



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Agriculture  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
Elliptical Road, Diliman  
Quezon City 1100, Philippines

29 February 2012

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

No. 11  
Series of 2012

**SUBJECT: Implementing Rules and Regulations on the Accreditation of Private Organic Agriculture Extension Service Providers (OA ESPs)**

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Pursuant to the National Organic Agriculture Act of 2010, otherwise known as Republic Act No. 10068, the following Implementing Rules and Regulations are hereby promulgated to govern the accreditation of Private Organic Agriculture ESPs:

**ARTICLE I**  
**TITLE, OBJECTIVES AND DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**Section 1. Title.** Implementing Rules and Regulations on the Accreditation of Private Organic Agriculture Extension Service Providers

**Section 2. Objectives.** The following rules and regulations are hereby adopted, promulgated and issued to carry out the provisions of Rule. 9.2 to 9.5, Section 9 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act. No. 10068, specifically:

- a. To hasten and improve organic agriculture public-private partnership on extension services to the Department of Agriculture's stakeholders;
- b. To provide opportunities and wider participation of the private sector in the conduct of extension services on organic agriculture;
- c. To recognize and harness the efforts and capabilities of private institutions/service providers dedicated to the delivery of organic agriculture extension services; and
- d. To provide a variety of extension activities to Agricultural Extension workers, farmers, IPs and other stakeholders in support of the thrusts of AFMA and of the Organic Agriculture Act.

**Section 3. Definition of Terms**

When used in these Rules, the following terms shall mean:

- a. **Accreditation** – a document issued by the Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Training Institute (DA-ATI), certifying that the holder is recognized as compliant to the approved standards as provided therein of a Private Organic Agriculture Extension Service Provider which will give eligibility and privilege to participate and undertake the Department's extension services to target clientele on its behalf.



- b. **Areas for Accreditation** – areas in conformity to approved standards shall be ensured
- c. **Competency Matrix** – a summary table of the minimum expertise and skills of the POA ESP’s trainers, training support staff and faculty-on-call.
- d. **Conformity** – fulfillment of the requirements for accreditation.
- e. **Cooperative-** farmers’ and fisherfolks’ cooperatives
- f. **OA ESP Accreditation Council** – the body that shall approve/disapprove application for accreditation.
- g. **Field Validation** – on site confirmation, through the provision of objective evidence that the requirements have been fulfilled
- h. **Local OA ESP** – a private Organic Agriculture Extension Service Provider on organic agriculture, operating at a regional or sub-regional level such as in a municipal/city or provincial area.
- i. **Business entities-** refers to business organizations engaged in Organic Agriculture
- j. **Nonconformity** – non-compliance of a requirement/s
- k. **Non-Government Organizations (NGO)** – a non-profit organization providing welfare and development services in the agriculture and fisheries sector
- l. **Organic Agriculture Extension Service Providers (OA ESP)** – organizations which undertake training and other complementary extension activities on organic agriculture, for target clientele along the value chain (input suppliers, producers, traders, processors and consumers)
- m. **Rural-Based Organizations (RBO)** – Department of Agriculture-assisted organizations, such as Pambansang Mannelon, Maguuma, Magbabaul, Magsasaka ng Pilipinas (P4MP), Rural Improvement Club (RIC), and 4-H that promote agriculture and fisheries extension in the rural areas.
- n. **Sustainable Agriculture** - is the successful management of resources for agriculture to satisfy changing human needs which are technically feasible, economically viable and socially acceptable while maintaining or enhancing the quality of the environment and conserving the natural resources.
- o. **Sustainable Development** – is the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It contains within it two (2) key concepts: (1) the concept of “needs” in particular, the essential needs of the world’s poor, to which overriding priority should be given; and (2) the idea of limitations imposed by the estate of technology and social organizations on the environment’s ability to meet present and future needs. It is the harmonious integration of a sound and viable economy, responsible governance, social cohesion and



harmony, and ecological integrity to ensure that human development now and through the future generations is a life-enhancing process.

