



IMPLEMENTATION OF OVERSEAS WORKERS WELFARE ADMINISTRATION SCHOLARSHIP FOR DEPENDENT PROGRAMS IN COTABATO CITY

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Abstract

The study determined the implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs in Cotabato City using the quantitative and qualitative research design to the 100 selected beneficiaries of the scholarships from two universities for calendar year 2023. The study revealed that the level of implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs from the school year 2020 to 2023 in terms of: qualification and requirements were Very high, but the benefits was rated as high. The level of strategies on the implementation of OWWA scholarship for dependent programs in terms of monitoring and evaluation were rated Very high. The level of attainment of the objectives of OWWA scholarship for dependent programs in terms of meet educational needs was rated high while the access to quality education was rated Very high. The most common problem is the compliance to requirements since many of the recipients have difficulty in submitting documents like their birth certificates. On the hand, the passing grades become one of the factors affecting the continuity of the scholarship program. The study concludes that the OWWA scholarship for dependent of OFW had been very helpful to the attainment of educational degrees. Despite of difficult requirements needed, still it is highly beneficial to the family of OFW.

Keywords: Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), Scholarship for Dependent Program, Cotabato City

INTRODUCTION

Today, all over the world education expenses is getting more expensive as changes in education system evolves with society needs. The function of scholarships in higher education is to make tuition fee affordable specially to those needy and deserving students. In these circumstances scholarship proves a blessing for the needy students for providing access to quality education and meet their educational needs (Habiba & Liaqat, 2022).

In the Philippines, more than one half of the students enrolled in college are coming from middle and low income family (PSA, 2019). Scholarship is a grant of financial aid for the students to attain their further education. Scholarships are assigned to the

students on the basis of different criteria. Recently, the Philippine government issued the Republic Act 10022, to provide financial support for children of Overseas Filipino Workers to have access to quality education (OWWA, 2021).

In the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, as the region with highest poverty rate and with high OFW statistic, the provision of scholarship grants to the dependent of the OFW is deemed to help alleviate poverty and provide better opportunity for this dependents. Given this reason, the researcher is motivated to conduct this study. The results can describe how the scholarship is implemented, what strategies are used to attain the objectives of the program for this can be a basis for policy development and recommendations.

Review of Related Literature

The following related literature and studies support the variable under investigation.

OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs

According to International Organization for Migration 2022, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) is an attached agency of the Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE) created in 1977. Is it the lead government agency tasked to protect and promote the welfare and well-being of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and their dependents. It is present in 31 overseas posts in 27 countries. It also has its regional presence in seventeen regions. The OWWA is a membership institution. For a US\$25.00 membership contribution, an OWWA member is entitled to various benefits and services. Membership can be obtained by enrolment upon processing of a contract at the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) or by voluntary registration of a would-be member at job sites overseas. OWWA membership, either through the compulsory or voluntary coverages, shall be effective upon payment of membership contribution up until expiration of the employment contract. The member is covered for a maximum of two years after which the membership has to be renewed.

OWWA offers core and secondary services. Core programs include a repatriation program, health and life insurance, and worker assistance for settling work-related disputes and fraud. OWWA is also mandated to maintain an Emergency Repatriation Fund to evacuate OFWs in case of wars, disasters, or epidemics. It also provides members with life and personal accident insurance while abroad. Additionally, OWWA offers programs and services in its offices abroad, including counselling for distressed workers, paralegal services, and low-key diplomatic initiatives. Secondary services help migrants, before and after departure, and the families left behind. These include education and training, reintegration programs, and pre-departure loans to defray the cost of pre-departure requirements; family assistance loans for emergency purposes; livelihood loans to improve access to entrepreneurial development opportunities upon the migrants' return.

Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) is an attached agency of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

It was formerly known as Welfare and Training Fund for Overseas Workers (Welfare-Fund), created through Letter of Instruction No.537 issued on May 1, 1977. The Welfare- Fund was institutionalized by the promulgation of Presidential Decree No. 1809 dated January 16, 1981.

