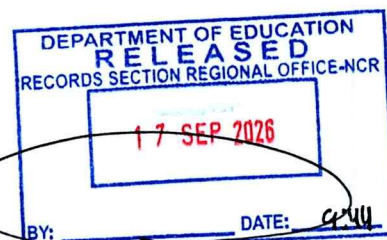




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION



15 September 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 749, s. 2026

To: Assistant Regional Director
Functional Division Chiefs
Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

**SECOND CALL FOR THE SUBMISSION OF 2026 BASIC RESEARCH PROPOSALS
FOR THE BASIC EDUCATION RESEARCH FUND (BERF)**

1. Pursuant to DepEd Order no. 16, s. 2017 titled "Research Management Guidelines," this Office, through the Policy, Planning and Research Division (PPRD), and the Regional Research Committee (RRC), announces the Second Call for the **Submission of 2026 Basic Research Proposals for the Basic Education Research Fund (BERF)**.

2. This aims to gather relevant research evidence responsive to selected priority concerns of the Region. Proposed Basic Research studies shall focus on the following areas:

- a. Academic Recovery and Accessible Learning (ARAL) Program;
- b. Strengthen Senior High School Curriculum; and
- c. School Violence.

The corresponding Regional Research Priority items and suggested research topics are provided in **Enclosure 1** of this Memorandum.

3. Each Schools Division Office is encouraged to submit **up to two (2) Basic Research proposals** aligned with the identified priority areas. The Regional Research Committee shall evaluate and rank all endorsed proposals, from which a **maximum of six (6) research** proposals may be approved for funding. Approval shall be based on the results of the evaluation and ranking shall **not be allocated on a per-division basis**.

4. Interested researchers shall use the prescribed **Basic Research Proposal Template** and other applicable BERF Forms and documentary requirements, which may be accessed through **bit.ly/NCRBERFForms** using their DepEd email account. Schools and Division Research Committees shall conduct the initial



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review and evaluation of proposals prior to endorsement and submission to the Regional Research Committee.

5. The **deadline for submission of research proposals is October 26, 2026**. Prior to submission, the research proposals shall have been reviewed and evaluated at the division level and uploaded by the Division Research Coordinators through the the **DepEd NCR Resesarch Portal at research.depedncr.com**. Uploading of research proposals by the Division Research Coordinators shall begin on **October 15, 2026** and shall close on **October 26, 2026**.

6. Approved Basic Research shall be implemented from **November 2026 to August 2027**, subject to the approved work plan, Memorandum of Agreement, and applicable BERF guidelines. Furthermore, the approved BERF 2026 grant of Jingle A. Lim, Regional Office – Field Technical Assistance Division, for the research entitled “Assessment of the Current Digitized Technical Assistance Tools and Templates: Basis for Enhancement,” as indicated in the Regional Memorandum No. 570, s. 2026, is hereby adjusted from Thirty-one thousand seven hundred pesos (P31,700.00) to One hundred forty-eight thousand five hundred pesos (P148,500.00). The adjustment was approved to fully support the face-to-face conduct of data gathering, in addition to the online administration of questionnaires.

7. For queries and clarifications, researchers may coordinate with their Division Research Coordinators or contact the Regional Research Coordinator through this email: research.ncr@deped.gov.ph.

8. Wide dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum is desired.

JOCELYN DR. ANDAYA

Regional Director, NCR
concurrent Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Operations

Encl.: as stated

References: DO 16, s. 2017 and RM 570, s. 2026

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
RESEARCH EDUCATION

PPRD/JAI – Second Call for the Submission of 2026 Basic Research Proposals for the Basic Education Research Fund (BERF)

September 15, 2026



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		5. Availability and adequacy of teachers, learning resources, facilities, partnerships, and other school-level requirements for effective delivery of the Strengthened SHS Curriculum
School Violence	P4.5 – Effectiveness of child protection, learners’ rights programs, anti-bullying initiatives, and safe school policies in ensuring holistic learner development	1. Prevalence, forms, causes, and emerging patterns of school violence, including bullying, physical assault, weapon-related incidents, and threats among learners 2. Factors associated with learners bringing knives, firearms, or other prohibited or dangerous objects into school, and the effectiveness of existing prevention and detection measures 3. Effectiveness and implementation of school security measures, including entrance screening, bag inspection, metal detectors, CCTV, security personnel, and coordination with law enforcement and local government units 4. Relationship between bullying, victimization, retaliation, peer conflict, and escalation to serious acts of violence in schools 5. Readiness and effectiveness of school prevention, reporting, response, referral, and crisis-management mechanisms for violent incidents and threats



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Enclosure 1

Suggested Research Topics

Focus Area	Regional Research Priority	Suggested Research Topics
Academic Recovery and Accessible Learning (ARAL) Program	P2.2 – Effectiveness of school-initiated interventions in improving learners' foundational skills	1. Effectiveness of ARAL interventions in improving learner performance in Reading, Mathematics, and Science 2. Effectiveness of different ARAL delivery approaches or intervention strategies 3. Readiness, practices, and support needs of ARAL tutors, teachers, and school implementers 4. Utilization and adequacy of ARAL learning resources and intervention materials
Academic Recovery and Accessible Learning (ARAL) Program	P2.3 – Impact of reading and numeracy programs on learners' academic performance and progression	1. Impact of ARAL Reading on learner performance and progression 2. Impact of ARAL Mathematics/Numeracy on learner performance and progression 3. Learner participation, attendance, completion, and academic recovery under ARAL 4. Factors associated with improved learner outcomes among ARAL participants
Academic Recovery and Accessible Learning (ARAL) Program	P2.5 – Alignment of curriculum implementation, assessment practices, and learning recovery initiatives with learners' foundational skills development	1. Assessment and identification of learners for ARAL participation 2. Progress monitoring and utilization of assessment results in ARAL implementation 3. Alignment of ARAL interventions with identified learner needs and foundational skills gaps 4. Challenges, implementation gaps, and enabling factors in the delivery of the ARAL Program
Strengthened Senior High School Curriculum	P2.5 – Alignment of curriculum implementation, assessment practices, and learning recovery initiatives with learners' foundational skills development	1. School readiness, implementation challenges, and support needs in the full implementation of the Strengthened Senior High School Curriculum 2. Teacher readiness, instructional practices, assessment practices, and professional development needs in implementing the Strengthened SHS Curriculum 3. Implementation of learner pathways, elective offerings, and course selection under the Strengthened SHS Curriculum and their alignment with learners' interests, abilities, and aspirations 4. Alignment of the Strengthened SHS Curriculum with higher education, employment, industry needs, work immersion, and workforce readiness