- p. Organic Agriculture** – includes all agricultural systems that promote the ecologically sound, socially acceptable, economically viable and technically feasible production of food and fibers. Organic agriculture dramatically reduces external inputs by refraining from the use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and pharmaceuticals. It also covers areas such as, but not limited to soil fertility management, varietal breeding and selection under chemical and pesticide-free conditions, the use of biotechnology and other cultural practices that are consistent with the policies and principles of this Act, and enhance productivity without destroying the soil and harming the farmers, consumers and the environment as defined by the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement (IFOAM): *Provided*, that the biotechnology herein referred to shall not include genetically modified organisms or GMOs.
- q. Farm Schools** - refer to farms which serve as learning center wherein youth and adult or families are empowered on growing crops and raising livestock.
- r. Learning Site** – refers to a field laboratory or a demonstration area established within or in the immediate vicinity of the ATI Center, wherein trainees and the public at large could practice organic agriculture systems to become effective trainers as well as practitioners.
- s. Trainers** – individuals who are capable of preparing training designs, training modules, executing training programs, delivering modules, facilitating training activities, and/or evaluating them.
- t. Training Management Staff** – individuals who provide administrative and technical assistance in the conduct/management of a training.
- u. Table Evaluation-** preliminary evaluation of applicants.

## **ARTICLE II COVERAGE**

**Section 4. Coverage.** Accreditation shall apply to any of the following institutions/ organizations which offer Organic Agriculture extension programs:

- a. Rural-Based Organizations
- b. Cooperatives
- c. People’s Organization
- d. Non-Government Organizations;
- e. Business Entities
- f. Foundations
- g. Faith-based Organizations



### **ARTICLE III CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

**Section 5. Conflict of Interest.** Organic Agriculture (OA) ESP's shall not be eligible for accreditation under the circumstances set forth hereunder:

- a. If an OA ESP is providing consultancy services to DA;
- b. If any officer/staff of the OA ESP is related up to the third degree of affinity or consanguinity to the following:
  1. Management Committee of the Agricultural Training Institute and its Center networks, or any staff involved in standards setting and accreditation activities, and
  2. National and Regional OA ESP Accreditation Council; and
- c. The OA ESP should not be composed of DA personnel, staff or faculty on call including its resource persons.

### **ARTICLE IV OA ESP ACCREDITATION COUNCIL AND SECRETARIAT**

#### **Section 6. National Organic Agriculture ESP Accreditation Council**

##### **6.1 The National Executive Officer**

The ATI Director shall serve as the National Executive Officer of the Organic Agriculture ESP Accreditation Council. As such, he shall be responsible for the execution of policies and directions of the National Council.

##### **6.2 Membership**

The following members shall compose the National OA Accreditation Council as endorsed by the respective sector:

- a. One (1) representative from the Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Network (AFEN);
- b. One (1) representative from the Association of College of Agriculture in the Philippines( ACAP), Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC);
- c. One (1) representative from the private sector who is involved in agriculture selected from a federation;
- d. One (1) representative from the National Organic Agriculture Board (NOAB) extension committee; and
- e. One representative from Bureau of Agriculture & Fisheries Product Standards (BAFPS).

##### **6.3 Election and Term of Office**

The members shall elect the vice-chairman from among themselves.

Each member shall have a three (3) –year term of office without reappointment. In case of vacancy due to retirement, resignation, transfer, incapacitation or death, the Council may nominate replacement/s from among themselves to serve the unexpired portion of the term subject to the approval of the ATI Director.



## **6.4 Functions of the National Organic Agriculture Accreditation Council**

The following shall be the functions of the National Accreditation Council:

- a. Provides the overall policy ESP guidelines and directions of the program;
- b. Issues Accreditation Certificate through the Council's Executive Officer;
- c. Continuously undertake appraisal and evaluation of the capability and competence of accredited Organic Agriculture ESPs.

## **Section 7. Regional OA ESP Accreditation Council**

### **7.1. The Regional Executive Officer**

The Center Director of the Agricultural Training Institute shall serve as the Regional Executive Officer. As such, he shall be responsible for the execution of policies and directions of the Regional Council.