It was administered by a Secretariat and began operation on May 4, 1982. Executive Order 126 issued on January 30, 1987 renamed the Welfare Fund as OWWA. On May 10, 2012, Republic Act No. 10801, otherwise known as "An Act Governing the Operations and Administration of the OWWA" was issued. This was implemented by Resolution No. 015, Series of 2016, dated November 16, 2016 issued by OWWA Board of Trustees.

OWWA is the government welfare institution that protects and promotes the interest of members-Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW). It develops and implements responsive programs and services for the social protection of its members.

With a membership fee of US \$25.00, an OFW is entitled to the following programs benefits and services:

1. *Social Benefits* which is composed of Disability and Dismemberment Benefit, Death Benefit, and Burial benefit;

2. *Education and Training Benefits/Assistance* divided into two, the Pre-Departure Education Program (PDEP) a mandatory orientation/training for all departing OFW'S composed of Country Specific Pre-Departure Orientation Seminar ((PDEP) and Comprehensive Pre-Departure Education Program (CPDEP); Scholarship, Training and Incentive Programs which is composed of A. Scholarship and Incentive Programs for OFWs/Seafarers; B. Scholarships for Dependents; and C. Short-Term Training Programs for OFW's and dependents composed of Skills-for-Employment Scholarship Program (SESP) and Information Technology Program. *Workers Welfare Assistance Program* composed of On-Site Welfare Case Management and In -Country Welfare Case Management. *Reintegration Program* composed of Reintegration Preparedness (On-Site) and Reintegration (In-Country). It is in the context that the researcher is challenge to conduct study along this line for the hope that she can contribute knowledge and skills for the development, improvement and management of OWWA in the implementation of their programs.

3.

Brief History of Overseas Workers Welfare Administration

Per Letter of Instruction (LOI) No. 537A "Welfare and Training Fund For Overseas Workers" was created on 01 May 1977 in the Department of Labor through a Letter of Instruction (LOI) No. 537 signed by President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

President Ferdinand E. Marcos signed a Presidential Decree (PD) No. 1694 on 01 May 1980, formalizing the LOI No. 537, which created the Welfare and Training Fund for Overseas Workers, into Welfare Fund for Overseas Workers or referred to as Welfund.

On 16 January 1981, President Ferdinand E. Marcos signed PD No. 1809 amending certain provisions of the PD No. 1694.

President Corazon C. Aquino signed an Executive Order No. 126 on 30 January 1987 reorganizing the Ministry of Labor and Employment and for other purposes. Under Section XIX. Attached Agencies, item f., the Welfare Fund for Overseas Workers Administration or Welfund was renamed into Overseas Workers Welfare Administration.

President Fidel V. Ramos signed an Executive Order No. 195 on 13 August 1994 providing Medical Care (MEDICARE) Program for Filipino overseas workers and their dependents.

Republic Act 8042 or known as the "Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995" was approved by President Fidel V. Ramos on June 7, 1995. This Act strengthened OWWA's mandate and services for OFWs and their dependents and expanded the composition of the Board of Trustees.

OWWA Board of Trustees passed a Resolution No. 038 on 19 September 2003 instituting the Omnibus Policies of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration.

RA 7111 an Act establishing the Overseas Workers' Investment Fund to provide incentives to overseas workers, reduce the foreign debt burden, and for other purposes was approved by President Corazon C. Aquino on 22 August 1991.

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo signed an Executive Order No. 446 on 12 July 2005 tasking the Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment to oversee and coordinate the implementation of various initiatives for OFWs.

Brief History of Philippine Overseas Employment Administration

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration or POEA is the government agency, which is responsible for optimizing the benefits of the country's overseas employment program.

This agency was created in 1982 through Executive Order 797 to promote and to monitor the overseas employment of Filipino workers.

