that transform lives—one student at a time."

The UPV-AAP Caravan is a transformative initiative empowering Filipino students in Western Visayas and Negros to reach their full potential, regardless of their circumstances. By offering career and scholarship talks, alumni sharing sessions, and college admission test simulations, the program inspires students to pursue their dreams and envision a brighter future. Beyond supporting students, the caravan uplifts public school teachers by equipping them with innovative teaching strategies to enhance their impact in the classroom. This holistic approach fosters both academic success and professional growth within underserved communities. Together, the caravan builds a stronger foundation for education and opportunity in Western Visayas and Negros.

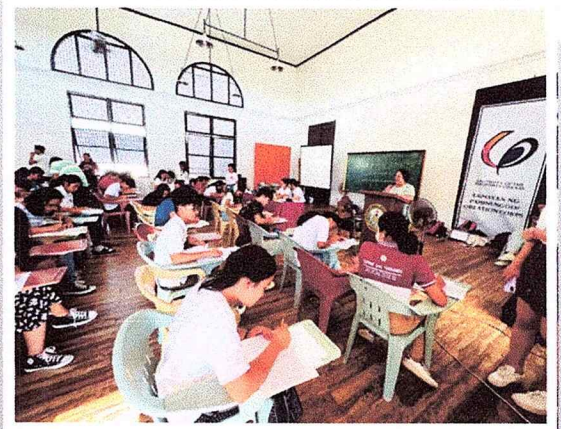
WE BRING FOUR IMPACTFUL PROGRAMS IN OUR JOURNEY.

UPV-AAP Caravan has four (4) key programs tailored to the specific needs of students. It offers a wide range of activities designed to inspire and connect students.

1

Affirmative Action Program (AAP) "Opening Doors to Quality Education"

AAP is dedicated to empowering underserved students by eliminating some of the barriers that hinder them from accessing higher education, such as lack of access to information and guidance, and creating a pathway that leads them to the University of the Philippines and other Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).



- **Empowering Students:** We provide comprehensive guidance and information, such as scholarship opportunities, helping students overcome economic barriers and pursue their dream of higher education.
- **Comprehensive Career Orientation:** AAP introduces students to UP's diverse degree programs, emphasizing academic excellence, leadership development, and civic engagement.
- **Preparing for UPCAT and other college admission tests:** AAP ensures students are well-informed about requirements, procedures, and timelines, giving them a solid foundation to meet the UP's admission standards.

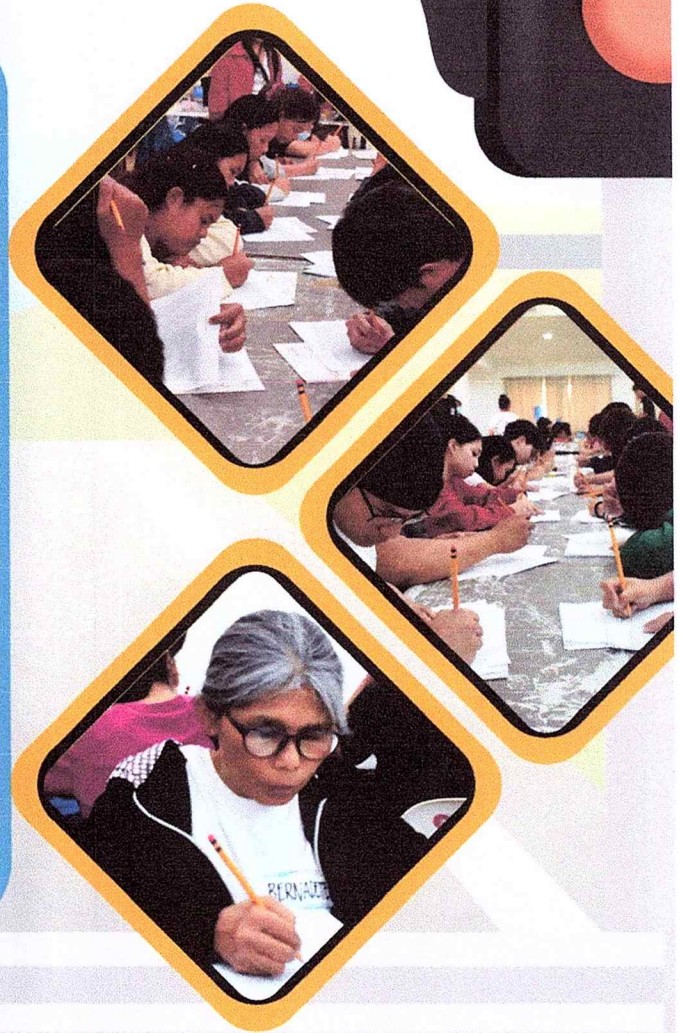
2

College Admission Test Simulation and Refresher (CATSaR)

"Confidence and Competence in Every Step"

CATSaR prepares students for college admission tests like UPCAT, equipping them with the skills and confidence they need to excel. This enhances their readiness, ultimately reducing test anxiety and boosting their confidence.

