Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION I

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECORDS SECTION, REGIONAL OFFICE NO. 1
RECEIVED
BY: DATE:

OCT 22 2025

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 1408 s. 2026

NOMINATION FOR THE RECOGNITION OF EXEMPLARY ASATIDZ (HANDLING ALIVE CLASSES) UNDER THE MADRASAH EDUCATION PROGRAM

To: Schools Division Superintendents

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) through the Bureau of Learning Delivery (BLD) shall conduct the Recognition of Exemplary Asatidz (handling ALIVE Classes) in the Madrasah Education Program.

2. This recognition aims to:
   a. acknowledge exemplary Asatidz who have demonstrated sustained commitment to the effective implementation of MEP;
   b. recognize innovative and culturally responsive teaching practices in Arabic Language, Islamic Values Education, and other areas of the Madrasah curriculum
   c. highlight meaningful collaboration among teachers, school leaders, Muslim communities, Ulama, parents, and other education stakeholders;
   d. promote the development and use of contextualized and culturally appropriate learning resources for Muslim learners; and
   e. document and share exemplary practices that may strengthen the implementation of MEP across regions, schools divisions, and public schools.

3. This Office requests the Schools Division Offices through the Madrasah Education Program Focal Person to nominate one (1) COS Asatidz with complete documents based on the Enclosure 1 of the attached Memorandum on or before October 28, 2026 in the Regional Office.

4. Attached is the Memorandum from the Office of the Undersecretary and Chief of Staff of the Department of Education for your reference.

5. For inquiries or clarifications, you may coordinate with Mr. Rodolfo B. Ligawad, Jr., Education Program Supervisor, through (072) 682-23-24 or through email clmd.region1@deped.gov.ph.

6. For immediate dissemination and compliance.

ESTELA P. LEON-CARIÑO, EdD, CESO III
Director IV/Regional Director

Encl.: None
Reference: None
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index:
under the subjects:

NOMINATION

DepEd RO1 Documan
CLMD261716

CLMD/rblj/NominationfortheRecognitionofExemplaryAsatidzundertheMadrasahEducationProgram
October 21, 2026

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECEIVED
RECORDS SECTION REGIONAL OFFICE NO.1
OCT 22 2026
BY: TIME: 1:47

MEMORANDUM

TO : **ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

FROM : **ATTY. FATIMA LIPP D. PANGUTONGAN**
Undersecretary and Chief of Staff

SUBJECT : **NOMINATIONS FOR THE RECOGNITION OF EXEMPLARY ASATIDZ (HANDLING ALIVE CLASSES) UNDER THE MADRASAH EDUCATION PROGRAM**

DATE : October 12, 2026

I. Background and Rationale

The Department of Education, through the Bureau of Learning Delivery, recognizes the significant contributions of Asatidz in providing culturally responsive, inclusive, and relevant basic education to Muslim learners.

The Madrasah Education Program is a component of the basic education program that provides educational opportunities to Muslim learners through Arabic Language and Islamic Values Education, or ALIVE, in public schools and the implementation of the prescribed curriculum in recognized private Madaris.

In recognition of the dedication, competence, and sustained service of teachers involved in the implementation of Madrasah Education Program, the Department shall conduct the **Recognition of Exemplary Asatidz (handling ALIVE Classes) in the Madrasah Education Program**.

II. Objectives

The recognition aims to:

a. acknowledge exemplary Asatidz who have demonstrated sustained commitment to the effective implementation of MEP;

b. recognize innovative and culturally responsive teaching practices in Arabic Language, Islamic Values Education, and other areas of the Madrasah curriculum;

c. highlight meaningful collaboration among teachers, school leaders, Muslim communities, Ulama, parents, and other education stakeholders;

d. promote the development and use of contextualized and culturally appropriate learning resources for Muslim learners; and

e. document and share exemplary practices that may strengthen the implementation of MEP across regions, schools divisions, and public schools.

III. Nomination

Each concerned Regional Office shall identify and nominate one (1) qualified Asatidz from among the nominees from its respective Schools Division Offices and MEP-implementing schools. The selected Asatidz shall be declared the **regional winner** and shall serve as the region's official nominee for the **National Search**. The nominee must meet all the prescribed qualifications and criteria specified in **Enclosure 1**. The complete nomination documents shall be submitted via email to bld.sid@deped.gov.ph on or before **October 29, 2026.**

The selection and nomination process shall be conducted in a fair, transparent, inclusive, and evidence-based manner. Regional and division MEP coordinators shall ensure that all nominees meet the prescribed criteria and that all submitted accomplishments are supported by appropriate documents.

All qualified nominees officially endorsed by the Regional Offices and whose nomination documents are found complete and compliant with the prescribed criteria shall advance to the national level and shall be recognized as Regional Winners. The Regional Winners shall constitute the pool of candidates to be evaluated by the National Screening and Selection Committee for the selection of the three (3) Exemplary Asatidz at the national level.

IV. Selection and Recognition

Nomination documents of all Regional Winners shall be reviewed, evaluated, and validated by a duly constituted National Screening and Selection Committee based on the prescribed criteria and rating system. The Committee may conduct document verification, interviews, or field validation, when necessary, to substantiate the accomplishments of the candidates.