In 1987, through Executive Order 247, POEA was reorganized to include the following expanded functions:

To respond to changing markets and economic condition; and to strengthen the workers protection and regulatory components of the overseas employment program .POEA is also the lead government agency tasked to monitor and supervise all recruitment agencies in the Philippines.

METHODS

This researcher used the quantitative with qualitative method of research. This design is a systematic method of gathering data through survey and interview to explain existing phenomena (Cenas, 2019). This method was used since the inquiry involves the description of the level of implementation, strategies and attainment of the objectives of the OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs from school year 2020-2023 as the quantitative method, and the problems

encountered in the implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs as the qualitative aspect.

This study was conducted in two higher education institutions beneficiaries of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs in Cotabato City, BARMM namely: Cotabato State University and Notre Dame University.

The respondents of this study were the 100 selected beneficiaries of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs from school year 2020-2023 currently enrolled from the selected universities.

The researcher used the stratified random sampling technique which belongs to probability sampling method. This was done by selecting respondents from strata which are the universities where the students were be selected. Then using Raosoft calculator, the sample size was determined and they were selected randomly from the population.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Level of Implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs from the school year 2020 to 2023 in terms of Qualification

Table 1 presents the level of implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs from the school year 2020 to 2023 in terms of:

qualification with a grand mean of 3.62 rated as very high . This means that the selection of scholarship beneficiaries are based on qualification. The strict compliance to the guidelines is observed.

Similar view was shown by Omeje, et al (2015) who explained that selection of scholarship is based on qualification. The screening for the right beneficiary is important for the sustainability of finishing the program is very vital. There are many applicants and those qualified are the priority.

The highest among the answers revealed that majority of the applicant are non recipient of any government scholarship that got the mean of 3.83 interpreted as very high. This result means that the selection for beneficiary for those deserving individual is important to be followed. According to informant 1 the overlapping of scholarship grant is not allowed, thus, they are compliant with it.

In the study of Cagasan et al (2019) explained that it was highlighted that one guidelines of selection criteria for recipient is that the student must never been a recipient of scholarship. This is a form of help to a student to have access education specially those deserving of it who fits the criteria.

Table 1

Mean Rating on the Level of Implementation of OWWA Scholarship for
Dependent Programs from the school year 2020 to 2023 in terms of
Qualification
n=100

A. Qualification	Mean	Interpretation
The applicant is ...		
1. not more than 20 years old for freshmen and 30 years old for those enrolled already.	3.58	Very high
2. a high school graduate or part of the graduating class.	3.57	Very high
3. physically, mentally and morally fit.	3.60	Very high
4. a passer of entrance exam.	3.52	Very high
5. a non recipient of any government scholarship.	3.83	Very high
OVERALL MEAN	3.62	Very high

Range of Means

3.50-4.00	Very high
2.50-3.49	Agree
1.50-2.49	Low
1.00-1.49	Very low

Meanwhile, the respondents gave the lowest rating to item about the guidelines that a passer of entrance exam is needed that got the mean of 3.52 interpreted as Very high. This result reflects the common criteria of many scholarship grants to ensure students are studying well and deserving which is grade based.

According to Cosentino, et al (2019) most of scholarship grants have entrance exams. This serves as a yardstick to ensure the grant will be used of the deserving students. The grades reflect the student is academically qualified.

Level of Implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs from the school year 2020 to 2023 in terms of Requirements

Table 2 shows the level of implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs from the school year 2020 to 2023 in terms of: requirements with a overall mean of 3.58 rated as Very high. This means the applicants are required to submit certain documents as part of the requirements. These documents can help validate the person applying and serves as legal support.

According to Graham & Sriram (2017) requirements are one of the important aspect before availing any scholarship grants. This serves as support documents to ensure the person who is going to received the grant is authentic. This is basic part of any scholastic programs and scholarship grants.

