Republic of the Philippines
Province of Laguna
Municipality of Los Baños
Special Science and Nature City
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN
2/F, Municipal Building, National Highway, Brgy. Timugan, Los Baños, Laguna, 4030
Tel. Nos. : (049) 530 2981; 530 2952; 530 2953; 530 2818 Local: 2001

BAGONG PILIPINAS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-SIXTH (56th) REGULAR SESSION OF THE 12TH SANGGUNIANG BAYAN HELD ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2026 AT THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN SESSION HALL, NATIONAL HIGHWAY, BRGY. TIMUGAN, LOS BAÑOS, LAGUNA.

PRESENT:

Hon. Marlo PJ A. Alipon	Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer
Hon. Aldous Amiel B. Perez	S.B. Member
Hon. Muriel Laisa B. Dizon	S.B. Member
Hon. Benedicto S. Alborida	S.B. Member
Hon. Rand Edouard R. De Jesus	S.B. Member
Hon. Myla E. Alinsunurin	S.B. Member
Hon. Jay G. Rolusta	S.B. Member
Hon. Samantha Nicole A. Banasihan-Ortega	Ex-Officio Member/SK Federation President

ABSENT:

Hon. Miko C. Pelegrina	S.B. Member, Sick-Leave
Hon. Leren Mae M. Bautista	S.B. Member, O.B.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-2525

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE "DOKTOR PARA SA BAYAN – LOS BAÑOS" SCHOLARSHIP AND BALIK-SERBISYO PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO DESERVING LOS BAÑOS RESIDENTS PURSUING A DEGREE IN MEDICINE OR OTHER ALLIED HEALTH PROFRAM, IN EXCHANGE FOR RETURN SERVICE TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF LOS BAÑOS

Author : Councilor Muriel Laisa B. Dizon

Co-Author : Councilor Jay G. Rolusta

WHEREAS, Section 13, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution declares that the State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being;

WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution affirms that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Section 17 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, mandates local government units to provide basic services and facilities, including health services and scholarship programs for deserving students as part of their devolved functions;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11223, otherwise known as the Universal Health Care Act, recognizes the importance of developing and strengthening human resources for health and ensuring the availability of healthcare professionals;

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Los Baños recognizes the importance of investing in deserving residents pursuing the degree of Doctor of Medicine in order to develop competent, community-oriented, and socially responsible physicians;

WHEREAS, there is a need to encourage and support qualified residents of Los Baños who aspire to become physicians while strengthening the pool of medical professionals who may render professional services to the local community;

WHEREAS, the Municipality recognizes the importance of establishing a sustainable Balik-Serbisyo Program to enable beneficiaries of municipal assistance to contribute their professional knowledge, skills, and services to the people of Los Baños;

NOW THEREFORE, on motion of Councilor Muriel Laisa B. Dizon duly seconded by Councilor and approved by all the Councilors present;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF LOS BAÑOS, LAGUNA, in session assembled, **THAT:**

SECTION 1. **TITLE.** This Ordinance shall be known as the **"Doktor Para sa Bayan - Los Baños Scholarship and Balik-Serbisyo Ordinance of 2026."**

SECTION 2. **DECLARATION OF POLICY.** It is hereby declared the policy of the Municipality of Los Baños to promote access to medical education among deserving and qualified residents and to encourage the development of future physicians who are committed to public service and community healthcare.

Towards this end, the Municipality shall establish the **Doktor Para sa Bayan – Los Baños Scholarship and Balik-Serbisyo Program**, which shall provide financial assistance to qualified residents pursuing degrees related in medicine and other allied health service, subject to the terms and conditions provided under this Ordinance.

The Program shall likewise institutionalize a Balik-Serbisyo mechanism through which scholars may render professional and health-related services to the Municipality of Los Baños in recognition of the assistance received under the Program.

SECTION 3. **OBJECTIVES.** This Ordinance aims to:

a. Provide financial assistance to qualified and deserving residents of Los Baños pursuing a degree related in medicine and other allied health service;
b. Encourage deserving residents, particularly those from financially disadvantaged households, to pursue medical education;
c. Develop future physicians who are committed to public service and community healthcare;
d. Institutionalize a Balik-Serbisyo Program through which scholars may render professional medical and health-related services to the Municipality;
e. Strengthen municipal health programs and services through the participation of qualified medical professionals;
f. Promote equitable access to medical education; and
g. Ensure accountability and proper utilization of public funds through clear qualifications, obligations, limitations, and penalties.

SECTION 4. **DEFINITION OF TERMS.** For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

a. **Scholar** – A qualified resident of Los Baños who has been selected to receive financial assistance under this Ordinance.
b. **Balik-Serbisyo Program** – The return service obligation of a scholar, measured in equivalent hours of service and rendered through approved medical, health, or community service activities for the benefit of the Municipality of Los Baños.
c. **Scholarship Stipend** – Financial assistance in the amount of **Two Thousand Pesos (₱2,000.00) per month**, computed annually and released at the beginning of the applicable school year.
d. **Scholarship and Balik-Serbisyo Agreement** – A legally binding agreement executed between the scholar and the Municipality of Los Baños specifying the benefits, obligations, service requirements, and liabilities of the scholar under this Ordinance.
e. **Municipal Health System** – The health facilities, offices, programs, activities, and services operated, administered, supported, or organized by the Local Government Unit of Los Baños, including its municipal health programs and community healthcare initiatives.
f. **Health Scholarship Selection Committee or HSSC** – The body created under this Ordinance responsible for the selection, monitoring, evaluation, and administration of the Scholarship Program.