### **7.2 Membership**

The following members shall compose the Regional OA ESP Accreditation Council as endorsed by the respective sector:

- a. One representative from the Regional Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Network (AFEN)
- b. One representative from PASUC
- c. One representative from the Local Government Units Organic Agriculture Committee
- d. One representative from OA private sector
- e. Regional OA Focal Person

### **7.3 Election and Term of Office**

The members shall elect the vice-chairman from among themselves.

Each member will have a three (3)-year term of office without prejudice for reappointment. In case of vacancy due to retirement, resignation, transfer, incapacitation or death, the Regional Council may nominate replacement/s to serve the unexpired portion of the term subject to the approval of the Director of the Agricultural Training Institute at each level.

The members shall elect the vice-chairman among themselves. Each member will have a three (3)-year term of office without prejudice for reappointment. In case of vacancy due to retirement, resignation, transfer, incapacitation or death, the Regional Council may nominate replacement/s to serve the unexpired portion of the term subject to the approval of the Director of the Agricultural Training Institute at each level.

### **7.4 Functions of the Regional OA Accreditation Council**

The following shall be the functions of the Regional Accreditation Council:

- a. Provides the regional policy guidelines and directions of the program;
- b. Evaluates the applicant's eligibility for accreditation; and
- c. Evaluate /approves and issues accreditation certificates
- d. Provides report to the National Council's Executive Officer through the National Secretariat for issuance of accreditation certificate.



### **Section 8. Attendance to Meetings and Quorums**

Regular attendance among those appointed to the Council is expected. The Council shall meet every quarter and shall conduct an annual general meeting. The decisions by majority of the Council shall be valid, binding and executory. The Chairman and/or majority of the Council may call a special meeting, whenever necessary. Quorum shall be 50 percent plus one (1) of the council members.

### **Section 9. National Secretariat**

The National Secretariat whose members shall come from the ATI-EPPD performs the following functions:

- a. Provides application forms to national OA ESP applicants;
- b. Receives all applications of national OA ESP's for accreditation and conducts preliminary evaluation;
- c. Coordinates and conducts field validation of national OA ESP applicants when deemed necessary;
- d. Renders report of its findings and recommendations to the Council through the Executive Officer;
- e. Issues notices of approval/disapproval to applicants;
- f. Issues notices of renewal to accredited OA ESP's; and
- g. Performs other related duties as may be directed by the Council.

### **Section 10. Regional Secretariat**

The ATI Center Director shall designate a Regional Secretariat whose membership comes from the Technical Section and shall have the following functions:

- a. Provides application forms to local OA ESP applicant;
- b. Receives all applications of local OA ESPs for accreditation and conducts preliminary evaluation;
- c. Coordinates and conducts field validation for local OA ESP and preliminary evaluation for inter-regional OA ESPs when deemed necessary;
- d. Renders report of its findings and recommendations to the Regional and National Council through the National Secretariat; and
- e. Performs other related duties as may be directed by the Council

## **ARTICLE V CRITERIA FOR ACCREDITATION**

### **Section 11. Eligibility**

The following shall be considered for accreditation if they meet any of the following eligibility requirements:

- a. Business entities, PO's/RBO's/corporations/e-learning institution/Faith-based organization duly organized under the Laws of the Philippines and registered with Security and Exchange Commission (SEC)/Department of labor and Employment (DOLE);
- b. Cooperatives duly registered with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA);
- c. Non-profit and non-stock organizations duly registered with SEC;





- d. Corporations with supporting relevant government laws and regulations allowing them to engage in extension services and;
- e. Joint Venture among Filipino OA ESPs and foreign entities may be allowed, if it will result to better extension services, subject to the laws set forth by SEC and the provisions of this IRR.

### **Section 12. Credibility**

- a. Must have a positive image and a high degree of acceptability among stakeholders in the area/s to be served, including membership in or affiliation with any reputable local, national and/or international federations.
- b. Must also have an experience of not less than three (3) years in Organic Agriculture work, especially using participatory/community-based approaches and documented positive impact on stakeholders.
- c. Must not have any record of anomaly in its previous transactions.