The respondents gave the highest rating to submission of duly accomplished application form that got a mean of 4.00 interpreted as Very high. This means that all of the applicants had submitted an application form. This is a form that provides basic information about the applicant and their intention to apply and become a recipient.

In the study of Reyes (2019) it was explained that submission of application form is the primary requirements for scholarship grants. This is one way of determining if the person has the right skills and competency for the said grants or scholarship program.

Table 2
Mean Rating on the Level of Implementation of OWWA Scholarship
for Dependent Programs from the school year 2020 to 2023 in terms
of:
Requirements
n=100

B. Requirements	Mean	Interpretation
1. Duly accomplished application form.	4.00	Very high
2. Submits 2 copies of recent 2x2 ID picture.		
3. Submits birth certificate of the applicant.	3.87	Very high
4. Submits form 137 for fresh graduate or grades for enrolled.	3.80	Very high
5. Submits health certificate.	3.82	Very high
	2.43	Low
OVERALL MEAN	3.58	Very high
Range of Means		
3.50-4.00	Very high	
2.50-3.49	High	
1.50-2.49	Low	
1.00-1.49	Very low	

However, they low about the need for submission of health certificate with a mean of 2.43. This is explained by informant 2 who said this is not anymore required only the grades were asked.

In the report of MBHTE (2022) the health certificates for scholarship grants were not included in the requirements. The grant they are providing is also given even to those with fragile health condition. The health certificate may disqualify those people with illness who are needing support to access education.

Level of Implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs from the school year 2020 to 2023 in terms of Benefits

Table 3 reveals the level of implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs from the school year 2020 to 2023 in terms of: benefits with a grand mean of 3.30 rated as agree. This result denotes that the scholarship grant had helped in providing different forms of assistance to the children of OFW. This can help in lightening the burden of the parents in educational support for their children.

According to OWWA (2020) there are identified support and assistance to the scholarship programs. It included financial and other forms of support. This is designed to help the family provide quality education for their children as a support from government.

The respondents very high that they experienced free tuition for state universities that got a mean of 4.00. This means that the scholarship allows students to access free tuition which is helpful since tuition for education nowadays are expensive.

According to Informant 5 mostly of scholarships grants are provided to state universities, and it is usually free of tuition. This means the scholarship grant is financially helpful.

This idea matches the conclusion of Mayer (2017) who explained that scholarships provide free tuition. This means enrolling in higher education that has quality services. The state mandates for a support to provide free education to the citizens as part of social mandates of the state.

Table 3
Mean Rating on the Level of Implementation of OWWA Scholarship
for Dependent Programs from the school year 2020 to 2023 in
terms of: Benefits
n=100

Item	Mean	Interpretation
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Item	Mean	Interpretation
1. Monetary assistance of 10,000 per semester.	3.68	Very high
2. Maximum financial assistance of 20,000 per semester.	3.47	High
3. Free tuition for state universities.		
4. May enroll to any course of their choice.	4.00	Very high
5. May be given referral for work after graduation.	2.32	Low
	3.03	High
OVERALL MEAN	3.30	High
Range of Means		
3.50-4.00	Very high	
2.50-3.49	High	
1.50-2.49	Low	
1.00-1.49	Very low	

On the hand, they high that they may enroll to any course of their choice that got the lowest mean of 2.32. This means that there were selected courses only open for scholarship grants. The prioritized courses of the agency are the means of selection for students.

In CHED (2018) guidelines there prioritized courses that has available scholarship grants. Not all courses were funded to have scholarship support. It is based on the demand in the industry.

Level of Strategies on the Implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs in terms of Monitoring

As shown in Table 4 the level of strategies on the implementation of OWWA scholarship for dependent programs in terms of monitoring that got an overall mean of 3.44 interpreted as high . This result manifest the effort of the government officials to kept track on the status of the students who are under the scholarship program. This can be a source of valuable data to provide assistance in those students that needs help or having difficulties.