Following the national evaluation, the Committee shall select three (3) Exemplary Asatidz from among the Regional Winners who obtain the highest evaluation results and demonstrate outstanding performance and significant contributions to the implementation of the Madrasah Education Program.

All Regional Winners shall receive appropriate recognition for having successfully qualified at the regional level and advanced to the national screening. The three (3) Exemplary Asatidz selected by the National Screening and Selection Committee shall receive national-level recognition as the program's outstanding awardees.

The Regional Winners and the three (3) Exemplary Asatidz shall be formally recognized during an appropriate Department-led activity. The final schedule, venue, documentary requirements, submission arrangements, and other details pertaining to the recognition shall be communicated through a separate advisory or memorandum.

V. Expenses

Travel, board and lodging, and other incidental expenses related to the participation of qualified nominees, evaluators, and awardees in the recognition activity shall be charged against Central Office, subject to the availability of funds and existing government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

For inquiries or clarifications, please contact Mr. Nicanor M. San Gabriel Jr., Supervising Education Program Specialist, BLD-SID, through email at bld.sid@deped.gov.ph, with a copy furnished to BLD-OD at bld.od@deped.gov.ph.

For your information and guidance.

Copy furnished:

MALCOLM S. GARMA
Undersecretary for Governance and Operations

Enclosure 1. Criteria for Nomination

The nominee shall meet the following criteria:

1. **Employment and length of service**

The nominee is a qualified Asatidz involved in the implementation of the Madrasah Education Program at the school level for at least **ten school years between SY 2004–2005 and SY 2026–2027.**

The years of service may or may not be consecutive, and the nominee may have served in different MEP implementing schools, provided that the required total number of years is met.

2. **Service in challenging contexts**

The nominee has served for at least a total of **four years** in an MEP-implementing school or Madrasah serving communities experiencing socioeconomic, geographic, linguistic, cultural, peace-and-order, or accessibility challenges.

3. **Previous awards or recognition**

The nominee has not previously received an award or formal recognition specifically related to MEP, ALIVE, Madrasah education, or any equivalent teaching distinction at the division, regional, national, or international level from DepEd or any other organization.

4. **Effective delivery of learning experiences**

The nominee has demonstrated effective delivery of culturally and linguistically responsive learning experiences appropriate to Muslim learners, particularly in any of the following:

a. Arabic Language;
b. Islamic Values Education;
c. Islamic Studies;
d. Qur'an-related learning competencies, where applicable;
e. integration of Islamic values and Muslim cultural contexts in classroom instruction; or
f. other learning areas under the prescribed Madrasah curriculum.

5. **Development of learning resources**

The nominee has participated in the development, adaptation, validation, quality assurance, or localization of learning resources for MEP at the school, district, division, regional, or national level.

These resources may include:

a. lesson plans and lesson exemplars;
b. activity sheets and instructional materials;
c. Arabic Language and Islamic Values Education resources;
d. assessment materials;
e. multimedia and technology-supported learning resources; or
f. contextualized materials responsive to the language, culture, and learning needs of Muslim learners.

6. **Professional development contributions**

The nominee has served as a resource person, learning facilitator, trainer, demonstration teacher, writer, validator, coach, or mentor in workshops, training programs, learning action cells, conferences, or other professional development activities related to MEP.

The activities may have been conducted at the school, district, division, regional, or national level.

7. **Community participation and partnership**

The nominee has initiated or actively supported activities involving relevant Muslim education stakeholders, such as:

- Ulama and other recognized Muslim religious scholars;
- Muslim community leaders;
- qualified Asatidz;
- parents and guardians;
- Madrasah administrators;
- Muslim education organizations; and
- other recognized community knowledge holders and partners.

The nominee's engagement with these stakeholders shall have contributed to one or more of the following:

a. contextualizing lessons and learning resources for Muslim learners;
b. developing learning experiences using culturally appropriate teaching and learning strategies;
c. strengthening the teaching of Arabic Language and Islamic Values Education;
d. supporting stakeholders who serve as resource persons, learning partners, or co-facilitators, consistent with DepEd policies;

e. planning and implementing MEP activities and initiatives;
f. increasing parental and community participation in the education of Muslim learners; or
g. promoting mutual respect, peace education, inclusion, and understanding among learners from different cultural and religious backgrounds.

8. **Learner support and inclusion**

The nominee has implemented appropriate interventions to improve the participation, attendance, retention, learning performance, or well-being of Muslim learners, especially those who are:

a. at risk of dropping out;
b. from disadvantaged or geographically isolated communities;
c. experiencing language-related learning barriers;
d. affected by displacement, conflict, or emergencies; or
e. requiring differentiated learning support.

9. **Professional conduct**

The nominee has consistently demonstrated professionalism, integrity, respect for diversity, and adherence to DepEd policies, child-protection standards, and applicable policies governing Madrasah education.

10. **No pending administrative or criminal case**

The nominee has no pending administrative or criminal case and has not been found guilty of an offense involving grave misconduct, dishonesty, abuse, discrimination, or violation of child-protection policies.