### **Section 13. Technical Capability**

- a. The OA ESP must have the competence to carry-out training and other training-related services, especially in community organizing, use of participatory approaches, popularization of training materials, sustainable agricultural technologies, agribusiness and management skills, and is operating at the municipal/ provincial/region levels for local level OA ESPs, and in two or more regions for national level OA ESPs.
- b. The OA ESP must show proof of training designs and summary of evaluation results of at least ten (10) trainings conducted for the last five years.
- c. The OA ESP must show at least first-level certification that their products are organically produced.

### **Section 14. Resource Capability**

#### **14.1. Training Services**

The OA ESP must have at least two (2) trainers and five (5) faculty-on call or resource persons who meet the following eligibility requirements:

##### **14.1.1 Training Program**

The current offerings of the OA ESP applicant shall be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- a. **Relevance** – the training program shall respond to the needs of the organic agriculture as identified in the National Organic Agriculture Programs.
- b. **Objectives** – Its objectives shall be clearly defined, realistic and attainable.
- c. **Content** – The content /curriculum of the training program shall be in consonance with its objectives. Topics shall be in logical sequence with due consideration to effectiveness of presentation in terms of trainees comprehension.
- d. **Methodology** – There shall be an effective, simple, and comprehensive presentation of topics, clear



description of participatory learning interventions, examination schemes and test instruments related to course objectives. There shall likewise be a relevant and practical application of theories and concepts.

- e. **Qualifications of Participants** – Minimum qualifications of participants shall be set for proper identification of participants to a specific training course.
- f. **Evaluation Procedures** – The training program shall carry out effective evaluation instruments before, during and after training

#### **14.1.2. Manpower Trainers**

- a. Capable of developing training designs, training modules, visual aids, monitoring and evaluation tools;
- b. Must have undergone at least 40 hours of training in trainers skills/presentation skills and other related areas;
- c. Must possess BS Degree; and
- d. Must have effective communication skills, as well as presentation/facilitating techniques.

#### **Faculty on-call**

- a. Must have at least three (3) years experience on the subject matter of expertise; and
- b. Must have a good extension communication skills

#### **Training Management Staff**

The must have at least two support staff who possess thorough experience and adequate competence to deliver training support services (visual aids preparation, training process documentation, administration and processing of training evaluation, etc.)

#### **14.1.3 Facilities and Equipment**

- a. Must have a permanent office and address where they conduct their business.
- b. **Size of the training room and dormitory** – The training room and dormitory shall be able to accommodate a minimum of 30 participants. If the OA ESP does not own such facilities, it should be capable to rent or lease extension venues in the locality having the required size.
- c. **Lighting and Ventilation** - Lighting fixtures shall be so designed to ensure an atmosphere conducive to training. The training room shall also be well ventilated.
- d. **Restrooms** – There shall be separate restrooms for male and female with enough supply of water and light.
- e. **Classroom Facilities, Equipment** - The classrooms must have basic facilities such as chairs and tables,





blackboard/white board, sound system, overhead projector, electric fans and standby generator.

- f. **Workshop/On-the-Job Facilities and Equipment** - Depending on the training program/s being offered, there shall be an adequate provision for techno demo area, appropriate facilities, and equipment.
- g. **Resource Center/Library** - a reading room in the training facilities must be adequately provided with relevant reference materials, books, journals, magazines, kits and other materials related to the programs being conducted.
- h. **Transportation and Communication Facilities** - there shall be a standby utility vehicle and available telephone or mobile phone units during the conduct of the training.

The presence of the following shall be an added advantage:

- i. **Refreshment/Dining Area** - a refreshment/dining area accessible to the trainees;
- j. **Kiosks or similar facilities** - with a capacity of 8 - 10 persons for small workshop group discussions; and
- k. **Prayer Room**

## 14.2. Demonstration Services

The technologies promoted should be agri-fishery in nature and based on the needs of the region, province, municipality/city and the barangays.