- **Simulations:** Students undergo both pre-tests and post-tests modeled after the UPCAT format. These simulations familiarize students with test rules and procedures while refining their test-taking strategies through practical application.
- **Refreshers:** Comprehensive subject-specific refreshers are provided in key UPCAT areas, including Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth Science, Mathematics, English, and Filipino. These sessions ensure students are well-versed in critical concepts and ready to tackle the challenges of the exam.
- **Enhanced Focus:** Reduce test anxiety for improved and efficient performance during actual exams.



3

Teacher Development Program (TDP)

"Empowering Educators, Enriching Classrooms"



TDP invests in the heart of education, our teachers. This UP systemwide initiative strengthens teaching practices with innovative strategies. This training delivers both immediate benefits, such as more dynamic and effective classrooms, and long term advantages, including better prepared and empowered students ready to thrive in their academic journeys and beyond.

- **Advanced Instructional Techniques:** Equip public high school teachers with creative and effective teaching methods, allowing them to provide quality, equitable, and inclusive education.
- **Capacity Building:** Enhance educators' ability to inspire students and foster impactful learning experiences.

Here are the ratings across the nine legs:

AKLAN	4.68
ANTIQUE	4.75
CAPIZ	4.77
GUIMARAS	4.71
ILOILO CITY	4.58
MIAGAO	4.62
NEGROS	4.61
PASSI	4.44
SARA	4.54

This year we had...



9
legs



17
lecturers



850
participants



349
volunteers

OVERALL
4.66
RATING



Here's what the participants said:

I'm very honored and thankful for this activity. Thank you po ng marami! **It helped me with my mental block and anxiety to the UPCAT.** **AKLAN**

This event helped me have proper knowledge in preparing for my UPCAT and gave me idea as to **what UP has to offer.** **ANTIQUE**

Aside from the lessons and information about UP and UPCAT, this activity also helped me **socialize with other people.** **CAPIZ**

Thank you for everyone this event. **This is a good opportunity and advantage for us who plan to take the UPCAT.** **GUIMARAS**

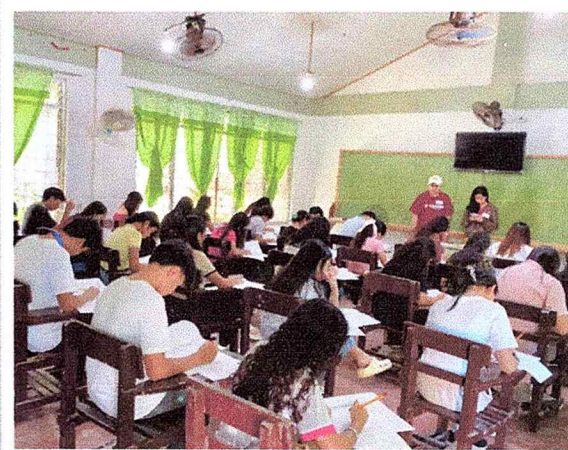
Attending this event **affirmed my decision to strive to pass the UPCAT** and pursue my planned degree program. **NEGROS**

AAP Caravan not only informed us about the **courses offered in UP** but, more importantly, about the **scholarships** offered there. **SARA**

4

Tulay Tungo sa Pangarap (Expanded AAP and Bridging Program)

Designed to enhance student learning through deeper and sustained engagement. Its two-week duration fosters stronger collaborative relationships between instructors and students, which are essential to an effective learning experience. The extended timeframe allows students sufficient opportunity to absorb, reflect on, and apply the knowledge gained from the refresher, promoting greater flexibility and learner autonomy. Additionally, the longer interval between pre- and post-assessments minimizes test familiarity, ensuring more reliable and valid assessment results.



- To increase the number of UPCAT passers in UPV Sites and other sites deemed by interested geo-based student organizations;
- To assist interested and confirmed UPCAT examinees who want to undergo more comprehensive refresher courses and mentoring.
- To offer students in UPV Sites and other sites deemed by interested geo-based student organizations advanced learning opportunities.

LOOKING BACK TO OUR FOOTPRINTS

In 2024 to 2025, we have achieved a great feat in bridging students to their dreams. We have directly empowered **1529 students** and **244 teachers** in Western Visayas and Negros, and many others indirectly through word-of-mouth!



