



# SENIOR

Hi!

AN INTRODUCTORY GUIDE  
to SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

**DepED**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**Australian  
Aid** 

**Tayo**  
PARA SA  
EDUKASYON

THIS GOD'S BOOK IS NOT FOR SALE

THIS GUIDEBOOK IS NOT FOR SALE



AN INTRODUCTORY GUIDE  
to SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



THIS HANDBOOK IS NOT FOR SALE

## Introduction

Welcome to an exciting new chapter in your life! You are among the first batch of learners who will go through Senior High School (SHS). So much has changed in the last decades, from what we know and can do, to how we acquire knowledge. In keeping with global advances and standards, our educational system also needed to evolve. The K to 12 Basic Education Program – more popularly known as K to 12 – will help prepare students like you for a global future.

This guidebook provides essential information and answers to your questions about SHS.

Welcome to SHS and congratulations!



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## 1

**Getting to Know SHS**

SHS Basics

**What is Senior High School (SHS)?**

Senior High School (SHS) refers to the last two years of the K to 12 Program, namely Grades 11 and 12.

**K to 12 is Your Key...****To the World**

Just like learners your age all over the world, you too will benefit from an education system suited for the 21st century.

**To Your Dreams**

The things you will study in SHS are based on your interests. SHS will be your stepping stone to be what you want to be after high school.

**To a Better Life**

SHS equips you with the knowledge and skills to pursue a better life and help your family and community.



## What's in it for me?

K to 12 and SHS were designed with your best interest in mind. They are products of years of research, planning, and consultation that take into account the child, community, content, competencies, culture, career, and choice. You, the learners, are at the heart of the SHS curriculum. It recognizes your characteristics, addresses your needs, and values your personal choices.

An enhanced curriculum was created to give you the best possible tools and career choices after high school. You may not have realized it but your existing lessons in recent years have been modified to get you ready for SHS.

Your teachers have been trained and prepared for K to 12.

You will be part of the K to 12 generation and your teachers, schools, and education system are ready for this.





## Can I go straight to college when I finish Grade 10?

No, because the law now prescribes SHS as part of compulsory basic education. Once fully implemented in School Year (SY) 2016-17, you will need to go through it in order to graduate High School.

### NEWS HEADLINE

May 15, 2013



#### President Aquino Signs K to 12 Into Law

President Benigno Simeon Aquino III today signed Republic Act No. 10533, also known as the Enhanced Basic Education Act, into Law, realizing the vision "to establish a system of education that truly imbues our youth with the skills they need to pursue their dreams." ➤➤

Image: gwazi

## What if I don't want to go to SHS?



You'll need to finish SHS to complete your basic education. Otherwise, you'll be a Grade 10 or Junior High School completer and receive a Junior High School completion certificate.



## What are the benefits of SHS?

Graduating from SHS may lead to Employment, Entrepreneurship, Higher Education, and Middle-Level Skills Development.

## 4 Options after Graduating from SHS



**Employment**  
SHS opens up more employment opportunities for graduates. SHS graduates of the Technical-Vocational-Livelihood (TVL) track may apply for TESDA Certificates of Competency (COCs) and National Certificates (NCs). Partnerships with different companies for technical and vocational courses expose students to the real world of work. Students also gain work experience while studying, and companies can even hire them after they graduate.



**Entrepreneurship**  
With the inclusion of an entrepreneurship subject in the curriculum, SHS graduates are better equipped for small-scale business activities, such as running the family business or even starting their own business.



**Higher Education**  
By the time you graduate from SHS, you will have the standard knowledge, skills, and competencies needed for higher education. Also, some subjects in the College General Education curriculum have now been integrated into the SHS curriculum. These subjects will be taken out of the college curriculum, leaving only the subjects that are more focused and relevant to your chosen course or major.



**Middle-Level Skills Development**  
Standard requirements built into the TVL track ensure that graduates have good job knowledge in their chosen specializations.  
  
In the same way that SHS graduates are better prepared for college, they are also better equipped for developing more specialized skills in technical-vocational schools.

Will SHS ensure employment when I graduate?



SHS equips you with more tools for future employment but does not guarantee that you will get hired. It is important to remember that employment is just one of four exits that SHS leads to. The others are Entrepreneurship, Higher Education, and Middle-Level Skills Development. What SHS can provide are choices and opportunities for you.

Questions about paying for SHS are covered in the next Chapter.



How much will SHS cost? What will Mama and Papa pay for?