### 14.2.1 The Demonstration/Learning Site

- 1. Must be accessible to any means of transportation;
- 2. Must have a good source of water and dependable power supply, and relatively peaceful;
- 3. Must be contiguous or compact depending on the commodity (crop-livestock-fishery) combination of their own choice.

## 14.3. Qualification Requirements Of Individual Speakers/Lecturers/Trainers On Organic Agriculture

Pursuant to the relevant provisions of Organic Agriculture Act of 2010 also known as Republic Act No. 10068 and the National Organic Agriculture Program (NOAP), the following are the eligibility requirements for Accreditation of Individual Speakers/Lecturers/ Trainers on Organic Agriculture (Secretariat's note: should be specified that they have a farm and must meet **at least three (3)** of the following eligibility requirements

- 1. Must have undergone at least 80 Hours of training/seminar or related learning process for organic agriculture;
- 2. Must be a practitioner of organic agriculture, with a relevant work experience of at least three (3) years;
- 3. Capable of developing training designs, training modules, and visual aids and training evaluation tools;



4. Should have effective communication skills as well as presentation/facilitating style;
5. A recipient of National or local awards in Organic Agriculture practice (Gawad Saka, etc.); and
6. Magsasakang Siyentista, Farmer Scientist, Farmer Leader Extensionist.

#### **APPLICANT'S CHECKLIST OF REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Application form duly accomplished and notarized (in duplicate copy);
2. College Diploma;
3. PRC license if applicable;
4. Certificate of Training (original and photo copy);
5. Sworn affidavit of the applicant that she is not related by consanguinity of affinity up to the third degree to any officials and staff authorized to approve its application for accreditation (original copy); and
6. Sworn affidavit and documentary evidence that he/ she is a practitioner of Organic Agriculture.

### **ARTICLE VI THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS**

#### **Section 15. The OA ESP Accreditation Process**

##### **15.1 The Phases**

The accreditation process shall consist of three (3) phases.

##### **PHASE 1 – Filing of Application**

The OA ESP shall accomplish the prescribed application form in duplicate and file it together with the required documentary requirements to ATI Central Office for national OA ESP's and at the ATI RTC's for the local OA ESP's.

##### **PHASE 2 – Documentary Evaluation**

Initial screening shall be done by the National/Regional Secretariat through an evaluation of the documents submitted to determine whether these documents meet the eligibility requirements set by ATI. A report outlining the results of the review shall be prepared. Documentary evaluation shall be completed within 15 working days from receipt of the application and required supporting documents.

##### **PHASE 3 – Ocular Inspection/Validation**

- a. Upon completion of the documentary evaluation, an ocular inspection and field validation be conducted to confirm the OA ESP's compliance to approved standards.
- b. A report of its findings and/or recommendations shall be submitted



within 15 days from the date of the completion of the ocular inspection and field validation.

#### **PHASE 4 – Approval**

- a. The National/Regional Council, in the case of National OA ESP's and the Regional Executive Officer in the case of local OA ESP's shall approve/disapprove applications within 10 working days upon submission of the Inspection Report.
- b. In case of non-conformity, ATI will give the applicant 10 working days within which to comply or submit the required documents. Failure to comply within the prescribed period shall mean automatic disapproval.

#### **PHASE 5 – Award of the Certificate**

- a. Upon approval of the application, the Council through its Executive Officer shall sign and issue the Certificate of Accreditation for national OA ESP's within 10 working days.
- b. Upon approval of the application, the Regional Council through its Executive Officer shall sign and issue the Certificate of Accreditation for regional OA ESP's within 10 working days.

### **15.2 Supporting Documents to be submitted with Application**

#### **Legal Documents**

- a. A certified true copy of its Articles of Incorporation, by-laws, and the amendments thereof, duly registered with SEC and in the case of cooperatives, at the CDA or at DOLE for associations;
- b. DTI Business Name and SEC Registration Certificate;
- c. Tax Identification Number (TIN);
- d. Mayor's Permit;
- e. A sworn affidavit of the Corporate Secretary of the applicant that none of its officers, employees or directors is an agent of or related up to the fourth civil degree of consanguinity or affinity to any of the officials authorized to approve its application for accreditation; and
- f. Certificate of Recognition from DA and other government agencies.