SECTION 5. **COVERAGE AND BENEFITS.**

a. Qualified scholars shall receive a Scholarship Stipend equivalent to **Two Thousand Pesos (₱2,000.00) per month**.

b. The total annual equivalent of the Scholarship Stipend shall be released to the scholar **at the beginning of the school year**, subject to the submission of proof of enrollment and continued compliance with the requirements of this Ordinance.
c. The scholarship assistance shall be granted only for the prescribed duration of the degree program as reflected in the scholar's submitted plan of study, subject to the continued availability of funds and appropriations and the scholar's compliance with the requirements of this Ordinance.
d. The Municipality shall initially select **two (2) qualified scholars every year**.
e. **Two (2) additional scholarship slots shall be added for every succeeding year**, thereby progressively expanding the number of beneficiaries under the Program, subject to the availability of appropriated funds.
f. The assistance provided under this Ordinance shall supplement and shall not automatically replace other lawful educational assistance programs of the Municipality, subject to the rules governing the simultaneous receipt of scholarships or financial assistance.
g. Scholars who fail to maintain the academic and other requirements prescribed under this Ordinance may have their scholarship benefits suspended or terminated after due evaluation by the Health Scholarship Selection Committee.

SECTION 6. QUALIFICATIONS. Applicants must:

a. Be a Filipino citizen and a bona fide resident of Los Baños;
b. Be of good moral character;
c. Have been accepted or enrolled in a duly recognized and accredited medical school offering degrees related in medicine and other allied health service;
d. Not be a recipient of another full scholarship program that prohibits the simultaneous receipt of financial assistance from the Local Government Unit;
e. Execute a notarized Scholarship and Balik-Serbisyo Agreement prior to the release of scholarship benefits;
f. Maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the duration of the scholarship and must not incur any failing grade in any subject, unless otherwise justified and approved by the Health Scholarship Selection Committee; and
g. Comply with such other reasonable requirements as may be prescribed in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. SELECTION AND PRIORITIZATION.

A Health Scholarship Selection Committee (HSSC) is hereby created, composed of the following:

a. Chairperson - Municipal Mayor;
b. Vice Chairperson - Municipal Health Officer;
c. Members:
   - Sangguniang Kabataan Federation President
   - Chairperson of the Sangguniang Bayan Committee on Health, Nutrition, and Sanitation
   - Chairperson of the Sangguniang Bayan Committee on Education
   - Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer
   - Local Youth Development Officer
   - Municipal Budget Officer
   - One (1) representative from a recognized medical or academic institution – Advisory Member, non-voting.

The Committee shall select qualified scholars based on the following criteria:

a. Academic performance and aptitude for medical education;
b. Socio-economic status, with priority given to applicants belonging to low-income households, indigent families, solo-parent households, or other financially disadvantaged sectors, as assessed by the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office;
c. Demonstrated commitment to public service and community healthcare;
d. Geographic representation among barangays, when practicable, to promote equitable access to the Program; and
e. Potential contribution to the healthcare needs and development of the Municipality of Los Baños.

The HSSC shall establish the appropriate screening, evaluation, ranking, and selection procedures, consistent with the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 8. BALIK-SERBISYO OR RETURN SERVICE OBLIGATION.

a. Every scholar under this Ordinance shall render return service to the Municipality of Los Baños after obtaining the degree of Doctor of Medicine and securing the necessary professional license.
b. The Balik-Serbisyo obligation shall be measured in **equivalent hours of service**.
c. The required number of hours to be rendered by each scholar shall be determined by the Health Scholarship Selection Committee and shall be clearly stipulated in the Scholarship and Balik-Serbisyo Agreement.

d. In determining the required service hours, the HSSC may consider the duration and amount of scholarship assistance received, the needs of the Municipal Health System, the nature of the professional services to be rendered, and other relevant circumstances.
e. Return service may be rendered in any of the following forms:
    - Provision of medical consultations and other professional medical services to residents of Los Baños;
    - Participation and professional engagement in medical missions conducted, organized, or supported by the Municipality of Los Baños;
    - Participation in municipal health outreach activities, public health programs, and community healthcare initiatives;
    - Rendering professional services in municipal health programs and other health facilities, offices, or programs operated or supported by the Local Government Unit of Los Baños; and
    - Such other medical, professional, or health-related services as may be approved by the HSSC and the appropriate office of the Municipal Government.
f. The appropriate municipal office, in coordination with the HSSC, shall monitor, document, and certify the completion of the required Balik-Serbisyo hours.
g. During the period of scholarship, scholars may be encouraged to participate in municipal medical missions, health outreach activities, vaccination drives, community healthcare programs, and other related public health initiatives, provided that such participation shall not unreasonably interfere with their academic obligations.