SHS is free for public High School students.

For private High School students, costs will vary depending on the school. Private High School students will also be given government assistance to make SHS affordable.

Mama and Papa need to spend for your daily expenses such as transportation to and from school, and daily allowance.



What if I want to transfer to a private or non-DepEd SHS?

You can get financial assistance to pay your tuition fee through the voucher program.

All grade 10 completers from a public JHS who wish to enroll in a private or non-DepEd SHS automatically get a voucher.

Do Grade 10 completers from private schools also get a voucher?



All grade 10 completers from private schools who are Education Service Contracting (ESC) grantees automatically get a voucher. Completers from private schools who are not ESC grantees may also apply for a voucher.

What can I do with the voucher?



The voucher can cover part of or your entire tuition including miscellaneous fees. The voucher is honored in private high schools, private universities or colleges, state or local universities or colleges, or technical-vocational schools granted permit by DepEd to offer SHS.



Will my voucher allow me to choose schools?

Yes. The voucher will allow you to choose any private or non-DepEd school granted a permit by DepEd to offer SHS.

You may still choose to enroll in a public SHS though. You won't need a voucher for this.

Is the voucher a real piece of paper? What does the voucher look like?



No, the voucher is not a real piece of paper, even though it has real monetary value. Think of it as money in the bank that will be made available for you to pay your tuition fee when you enroll in a private or non-DepEd SHS, but only for that purpose.

DepEd has a database of all eligible voucher recipients. Once you enroll in the SHS of your choice, the system will recognize you (through your name, your Learner Reference Number, or other means of identification) as a voucher recipient or not.



So it's like money!

The voucher has real monetary value but it's not legal tender – meaning it can't be transferred to another person; neither can it be sold nor used to buy goods. The money value of the voucher is solely for the purpose of paying part of or your entire tuition fee when you enroll in a private or non-DepEd SHS.

In some cases, the voucher value may be enough to cover the full cost of SHS tuition and miscellaneous fees.

So it's like tuition money!



Yes, That's right!



How much is my voucher worth?

The full voucher value varies depending on the location of the school where it will be used. The full value of the voucher in the National Capital Region (NCR) is Php22,500; the full value of the voucher in highly-urbanized cities outside NCR is Php20,000; and the full value of the voucher in other cities and municipalities is Php17,500.

The monetary worth of your voucher depends on the location of the school you will enroll in and on the type of voucher recipient you are.

- Public Grade 10 Students get 100% of the voucher value
- Private Grade 10 Students who are ESC grantees get 80% of the voucher value
- Private Grade 10 completers who are not ESC grantees can also apply for vouchers worth 80% of the full voucher value

Whether you're a Grade 10 completer from a public High School or a Grade 10 completer from a private Junior High School, you get 50% of the voucher value if you enroll in a local or state college or university.

Your teacher or guidance counselor can help you compute your exact voucher value. The table below may also guide you.

Type of Student	National Capital Region (NCR)	Highly-Urbanized Cities outside NCR*	Other Cities and Municipalities
Public Grade 10 completer (100% of voucher value)	Php 22,500	Php 20,000	Php 17,500
Private Grade 10 completer (80% of voucher value)	Php 18,000	Php 16,000	Php 14,000
SHS enrollee in a local or state college or university, regardless if public or private completer (50% of voucher value)	Php 11,250	Php 10,000	Php 8,750

\*Per the Philippines Statistics Authority, the following are highly-urbanized cities: Angeles, Bacolod, Baguio, Butuan, Cagayan de Oro, Cebu City, Davao City, General Santos, Iligan, Iloilo City, Lapu-Lapu, Lucena, Marikina, Olongapo, Puerto Princesa, Tacloban and Zamboanga City.



## Does my voucher have an expiration date?

Your voucher is good for use only in the school year immediately following Grade 10. Even without a voucher, you may still enroll in SHS, and after one or two years of completing Junior High School. You may enroll in a public SHS school or a private or non-DepEd school at your own expense.

The voucher can be availed only for two successive school years; so if you fail the first year of SHS (Grade 11), your Grade 12 tuition will not be covered anymore.

## How do I get my voucher?



The monetary value will automatically be paid by DepEd to the SHS you enroll in.

Now that you know about the voucher, it's time to find out what to expect in SHS.





Define curriculum.

Curriculum refers to the knowledge and skills you are expected to learn. It includes the subjects you need to study and the competencies you need to have before graduation.

Tell me about the SHS Curriculum.