In the study of Beulah (2020) it was explained that progress monitoring in the lens of learning, specifically for those students qualifying for scholarship grants is vital for it provides information on how they are doing in the program. This can be a means to let them know they have to work hard for this grant entails effort for them to abide and study well and not to be wasted.

The respondents very highly that the officers checks students performance in class that got the highest mean of 3.67. This

show that the officials are conforming with guidelines in their implementation the scholarship programs of monitoring students performances. The students are required to submit grades every semester to see their performances.

In the study of Wesley (2017) expounded that monitoring is an important tool for learning achievements. This can be a means to gather facts how students are adjusting and coping with the subjects during their studies. This is often used as a means to determine difficulties to help them cope with it.

But, on the statement about asking report for students attitude in the school it got a mean of 3.28 interpreted as high. This means that there were efforts to get in contact with teachers about the attitude of students. However, Informant 4 explained that often the basis for monitoring them is the grade wherein attitude of students were reflected on it.

In the work of Nunes, et al (2018) put emphasis on the need for monitoring the attitude of students as part of learning development progress. The attitude is a vital component that affects learning interest. This can be a good aspect of connecting performance to learning activities. The plans to be designed for students to succeed in their education must include it as basis.

Table 4
Mean Rating on the Level of Strategies on the Implementation of
OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs in terms of Monitoring
n=100

A. Monitoring	Mean	Interpretation
1. Ask report for students attitude in the school.	3.28	High
2. Checks students performance in class.		
3. Ask students on their situations in schooling.	3.67	Very high
4. Ask parents participation in children schooling.		
5. Checks students attendance in classes.	3.50	Very high
	3.32	High
	3.43	High
OVERALL MEAN	3.44	High
Range of Means		
3.50-4.00	Very high	
2.50-3.49	High	
1.50-2.49	Low	
1.00-1.49	Very low	

Level of Strategies on the Implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs in terms of Evaluation

Table 5 reveals the level of strategies on the implementation of OWWA scholarship for dependent programs in terms of evaluation that got an overall mean of 3.58 interpreted as very high. This means that data were gathered to check if the scholarship program is attaining its objectives and is compliant with the guidelines.

This high with Williams (2017) who explained the essence of evaluation in education programs. This can be a means to gather facts how the students are learning and improving. This serves as basis for determining the effectiveness and usefulness of education programs implemented.

Similarly, they gave the highest rating to getting of grades of students with a mean of 3.88 interpreted as very high. This means that the grades of the students were part of indicators needed to ensure they are doing good in their studies. The passing grades of the students reflects their performances in the course they take.

This is similar to the study of Prijayanti, et al (2019) it was mentioned that evaluation is a means to generate feedback describing the achievements of students. This is a means of determining the success of the students in a given subject. This is often the basis for students to continue their course and to climb to higher level.

However, the gathering of data on progress of students after graduation got the lowest mean of 3.32 interpreted as high. This means that there are actions about tracers of how the scholars have been after graduation. This supports the benefits of the scholarship to the community.

According to OWWA (2020) they are having a list of the employment opportunities of their graduates and have even assisted some of those that had worked also abroad. The trace of scholars provide that the program had helped a lot in the families of the OFW.

Table 5
Mean Rating on the Level of Strategies on the Implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs in terms of Evaluation
n=100

B. Monitoring	Mean	Interpretation
1. Gathers feedback from teachers of students.	3.58	Very high
2. Gets grades of students.		
3. Secures portfolio and certificates attained by students.	3.88	Very high
4. Gathers data on progress of students after graduation.	3.40	High
5. Gets data of progress of students who are under scholarship grants.	3.32	High

B. Monitoring	Mean	Interpretation
	3.73	Very high
OVERALL MEAN	3.58	Very high
Range of Means		
3.50-4.00	Very High	
2.50-3.49	High	
1.50-2.49	Low	
1.00-1.49	Very low	

Attainment of the Objectives of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs in terms of Meet Educational Needs

Table 6 presents the level of attainment of the objectives of OWWA scholarship for dependent programs in terms of meet educational needs that got an overall mean of 3.27 interpreted as high. This means that although it helped alleviate difficulty to sustain education needs of the students, still there were needs that not yet assisted or met. The support often is limited resulting to other needs that are not of the granted benefits.