SECTION 9. WAIVER OF BALIK-SERBISYO OBLIGATION UPON EMPLOYMENT WITH THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

A scholar who, after obtaining the necessary professional qualifications, enters into employment with the **Local Government Unit of Los Baños** shall be exempt from the separate Balik-Serbisyo obligation provided under Section 8 of this Ordinance.

The scholar's actual professional service through employment with the Municipal Government shall be deemed fulfillment of the purpose of the Balik-Serbisyo Program, as such employment constitutes direct service to the Municipality and its constituents.

The recognition of employment with the Local Government Unit as fulfillment of the return service obligation shall be subject to the terms and conditions provided in the Scholarship and Balik-Serbisyo Agreement and the Implementing Rules and Regulations.

SECTION 10. PENALTIES AND LIABILITY. A scholar may be required to refund the financial assistance received under this Ordinance, subject to the terms of the Scholarship and Balik-Serbisyo Agreement, under any of the following circumstances:

a. Voluntary withdrawal from the Scholarship Program without valid or justifiable reason;
b. Failure to complete the degree program due to negligence, misconduct, or unjustified abandonment;
c. Unjustified refusal or failure to render the required Balik-Serbisyo obligation, unless such obligation has been waived pursuant to Section 9 of this Ordinance;
d. Failure to comply with the material terms and conditions of the Scholarship and Balik-Serbisyo Agreement; or
e. Submission of fraudulent documents or material misrepresentation during the application or participation in the Program.

The Municipality may further impose the following sanctions, when applicable:

a. Disqualification from future scholarship or educational assistance programs of the Municipality;
b. Civil action for the recovery of amounts lawfully due to the Municipality; and
c. Such other legal or administrative action as may be authorized under existing laws, rules, and regulations.

Repayment obligations may be waived or reduced upon recommendation of the HSSC and approval by the appropriate authority of the Municipality in cases involving:

a. Serious illness or permanent disability;
b. Death of the scholar;
c. Fortuitous events or force majeure; or
d. Other meritorious circumstances recognized by the Municipality.

SECTION 11. LIMITATION OF BENEFITS AND AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.

The grant and continuation of assistance under this Ordinance shall at all times be subject to:

a. Availability of municipal funds;
b. Annual appropriations duly approved by the Sangguniang Bayan;
c. Compliance with applicable government budgeting, accounting, auditing, and procurement rules, when applicable;
d. Continued compliance by the scholar with the qualifications and requirements of the Program; and
e. The availability of scholarship slots under the annual implementation of the Program.

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed as creating an absolute obligation on the part of the Municipality to provide scholarship assistance beyond funds duly appropriated and made available for the Program.

The Municipality may suspend the acceptance of new scholars when funds are insufficient to sustain the Program, without prejudice to existing obligations that may lawfully be due to current scholars.

SECTION 12. FUNDING. The Program shall be funded through:

a. Annual appropriations from the Municipal General Fund;
b. Grants, donations, and lawful contributions;
c. National government support programs;
d. Partnerships with government agencies, educational institutions, and other lawful entities; and
e. Other lawful funding sources authorized by the Municipality.

The Municipality may establish a separate account or fund for the Program, subject to applicable government budgeting, accounting, and auditing laws, rules, and regulations.

SECTION 13. MONITORING AND EVALUATION.

The Health Scholarship Selection Committee shall:

a. Monitor the academic performance and compliance of scholars;
b. Conduct periodic evaluations of scholars and the implementation of the Program;
c. Coordinate with the appropriate municipal offices regarding Balik-Serbisyo assignments and activities;
d. Monitor and document the fulfillment of return service obligations;
e. Evaluate requests for exemption, waiver, suspension, or other appropriate action under this Ordinance; and
f. Submit periodic reports and recommendations to the Sangguniang Bayan regarding the implementation, status, utilization of funds, and continuing development of the Program.

SECTION 14. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The Office of the Municipal Mayor, in coordination with the Health Scholarship Selection Committee and other concerned municipal offices, shall promulgate the Implementing Rules and Regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Ordinance within sixty (60) days from its effectivity.

The Implementing Rules and Regulations shall include, among others, procedures for application and selection, release of scholarship assistance, monitoring of academic performance, determination and documentation of Balik-Serbisyo hours, and the recognition of employment with the Local Government Unit as fulfillment of the return service obligation

SECTION 15. **SEPARABILITY AND REPEALING CLAUSE.** If any provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional, invalid, or otherwise ineffective, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

All ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, and other issuances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 16. **EFFECTIVITY.** This Ordinance shall take effect after compliance with the publication and posting requirements provided under applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

ENACTED : September 7, 2026

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the above-quoted Ordinance.

DONA T. ALBORIDA - DIZON
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

CERTIFIED ENACTED:

HON. MARLO PJ A. ALIPON, MPA, REE, RMP
Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

HON. NEIL ANDREW N. NOCON
Municipal Mayor