

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES
METRO MANILA

Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-third day of July, 2001.

(REPUBLIC ACT 9163)

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAM (NSTP) FOR THE TERTIARY LEVEL STUDENTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO 7077 AND PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO 1706 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSE"

Be enacted by the senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the National Service Training Program (NSTP) Act of 2001.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby affirmed the prime duty of the Government to serve and protect its citizen. In turn it shall be the responsibility of all citizens to defend the security of the State and in fulfillment thereof, the Government may require each citizen to render personal military or civil service.

Recognizing the youth's virtual role in nation building, then state shall promote civic consciousness among the youth and shall develop their physical moral, spiritual intellectual and social well-being.

It shall inculcate to the youth patriotism, nationalism and advance their involvement in public and civic affairs. In pursuit of this goals the youth the most valuable resource of the national shall motivate trained organized and mobilized in military training, literacy civic welfare and other similar endeavors in the service of nation.

SECTION 3. Definition of Term. - For purpose of this Act the following are hereby defined as follows:

"National Service Training Program" (NSTP) - is a program aimed at enhancing civic consciousness and defense preparedness in the youth by developing the ethic of service and patriotism while undergoing training in any of its three (3) program components. Its various components are specially designed to enhance the youth's active contribution to the general welfare.

"Reserve Officer Training Corps" (ROTC) - is program institutionalized under Section 38 and 39 of RA No. 7077 designed to provide military training to tertiary level students in order to motivate, train, organized and mobilize them for national defense preparedness.

"Literacy Training Service" - is a program designed to train students to become teachers of literacy and numeracy skills to school children, out of school youth, and other segments of society in need of their service.

"Civic Welfare Training Service" - refers to programs of activities contributory to the general welfare and the betterment of life for members of the community or the enhancement of its

facilities, especially those devoted to improving health, education, environment, entrepreneurship, safety, recreation and morals of the citizen; and

"Program Component" - shall refer to the service components of the NSTP as enumerated in Section 4 of this Act.

SECTION 4. Establishment of the National Service Program. - There is hereby established a National Service Training Program (NSTP) which shall form part of the curricula of all baccalaureate degree courses and of at least two-years technical vocational courses and is a requisite for graduation, consisting of the following service components: The Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) which is hereby made optional and voluntary upon the effectivity of this Act; The Literacy Training Service; and The Civic Welfare Training Service

The ROTC under the NSTP shall instill patriotism, moral virtues, respect for rights of civilians and adherence to the constitution among other, Citizenship Training shall be given emphasis in all three (3) program components.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) in consultation with the Department of National Defense (DND) Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC).

Coordinating Council of Private Association of the Philippines (COCOPAP) and other concerned government agencies, may design and implement such other program components as maybe necessary in consonance with the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 5. Coverage. - Students, male and female of any baccalaureate degree course or at least two (2) year technical vocational courses in public and private educational institutions shall be required to complete one (1) of the NSTP components are requisite for graduation.

SECTION 6. Duration and Equivalent Course Unit. - Each of the aforementioned NSTP Program components shall be undertaken for and academic period of two (2) semesters. In lieu of the two-semester program for any of the components of the NSTP a one (1) summer program may be designed formulated and adopted by the DND, CHED and TESDA.

SECTION 7. NSTP Offering in Higher and Technical Educational Institutions. - All higher and technical and vocational institutions, public and private, must offer at least one of the program components, provided that state universities and colleges shall offer the ROTC components and at least one other component as education institution may ROTC if they have at least three hundred and fifty (350) cadets students.

In offering the NSTP whether during the semestral or summer periods, clustering of affected students from different educational institutions may be done, taking into account logistics, branch of service and geographical considerations.

Schools that do not meet the required number of students shall allow their students to cross enroll to other school irrespective of whether or not the NSTP components in said schools are being administered by the same or another branch of service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) CHED and TESDA to which schools are identified.

SECTION 8. Fees and Incentive. - Higher and technical-vocational institutions shall not collect any fee for any of the NSTP components, except basic tuition fees, which shall be more than fifty (50%) percent of what is currently charged by schools per unit.

In case of ROTC, the DND shall formulate and adopt a program of assistance for health and accident shall be provide for students enrolled in any of the NSTP components.

SECTION 9. Scholarship. - There is hereby created a special scholarship program for qualified students taking NSTP which shall be administered by CHED and TESDA funds for this purpose shall be include in the annual regular appropriations of CHED and TESDA.

SECTION 10. Management of NSTP Components. - The school authorities shall exercise academic and administrative supervision over the design, formulation, adoption and implementation of the different NSTP components in their respective schools, provided that in case a CHED - or TESDA - accredited Non-Government Organization (NGO) has been contracted to formulate and administer a training module for any of the NSTP components, such academic and administrative supervision shall be exercised jointly with the accredited NGO.

Provided further, that such training module shall be accredited by CHED and TESDA.

SECTION 11. Creation of the National Service Corps. - There is hereby created a National Service Corps to be composed of the graduates of the non-ROTC components Members of this corps may be tapped by the State for Literacy and civic welfare activities through the joint effort of DND, CHED and TESDA.

Graduates of the ROTC shall form part of the Citizen Armed Force, pursuant to Republic Act No. 7077.

SECTION 12. Implementing Rules. - The DND, CHED and TESDA shall have the joint responsibility for the adoption of the implementing rules of this Act with sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act.

These are three (3) agencies shall consult with other concerned government agencies, PASUC and COCPAP, NGO's and recognized students in drafting the implementing rules.

The implementing rules shall include the guidelines for the adoption of the appropriate curriculum for each of the NSTP components as well as for the accreditation of the same.

SECTION 13. Transitory Provision. - Students, who have yet to complete the Basic ROTC, except those failing under Section 14 of this Act, may either continue in the program component they are currently enrolled or shift to any of the another program component, the Basic ROTC courses he has completed further.

That once he has shifted to other program component, he shall completed further.

That once he has shifted to other program component, he shall completed the NSTP in the component.

SECTION 14. Suspension of ROTC Requirement. - The completion of ROTC training as a requisite for graduation is hereby set aside for those students who despite all their academic units as of effectivity of this Act have been allowed to graduate.

SECTION 15. Separability Clause. - If any section or provision of this act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other section or provision not affected thereby remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 16. Amendatory Clause. - Section 35 of Commonwealth Act No. 1 Executive Order No. 207 of 1930. Section 2 and 3 of Presidential Degree No. 1706 and Section 38 and 39 RA No. 7077 as well as all laws decrees order rules and regulations and other issuance's inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed and modified accordingly.

SECTION 17. Effectivity. - This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of national circulation but the implementation of this Act shall commence in the school year 2002-2003.

Approved,

s/t **FRANKLIN M DRILON**
President of the Senate

s/t **JOSE DE VENECIA**
Speaker of the House of Representative

This act which is a consolidation of H B No. 3593 and S B No. 1824 was finally passed by the House of Representative and the Senate on December 19, 2001.

s/t **OSCAR G TABES ROBERTO P NAZARENO**
Secretary of the Senate Secretary General House of Representative

Approved,

s/t **GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**
President of the Philippines

Ref.: http://www.army.mil.ph/Army_Sites/INFANTRY%20DIVISIONS/arescom/9163.html

Look also www.laws.aboutphilippines.ph and www.education.aboutphilippines.ph