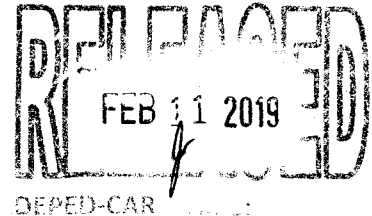




REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 055-2019



To: Schools Division Superintendents  
 All Divisions

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING OF SPECIAL PROGRAM IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE (SPFL) – MANDARIN AND EXPANSION OF SPECIAL PROGRAM IN JOURNALISM (SPJ) ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR LEVEL**

1. The Department of Education, Cordillera Administrative Region through the Curriculum and Learning Management Division has opened the submission of applications for the offering of Special Program in Foreign Language (SPFL) – Chinese Mandarin and the expansion of Special Program in Journalism (SPJ) – Elementary and Junior Level for the School Year 2019-2020.
2. Interested schools shall submit letter of intent to the office of the Regional Director duly endorsed by the Schools Division Superintendent together with the set of requirements stipulated in the attached policy guidelines in the offering of SPFL and SPJ.
3. Please take note of the following timelines:

Date	Activities to be undertaken
February 4-8, 2019	Conduct of school survey and need analysis
February 11-12, 2019	School Validation and assessment
February 13-14, 2019	Division assessment, validation and evaluation
February 15-18, 2019	Regional Assessment, validation and evaluation
February 21-22, 2019	Deadline of Submission of letter of intent /application to the Regional Office for appropriate action
February 25, 2019	Deadline for the submission of letter of intent from the Region to the Central Office, BCD
February 25, 2019 to March 22, 2019	SPJ timeline for the submission of letter of intent and endorsement to the office of the Regional Director for regional led accredited schools

4. For information and other concerns regarding the SPFL and SPJ programs, please contact the CLMD office with telephone# 422-7096 or the focal person, Mr. Patricio T. Dawaton through 09122451174.
5. Immediate dissemination of this memorandum is desired.

  
 MAY B. ECLAR, Ph.D.; CESO V  
 Regional Director

CLMD/EMF/ptd

Tracking Number:  
1549874753

**IMPLEMENTING POLICY GUIDELINES ON THE SPECIAL PROGRAM IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE (SPFL) AND EXPANSION OF SPECIAL PROGRAM IN JOURNALISM (SPJ)**

The Special Program in Foreign Language (SPFL) is designed to prepare graduates of secondary education for meaningful interaction in a linguistically and culturally diverse global workplace. It prepares students for a career, thus, schools are encouraged to orient students at the start of the school year on the job/career opportunities and degree programs that they can produce after Grade 12

With the call for the offering of Special Program in Foreign Language (SPFL)-Mandarin, the Department of Education (DepEd) through the Bureau of Curriculum Development (BCD), and its SPFL – Chinese Mandarin partner, the Confucius Institute of the Angeles University Foundation (CI\_AUF) have opened the application to offer the program to interested and qualified schools. SPFL-Spanish shall also be entertained and should submit requirements to the Central Office for recognition and accreditation by the sponsoring agency.

The following guidelines shall provide direction to the implementation of the program:

**A. Special Program in Foreign Language (Chinese-Mandarin)**

**1. Needs Assessment**

Interested schools must justify the need to offer Chinese Mandarin as a foreign language in their community. If possible, schools may show evidences through pictures of establishments and other landmarks related to Chinese culture in their community. Also included in the needs assessment that a number of students show interest in learning the language and understand how doing it will benefit them.

**2. Checklist of Compliance to:**

**a. Classroom Size**

Interested schools must have adequate instructional rooms that conform to the minimum standard for instructional spaces as stipulated in the manual of Educational Facilities.

**b. Criteria in the Selection of Teachers**

Teachers must be proficient of the language Chinese Mandarin and willing to attend training by the sponsoring institute.

**c. Criteria for students**

Admission is open to incoming Grade 7 learners who have obtained an average of at least 90% in English and Filipino and a general average of 88% and above, and who have passed the qualifying test and interview to be conducted by the school.

**d. Class Size**

Interested schools must ensure that there be a maximum of 35 learners in an SPFL class.

**e. Availability of Resources and Learning Materials**

Interested schools must ensure the availability of sufficient and various learning materials designed to meet the specific needs of diverse learners.

**f. SPFL Subjects**

As per DO 46, s. 2012 and as clarified by DepEd Memorandum dated June 25, 2014 the following guidelines shall apply:

**1. For Science High Schools**

SPFL subjects shall remain to be treated as an elective, hence, shall Not carry any credit units; can be offered as an elective in any of the Following grade levels: 7 to 10, with the objective of making the Students pass A1 level of proficiency for Spanish and Youth Chinese Test (YCT) for Chinese Mandarin, ie., should the student opt to take an

International language proficiency examination at the end of junior high School.

2. For regular high schools:  
SPFL subjects shall remain to be part of the career pathways and can take the place of Technology and Livelihood Education (TLE) of the core curriculum (See DepED Orders 31 and 46, s. 2012)
3. Foreign Language shall be taught at a minimum of two hours to four hours a week.
4. Letter of Intent duly signed and endorsed by the Regional Director to offer SPFL. Only the schools duly accredited by the BCD shall offer SPFL.

**B. Guidelines in the Selection of Schools and Teachers (Elementary and Junior High School),** Enclosure to DepED Memo No. 103, s. 2009

The Special Program in Journalism (SPJ) is developed to enrich the experiences, hone the journalistic skills and competencies of student – writers and to strengthen free and responsible journalism.

1. Admission Requirement:
  - a. Letter of intent by the School Head/Principal to offer SPJ program to the Schools Division Superintendent. Then SDS will make an endorsement to the Regional Director for an appropriate action
  - b. Admission is open to incoming Grade 7 junior high school learners who have obtained an average of at least 88% in English and Filipino and a general average of 85% and above in Grade six, who exhibited talent in journalism and who have passed the qualifying test and an interview to be conducted by the school.
2. For the selection of Teachers:
  - a. In the elementary level, the teacher handling the Special Program in Journalism (SPJ) is teaching English or Filipino; for the junior level, he/she should be at least graduate of Bachelor of Secondary Education, major in English/Filipino.
  - b. He/she should have at least 2-year experience as journalism teacher or as a school paper adviser
  - c. He/she should be computer literate and should be willing to undergo trainings
3. For the selection of schools:
  - a. The school has at least 30 students in Grade 7 who have talents or have shown great interest in journalism
  - b. The school should have separate classroom for the program, equipped with the following: Software (e.g. adobe PageMaker, Adobe Photoshop, Publisher, word for windows, courseware in journalism, at least 10 computer units with internet connection, printer with scanner, modem, CD Writer, Camera with tripod, video recorder, air-conditioning unit, steel file cabinet, display boards, chairs, tables, photocopier, TV set, LCD projector, tripod stand projector screen.