In the study of Cagasan (2019) it was highlighted that there were aspect of educational activities of scholars that are not covered by their benefits. There are types of scholarships that offers take all, meaning everything is covered. But mostly, the scholarship programs cover only tuition and books while other allowances are limited. This makes the scholars worry also for other needs.

The respondents very high that it helps in providing learning materials that got the highest mean of 3.67. This means that the support and part of the benefits of the scholarship grants included additional package of learning materials. This can help learning more motivation for students since the learning materials are source of information.

Dassin, et al (2017) concluded that the students under scholarship programs confirmed they are provided with allowances that is used for educational resources and materials. These allowances were provided in cash and are used by the students for other needs in education. This made them more able to cope with learning activities since they have learning materials.

On the other hand, they high that the scholarship had provided support for technological needs for learning with the lowest mean of 2.49. This means that the provision of gadget is not included in the package. This may hamper effective learning since many of

today's students needs gadget to be able to join in online studies that are becoming popular.

According to Informant 2 many of the scholars are problematic with their gadget since this is not included with their scholarship benefits. This made them cope by either borrowing with their families or relatives.

In the study of UNESCO (2018) it was revealed that many students lack gadgets. This becomes a problem when students have to cope with online and distance learning. Many of the scholars do not have gadget which are necessary to the current trend in education mode. This is another challenging aspect of education system.

Table 6
Mean Rating on the Level of Attainment of the Objectives of OWWA
Scholarship for Dependent Programs in terms of Meet
Educational Needs
n=100

Meet Educational Needs	Mean	Interpretation
1. Provides means for fare of students to school.	3.48	High
2. Helps in providing learning materials.		
3. Helps in buying materials for projects.		
4.Provides support for technological needs for learning.	3.67	Very high
5.Supports the documentary needs of students for enrollment.	3.50	Very high
	2.49	Low
	3.23	Very low
OVERALL MEAN	3.27	High
Range of Means		
3.50-4.00	Very high	
2.50-3.49	High	
1.50-2.49	Low	
1.00-1.49	Very low	

Attainment of the Objectives of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs in terms of Access to Quality Education

Table 7 presents the level of attainment of the objectives of OWWA scholarship for dependent programs in terms of access to quality education that got an overall mean of 3.54 interpreted as very high. This means that the scholarship had provided the beneficiaries with good education courses and learning that can provide better

employment opportunity in the future. This can help them become professionals with good chances of employment in the future.

In the report of Tsai, et al (2017) it was mentioned that scholarships were accepted by schools with recognition from government services. This ensures the students will gain quality education services. The teachers as well as the facilities were good learning grounds for students to develop their competencies.

Among the answers of the respondent they very high that enrolling in the in - demand courses for good employment with a mean of 3.78 is the most promising outcome of quality education. According to Informant 5 the courses offered in scholarship programs are limited but very in- demand today like education courses.

The same opinion was expressed by Mayer (2017) that cited the importance of selecting courses that can meet the need of industry. He further discussed that today's work environment is highly competitive making the courses to be relevant to meet the need of society.

Meanwhile, they low that they are able to avail a world class competencies for future employment with the lowest mean of 3.40. This means that although it got the lowest rating still it has a positive outcome of having gained competencies that can be accepted in other countries. This can widen their opportunity for employment.

In the study of Hope (2018) it was discussed that graduates of state universities have impressive competencies and skills. This made them primary choices for employment. The edge of scholars who had graduated from any course is the certification that they had been a grantee of scholarships that will give them better chances.