#### **Technical Documents**

- a. A list of all the OA ESP's ongoing and completed trainings/seminars conducted within the last three (3) years shall include the following details: title, duration and venue of the training and also the number of participants.
- b. Competency Matrix of all its trainers, training support staff and faculty on call.
- c. List of the names of all officials and employees and their respective designations, nationalities and home addresses.



- d. List of identified training venues that the OA ESP owns, has under lease agreement and/or under purchase agreement.
- e. The type and number of equipment that the OA ESP owns, has under lease, and or has under purchase agreement.

### **Financial Documents**

- a. The OA ESP's Income Tax Return(audited Financial Statement-stamped "Received" by the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) or its duly authorized and accredited institutions, for the immediately preceding calendar year, showing among others, its total and current assets and liabilities) or Certificate of Tax Exemption from the BIR.
- b. Certification from the OA ESP's depository bank.
- c. The OA ESP Treasurer's Affidavit certifying under oath that at least 25% of the OA ESP's capital stock has been subscribed and paid for both stock and non-profit organizations.
- d. Letter authorizing ATI to verify any or all of the Documents submitted.
- e. Certification under oath that each of the documents submitted in satisfaction of the eligibility requirements is an authentic and original copy or a true and faithful reproduction or copy of the original, complete and that all statement and information provided therein are true and correct.
- f. Certificate of good standing and operations from CDA, in case of cooperatives; from DA or other government organizations in case of RBOs/POs.

## **ARTICLE VII VALIDITY**

### **Section 16.Validity of Certificate of Accreditation**

The Certificate of Accreditation shall be valid for a period of three **(3)** years from the date of issue, unless sooner cancelled by the Council.

## **ARTICLE VIII PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**

### **Section 17.Audit**

During the effectivity period of the accreditation, the National/Regional Secretariat shall conduct yearly Performance Evaluation to verify/ensure continued compliance or conformity to approved standards.



## **Section 18. Renewal of Accreditation**

Six (6) months prior to the expiration of the accreditation, the accredited OA ESP may apply for renewal, otherwise the accreditation shall be deemed terminated at the end of the three-year period.

## **ARTICLE IX GROUNDS FOR DISAPPROVAL, SUSPENSION OR CANCELATION OF ACCREDITATION**

### **Section 19. Disapproval of Application for Accreditation**

Making any false declaration or statement or making use of any such declaration or statement on any document submitted, committing fraud or any act of misrepresentation for the purpose of obtaining the issuance of accreditation shall be sufficient grounds for disapproval or disqualification.

### **Section 20. Suspension of Accreditation**

Any of the following acts, omissions or offenses shall be sufficient grounds for the suspension of accreditation:

- a. Failure to comply with or violate any of the conditions set forth in the certificate of accreditation;
- b. Refusal of the OA ESP to be audited to determine continued compliance to approve standards;
- c. Failure to install corrective measures within an agreed period of time for nonconformities found during the audit;
- d. Contract or other agreements with ATI have been breached;
- e. Failure to pay accreditation fee on due date;
- f. Allowing the organization and its facilities to be used for illegal or immoral activities; and
- g. Failure to submit required reports on time.

### **Section 21.Length of Suspension**

An accredited OA ESP shall be suspended for a period of not less than six (6) months or suspension of not more than one (1) year or blacklisting depending on the gravity of the offense/s in violation of this IRR after due notice and hearing by the Council.

### **Section 22. Cancellation of Accreditation**

Any of the following acts, omissions or offenses shall be sufficient grounds for the cancellation of accreditation:

- a. Two (2) consecutive suspensions during the validity period of the certificate of accreditation; three (3) or more suspensions will be ground for blacklisting of ESP's;
- b. Failure to provide the extension service/s called for without valid reasons; and



- c. Existence of any of the instances enumerated under Section 5 of this Rules.