This 2026, we aim to bridge more underserved students to their dreams, and we need YOU to make that happen!



Get Involved in Our Endeavor

The UPV-AAP Caravan offers an exciting and impactful opportunity for the Department of Education (DepEd) to enhance its mission of providing equitable educational opportunities to all students. By partnering with us, DepEd can benefit in the following transformative ways:

Expanding Access to Higher Education

Through our program, we bridge the gap for students in underserved communities, connecting them with opportunities that can propel them toward higher education. This partnership directly supports DepEd's vision of creating equal access to quality education for every Filipino student, regardless of their socio-economic status.

Supporting Students' Preparation for College Admission Tests

We help students from marginalized backgrounds prepare for the UPCAT and other entrance exams by offering comprehensive guidance, test simulations, and refresher courses. By equipping students with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in these critical exams, we support DepEd's goal of preparing students for successful transitions to higher education.

Guiding Career Pathways and Scholarships

The UPV-AAP Caravan provides essential information about university degree programs, scholarship opportunities, and career paths within UP, aligning with DepEd's Career Guidance Advocacy. Our resources empower students to make informed, strategic decisions about their futures, helping them choose academic paths that align with their aspirations and the needs of our nation.

Ensuring No Student is Left Behind

By focusing on underserved areas with limited access to resources, our program directly addresses one of DepEd's core priorities: ensuring that all students, especially those in Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDA) and Indigenous Peoples' communities, have the tools and support they need to succeed. Together, we can break down barriers and open doors to top-tier educational opportunities, especially for those who need it most.

Building Teacher Capacity

In addition to supporting students, we also provide training on effective instructional strategies for DepEd teachers. This professional development enhances their teaching abilities, empowering them to better serve their students and align with DepEd's commitment to continuous capacity-building for educators.

Driving Excellence through Advanced Instructional Techniques

In TDP, we focus on subject areas where students have the most significant gaps in Regional Achievement Measure (RAM) results, using these insights to guide our seminars and workshops. By equipping public high school teachers with innovative teaching methods, we directly support DepEd's mission to improve student performance, leading to excellence in educational assessments, such as RAM and Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

We are excited to empower underserved students with you!



Caravan Schedule

VENUES/HOST SCHOOLS	DATE
Aklan Leg Aklan Training Center <i>This leg cover the Province of Aklan.</i>	March 7 - 8, 2026
Capiz Leg TBA <i>This leg will cover the whole Province of Capiz.</i>	March 14 - 15, 2026
Guimaras Leg Nueva Valencia National high School <i>This leg will cover the Province of Guimaras.</i>	March 21 - 22, 2026
Iloilo Leg (Sara) Sara National High School, Sara Iloilo Sara Gymnasium, Sara Central Elementary School <i>This leg will cover the municipalities of 5th district.</i>	April 11 - 12, 2026
Passi City Leg City of Passi Arena <i>This leg cover the following areas: 3rd district (except Janiuay, Maasin, and Cabatuan) and 4th district (except Dumangas)</i>	April 25 - 26, 2026
Antique Leg Pandan Central School UPV Extension Campus in Antique <i>This Leg will cover the Province of Antique.</i>	May 16 - 17, 2026



Caravan Schedule

VENUES/HOST SCHOOLS	DATE
Negros Leg (Victorias) Victorias National High School <i>This leg covers Victorias City and Negros Occidental Provinces.</i>	June 2 - 3, 2026
Negros Leg (Dumagete) DepEd Negros Island Region <i>This leg caters Negros Oriental Provinces.</i>	June 5 - 6, 2026
TTP (Bridging Program Iloilo) UPV Auditorium/ Little Theater <i>This leg will cover the following areas: Iloilo City District, 2nd District (except Alimodian and Leon), Oton, Janiuay, Maasin, Cabaatuan, and Dumangas.</i>	July 2026
TTP (Bridging Program Miagao) UPV Miagao AV Hall <i>This leg cover the following areas: 1st district (except Oton), Alimodian, and Leon.</i>	July 2026
TTP (Bridging Program Antique) Antique National School, San Jose Antique <i>This leg cover the Province of Antique.</i>	July 2026

OUR 2025 PARTNERS



University of the Philippines Visayas Ugnayan ng Pahinungód/Oblation Corps

The Volunteer Service Arm of the University of the Philippines

Mission

The Ugnayan ng Pahinungód aims to make the University a more caring academic community bound together by a commitment to the empowerment of people and selfless service to the nations.

Vision

UP in the service of underserved communities nationwide through volunteerism.

Contact Information



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UPV Ugnayan ng Pahinungód/Oblation Corps