Table 7
Mean Rating on the Level of Attainment of the Objectives of OWWA
Scholarship for Dependent Programs in terms of
Access to Quality Education
n=100

Access to Quality Education	Mean	Interpretation
1. Enrolls in in - demand courses for good employment.	3.78	Very high
2. Enrolls in well-known universities with good facilities.	3.60	Very high
3. Avails of world class competencies for future employment.		
4. Finishes a course that compliant with national and international standards.	3.40	High
5. Avails quality instruction from qualified teachers.	3.49	High

Access to Quality Education	Mean	Interpretation
	3.43	High
OVERALL MEAN	3.54	Very High
Range of Means		
3.50-4.00	Very high	
2.50-3.49	High	
1.50-2.49	Low	
1.00-1.49	Very Low	

Challenges Encountered

Based on the interview conducted the following answers were the themes formulated on the challenges encountered. The most common problem is the compliance to requirements since many of the recipients have difficulty in submitting documents like their birth certificates. On the hand, the passing grades become one of the factors affecting the continuity of the scholarship program. Some of the discussions are presented below:

Informant 5 verbalized:

“Mahirap po ang requirements tulad ng birth certificate. Mag request pa kami sa PSA.” (The requirements are difficult since we are going to request for birth certificate from PSA.)

This answer implies that beneficiaries had difficulties with the different documentary requirements needed. This often leads to additional effort to be able to produce such documents. These documents are mandated as part of validating their identity.

On the hand, Informant 3 Explained:

“Ako ang problema ko grades dahil pag bumagsak tanggal sa scholarship.” (On my part I worry because if I fail I will be out from scholarship.)

This answer implies that there is a standard observed and implemented. The grade cut off is one way of ensuring standards for availment of scholarship programs is followed. The money given as support must be used wisely. Thus, through grade cut off it will mean they are required to study hard.

In the study of Nayak (2022) she cited that there are countless challenges and reasons reasons of a student would be dropped or find difficult to avail for financial aid or receive gifted funding to attend school. The institutions and organizations are asking for documents which are often difficult to comply. Implementing scholarship management programs entails documentary support to ensure transparency.

Summary of Findings

The following are the major findings of the study:

The level of implementation of OWWA Scholarship for Dependent Programs from the school year 2020 to 2023 in terms of: qualification with a grand mean of 3.62 rated as very high, requirements with a overall mean of 3.58 rated as very high, benefits with a grand mean of 3.30 rated as high.

The level of strategies on the implementation of OWWA scholarship for dependent programs in terms of monitoring that got an overall mean of 3.44 interpreted as high and evaluation that got an overall mean of 3.58 interpreted as very high.

The level of attainment of the objectives of OWWA scholarship for dependent programs in terms of meet educational needs that got an overall mean of 3.27 interpreted as high and the access to quality education that got an overall mean of 3.54 interpreted as very high.

The most common problem is the compliance to requirements since many of the recipients have difficulty in submitting documents like their birth certificates. On the hand, the passing grades become one of the factors affecting the continuity of the scholarship program.

Conclusion

The study concludes that the OWWA scholarship for dependent of OFW had been very helpful to the attainment of educational degrees. Despite of difficult requirements needed, still it is highly beneficial to the family of OFW. It had contributed in meeting the educational needs and receiving quality education. Although there were lacking benefits the financial assistance and the free tuition is already helpful in sustaining educational needs of the dependents. The enrollment to accredited institution provided assurance that the education provided is quality and good for future employment.

Recommendations

1. To include technological gadgets as part of the package in scholarship grants. This is an essential part of the educational needs of the students.
2. To provide additional support for the learning materials of the students. The learning materials can contribute to motivation of students to learn.
3. To provide meal and fare allowances for this is an integral part of students who are studying. This cost a lot especially to those without sufficient money to sustain it.
4. To expand courses available so that the scholars will have variety of choices in selecting the courses they wanted.
5. To the students to give their full commitment and study harder to pass and finish their courses for this is an opportunity.

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