## **ARTICLE X OBLIGATIONS OF ACCREDITED OA ESPs**

### **Section 23. Obligations of the accredited OA ESP**

The accredited OA ESP agrees to do the following:

- a. Display the certificate of accreditation in a conspicuous place within the OA ESP's Office;
- b. Inform the ATI of all changes significantly affecting its activities/ operation (such as changes of ownership, address, personnel, and By-laws) as this may require additional audit;
- c. Not to use its accreditation in such a manner as to bring ATI into disrepute and does not make any statement regarding its accreditation which ATI may consider misleading or unauthorized; and
- d. Must conduct a minimum of 6 trainings within the period of accreditation.

## **ARTICLE XI ATI OBLIGATIONS**

### **Section 24. Records and Retention of Documents**

ATI shall maintain the documents of the accredited OA ESP for a retention period of five years after the validity of the accreditation has expired.

### **Section 25. Database of Accredited OA ESPS**

ATI shall maintain a database of accredited OA ESPs that shall be available to the public upon request and for a fee of one hundred pesos (Php100) per copy.

### **Section 26. Notification of Changes in the Accreditation Procedure**

ATI shall notify the OA ESPs relevant changes in its accreditation process.

## **ARTICLE XII INCENTIVES**

### **Section 27. – Incentives**

Once accredited, the OA ESP shall enjoy the following incentives:

- a. Availment of extension funds subject to an approved project proposal;
- b. Technical assistance in the availment of DA-Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Services (DA- AMAS);





- c. Access to financial assistance thru lending institutions (e.g., LBP, QUEDANCOR);
- d. Access to ATI Capability Building Program;
- e. Discounted multi-media knowledge products produced by ATI;
- f. Inclusion in the nomination list for both local and international scholarship/fellowship opportunities; and
- g. Inclusion in the development of the learning sites as farm schools.

### **ARTICLE XIII FEES AND SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

#### **Section 28. Fees**

1. The following are the fees to be collected:
  - a. The application fee shall be Five hundred pesos (P500.00) and shall be non-refundable. Application form is free and downloadable from the ATI website-[www.ati.da.gov.ph](http://www.ati.da.gov.ph);
  - b. An Accreditation Fee of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php 7,500.00) for National level OA ESPs, and Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00) for Local OA ESPs, payable in full upon approval; and
  - c. These fees are subject to review every three years.
2. All fees collected shall be remitted to the National Treasury.

### **ARTICLE XIV FUNDING REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Section 29. Fund Source and Expenditures**

##### **29.1 Fund Source**

Funds for Operational and Administrative costs for this purpose shall be included in the regular budget of ATI.

##### **29.2 Expenditure Items**

Members of the Councils and the Secretariat will be entitled to honorarium, traveling expenses and other incidental expenses subject to government accounting rules and regulations.



**ARTICLE XV  
APPEAL**

**Section 30. Appeal**

Suspensions are appealable in writing to the Director of the Agricultural Training Institute within fifteen (15) working days from receipt of the notice. On the other hand, cancellation or revocation of accreditation are non-appealable.

**ARTICLE XVI  
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

**Section 31. Separability Clause**

The provisions of these Rules are hereby declared separable, and in the event that anyone or more of such provisions are declared invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

**Section 32. Amendments**

As the need arises, the rules and regulations may be recommended for amendment by the Council through the Executive Officer, subject to the provisions of National Organic Agriculture Act RA 10068 and Section 91 of Administrative Order No. 2 otherwise known as the IRR of R.A. 8435 (AFMA) for approval by the Secretary, Department of Agriculture.

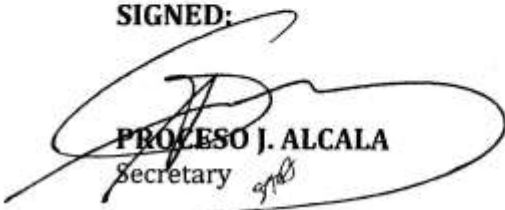
**ARTICLE XVII  
EFFECTIVITY**

**Section 33. Effectivity**

This Rules and Regulations shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its signing and publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

APPROVED AND PROMULGATED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012.

SIGNED:

  
**PROCESO J. ALCALA**  
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  


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