The SHS curriculum includes three (3) types of subjects:

- Core Subjects
- Applied Track Subjects
- Specialized Track Subjects

## SHS Curriculum Subjects

**Core Subjects**

There are 15 core subjects that all SHS students will take. Two of these are different if you are under the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) strand. These core subjects include Language, Humanities, Communication, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Philosophy, and PE and Health subjects.

**Applied Track Subjects**

These are subjects that develop the same competencies using different content based on your chosen track or strand.





**Specialized Track Subjects**

These are sets of subjects based on specific specializations. The content and competencies they cover differ based on the your chosen track or strand.

**Do I have to pick a track right away?**

Yes. Before entering SHS, you will need to choose a track. The Applied and Specialized Track Subjects you will take will depend on your chosen track. You can base your chosen track on what you're good at, what interests you, what you're passionate about, or the career or college course you want when you graduate.

By the way, two of the four tracks are further divided into strands. You will see in the table on the next page:

Track	Strand	Sample Subjects
 Academic	Accountancy, Business and Management (ABM)	Business Finance, Principles of Marketing
	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)	Basic Calculus, General Chemistry I
	Humanities and Social Sciences (HUMSS)	Creative Writing, Philippines Politics and Governance
	General Academic Strand (GAS)	Social Science 1, Applied Economics
 Sports		Human Movement, Sports Officiating and Activity Management
 Arts & Design		Developing Filipino Identity in the Arts, Leadership and Management in Different Arts Fields
Track	Strand	Sample Specializations
 Technical Vocational Livelihood (TVL) Track	Home Economics (HE)	Food and Beverage Services (NC II), Wellness Massage (NC II)
	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	Animation (NC II), Contact Center Services (NC II)

Track	Strand	Sample Specializations
 Technical Vocational Livelihood (TVL) Track	Agri-Fishery Arts	Animal Production (NC II), Crop Production (NC I)
	Industrial Arts	Consumer Electronics Servicing (NC II), Electrical Installation and Maintenance (NC II)

Why do some subjects sound like college courses?



Some of the subjects sound like college courses but they are meant for high school students. These subjects will prepare you to learn more advanced skills in college, if you decide to go. They will also develop skills you will need if you want to work right after high school.



I'm still not sure what track to take.

Your teachers, parents, and guidance counselors can help you choose your track. You can base your choice on your interests or aptitude. Your choice will also be affected by the schools that offer your chosen track.



## Why aren't all tracks available in all schools?

Schools decide which tracks to offer based on resources, population, or what the local community needs. It is possible that your chosen track may not be offered in your current high school.

If this is the case, you can go to another public school nearby. Or you may use your voucher to go to a private or non-DepEd school that has your chosen track. You can find a list of SHS in your area and the tracks they offer in the back pocket of this guidebook.



We hope that you found this guidebook useful. If you have more questions, don't hesitate to ask your teachers, guidance counselors, principals, or your division offices for information.

There are many people who will be willing to answer your questions about SHS. So, don't be afraid to ask.

We wish you luck as you enter SHS! Be good and do your best.

## My Notes

*My Track Choice:*

*Schools that Offer my Track choice:*

*My Voucher Value:*

## My Notes

## My Notes



## My Notes

# My Calendar

Month:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

# My Calendar

Month:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

# My Calendar

Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday



## Useful Links and Resources

DepEd website and social media accounts

[www.deped.gov.ph](http://www.deped.gov.ph)

[facebook.com/DepEd.Philippines](https://facebook.com/DepEd.Philippines)

[twitter.com/DepEd\\_PH](https://twitter.com/DepEd_PH)

[youtube.com/DepEdCommunications](https://youtube.com/DepEdCommunications)

For more information on K to 12 and Senior High School

[www.deped.gov.ph/k-to-12](http://www.deped.gov.ph/k-to-12)

Attached to the back of this guidebook is additional information particular to your area, including a list of nearby Senior High Schools and the tracks they offer. If you have received a copy of this guidebook without the information in the back pocket, contact your school or DepEd Schools Division Office.

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This guidebook is an initiative of TAYO para sa Edukasyon, a social brand created by and for DepEd which recognizes the multi-stakeholder nature of education in light of current reforms. It also serves as a call to action for stakeholders to actively support the K to 12 program by Standing Up for Education. More information about the campaign may be found at [www.deped.gov.ph/tayo-para-sa-edukasyon](http://www.deped.gov.ph/tayo-para-sa-edukasyon)

