

JUNIOR GRAFTWATCH PROGRAM

The **Junior Graftwatch Program** is part of the Office of the Ombudsman's multi-sectoral strategy to enjoin and empower the youth sector in graft prevention and control by encouraging them to establish Junior Graftwatch Units (JGUs) in schools and communities.

I. OBJECTIVES

A. General

1. To direct the growing concern and awaken the consciousness of young citizens into productive action towards the elimination or reduction of graft and corruption and its effects to the country's economy;
2. To develop and ingrain in the youth traditional Filipino values such as honesty and efficiency in preparation for their future roles as leaders of the country; and
3. To orient the youth on the task, functions and role of the Office of the Ombudsman.

B. Specific Objectives

1. To provide a mechanism for young citizens' effective participation in the OMB's corruption prevention campaign;
2. To establish a Junior Graftwatch Unit in every school and community; and
3. To promote recognition for the youth's achievement in their positive efforts towards clean and honest government.

II. WHO CAN BE ACCREDITED AS JGUs?

Students and community-based youth organizations duly recognized by their respective schools and communities can apply for accreditation as JGUs.

III. WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCREDITATION AND WHERE TO FILE THEM?

A. For School-Based Organizations:

1. Petition for accreditation of the student organization to be signed by its President or authorized representative;
2. A copy of certificate of recognition issued by the Office of the Students Affairs of the respective student organization;
3. A copy of the organization's Constitution/ By-Laws;
4. List of officers with their names, respective positions, courses/degrees, year levels, addresses and telephone numbers; and
5. Proposed activities/programs for the entire school year, including tentative dates of implementation and a brief description of each activity.

B. For Community-Based Organizations:

1. Petition for accreditation of the youth organization as Junior Graftwatch Unit of the OMB to be signed by its President or authorized representative;
2. A copy of the organization's Constitution and By-Laws;
3. Certified true copy of SEC Registration Certificate if any;
4. Barangay Clearance;
5. List of officers with their names, respective positions, courses/degrees, year levels, address and telephone numbers;
6. Proposed activities/programs for the entire calendar year, including tentative dates of implementation and a brief description of each activity.

Petitions for accreditation shall be filed to the Office of the Ombudsman through the Community Coordination Bureau (for NCR and Luzon-based units), OMB Visayas (Visayas-based units), OMB Mindanao (Mindanao-based units).

IV. POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE JUNIOR GRAFTWATCH UNIT.

- A. To promote the objectives of the Office of the Ombudsman;
- B. To act as the primary coordinating arm of the Office regarding the implementation of educational and motivational projects and activities which the OMB has to undertake for the benefit of the students and the youth in general;
- C. To assist concerned youth on their requests for assistance, grievance and or complaints or report any anomalous, unjust, improper and corrupt activities by a government agency or personnel by providing information, assistance or make representations with the concerned government agencies through the latter's Resident Ombudsman;
- D. In appropriate cases, to file the necessary complaint/or request for assistance in behalf of the concerned youth before the OMB;
- E. To closely monitor the implementation of programs or projects of an agency in certain area and remind the agency concerned of their stated timetable.
- F. To assist the OMB in the data gathering and research study pertinent to graft and corruption prevention in their field of studies;
- G. To conduct its own campaigns/projects promoting not only honesty and efficiency in government service but on the part of the other side of the transacting process as well --the public at large;
- H. To conduct symposia, seminars, workshops or conferences among citizens in the area inculcating the moral values of honesty as well as educating the public on the legal, technical, social, and economic ramifications of graft and corruption;

- L. To report and make commendations of worthy deeds of a government agency/personnel in the discharge of its/his official service, e.g. speedy completion of projects, savings/cost reduction in its operations, etc.;
- J. To submit semestral reports on the activities and projects that the said chapter has undergone;
- K. To perform such other functions as may be designated by the OMB.

V. HOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE JGU

- A. Install JGU sign boards at JGU offices or headquarters for easy guidance of the public;
- B. Place JGU complaint and suggestion boxes in JGU offices and other conspicuous places;
- C. Request and coordinate with local government offices to provide JGU with office spaces (for community-based JGUs);
- D. Guest in local radio or TV public service program as part of the JGU information dissemination campaign on graft and corruption prevention programs;
- E. Designate a JGU action officer who will act as JGU project coordinator with the OMB and Resident Ombudsmen;
- F. Establish coordinative linkages with each Junior Graftwatch Coordinating Council (NCR, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao).

VI. WHAT IS THE JGU MOTTO?

The JGUs believe that the nation's tomorrow is in the hands of the youth, thus the conception of the motto -- *"We cannot alter the past, but we can be alert for the future"*.

VII. THE JGU LOGO

The JGU logo adopts the color of the Philippine flag--red, blue, white, and yellow with an image of a face. The OMB seal is embodied

in the eye with white background signifying the youth's pure and honest nature. The face is painted blue signifying peaceful effort in fighting graft and corruption, collared with yellow symbolizing hope and idealism in the pursuit of the quest for a graft-free bureaucracy. The image is laid on red signifying militancy and vigilance under the tutelage and direction of the Office of the Ombudsman.

VIII. DOES THE DECS SUPPORT THE JGU PROGRAM AMONG SCHOOLS?

Yes. On June 20, 1996, the DECS Secretary Ricardo Gloria issued Office Order No. 43 directing all heads of public secondary and state colleges and universities throughout the country to participate in the OMB-sponsored orientation seminars on the Junior Graftwatch Program as part of the school's extra-curricular activities.

For more information about the Junior Graftwatch Program, please write or call the:

COMMUNITY COORDINATION BUREAU

Office of the Ombudsman
Agham Rd., Diliman, Quezon City
Tel.No. 926-8781 telefax 926-8780

Office of the Deputy Ombudsman for Luzon

3/F Ombudsman Bldg., Agham Rd., Diliman, Quezon City
Telefax: 528-1470

Office of the Deputy Ombudsman for the Visayas

Cebu Palace of Justice, Capitol Site, Cebu City
Tel.No. (032) 255-0977 Fax (032) 253-0981

Office of the Deputy Ombudsman for Mindanao

4/F, H&C Bldg, Alvarez St., Sta Ana, Davao City
Tel.No. (082) 221-3431 to 33 Fax (082) 221-3038



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Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN
Community Coordination Bureau
Public Assistance & Corruption Prevention Office