

IV. Graduate Studies Proposal

Graduating from college felt like reaching the edge of a vast, open field, where my journey as a teacher was just beginning to take shape. Since completing my degree at Mindanao State University Main Campus in July 2024, I have dedicated myself to thoroughly preparing for a teaching career. To enhance my prospects of securing a teaching position, I have enrolled in a master's degree program with the aim of qualifying as a master teacher. Alongside my studies, I am also preparing for the Licensure Exam for Teachers (LET), carefully balancing my review sessions with my master's coursework. In my pursuit of these qualifications, I have taken on the role of a substitute teacher, providing assistance in my sister's classroom. This experience has been both rewarding and challenging, as I navigate the complexities of managing large classes, accommodating diverse learning needs, and sometimes dealing with a lack of materials to run class smoothly. At times, I have felt overwhelmed, yet these challenges have only fueled my passion for teaching, reinforcing my determination to earn my license and become the best educator I can be.

My father, a farmer, and my mother, a housewife, support our family primarily through my father's income, which can be quite unstable. It deeply concerns me the financial burden my return to school imposes on them, especially since I am attending a private school for my master's degree. I truly believe that getting my masters is crucial for my future and will open doors for me in the teaching profession. Being the child of a farmer comes with its own set of struggles that shape my life. My father's income can be pretty unstable because it depends a lot on factors like the weather and market prices, which makes it tough for us to get by. On top of that, farming is hard work—it demands long hours and can leave him worn out that it affects his health. I feel the pressure of wanting to succeed in my studies and pursue my own dreams while knowing how much my family sacrifices. Money is always tight, which limits what I can access in terms of resources. But seeing my father's dedication to support my further study inspires me. It makes me appreciate how tough life can be, and it pushes me to keep working toward my goals and fight for better opportunities for others like us. However, during times of great need, we had to seek financial assistance from my sister, who also has her own family to support. Given the current economic climate, managing a household is difficult for anyone, which is why we are hesitant to ask for help. Now, I am living in the city for my master's studies—my first experience living in an urban environment—I quickly recognized the higher cost of living. My monthly allowance, which comes from my father's pension, ranges from ₱5,000 to ₱6,000. This amount is modest, especially since he only worked for a private company before retiring. While he contributes toward my rent and tuition, there are days when the weight of our financial struggles feels particularly heavy, forcing me to stretch my allowance to cover essential expenses.

Given these circumstances, I desperately need financial assistance to continue my studies. I do plan to work, but I intend to wait until I obtain my teaching license, as most job opportunities necessitate this qualification to validate my credentials. Unfortunately, aside from my father's support and his pension, I lack other resources to fund my graduate school expenses. I genuinely wish to maximize this opportunity, but I need additional support to turn my aspirations into reality.

I have chosen to pursue a Master's in Education with a specialization in English Language Teaching because I believe that strong English communication skills are crucial in today's globalized world. As a graduate of Bachelor of Secondary Education (BSED) majoring in English, I have cultivated a passion for teaching and a profound understanding of the challenges students encounter in language learning. This program will equip me with advanced pedagogical skills and strategies to effectively teach English, ultimately benefiting my future students.

I selected St. Michael's College of Iligan Inc. because it is a well-respected private institution renowned for producing well-rounded individuals who excel in their chosen careers and actively contribute to society. As a Magna Cum Laude graduate, the school's reputation for academic excellence and its commitment to fostering engaged citizens in the Philippines align closely with my values and aspirations. Furthermore, having my review center for the Licensure Exam for Teachers (LET) located in the same city allows me to efficiently manage my studies and preparation.

My long-term goal is to become a superintendent within the school division. Superintendents play a vital role in overseeing schools and ensuring that educational programs operate smoothly. They manage budgets, implement curriculum standards, and ensure that schools meet their educational objectives. I aspire to lead initiatives that enhance the quality of education and positively impact both students and teachers. Additionally, I am committed to supporting students like myself who choose education as their career path. I have observed that scholarship opportunities for education students are limited compared to those in science-related courses. During my undergraduate studies, I struggled to find financial assistance because many scholarships did not prioritize education programs. By pursuing this graduate degree, I hope to advocate for more scholarships in education and assist future teachers in accessing the support they need.

In summary, I have chosen this graduate program and institution because I aim to advance my teaching career and contribute to the improvement of education in the Philippines. With this degree, I will be better equipped to inspire and support the next generation of learners while also advocating for increased opportunities in education. Below is the budget proposal that I will pay for the entirety of my graduate program:

45 units, 4 semesters (2 years)

No. Of Semester	Expenses
1 st semester	₱15, 821.33
2 nd semester	₱21, 750.71
3 rd semester	₱12, 856.64
4 th semester	₱9, 891.95
Theses expenses	₱26, 000
Overall Total:	₱86, 320.63

Breakdown

1st Semester - Foundation Subjects (12 units)

COURSE NO.	UNITS	FEEES
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ED003	3	₱988.23 (per unit)
Educ 211	3	
Educ 212	3	
Educ 213	3	
Total units:	12	
	Tuition	₱11, 858.76 (12 units x ₱988.23)
	Other Fees :	₱2,399.34
	Labaratory Fees:	₱0.00
	Misc Fees:	₱1,563.23
	Total:	₱15, 821.33

2nd Semester - Major Subjects (18 units)

COURSE NO.	UNITS	FEES
ELT 211N	3	₱988.23 (per unit)
ELT 212	3	
ELT213	3	
ELT 214	3	
ELT 215	3	
ELT 216	3	
Total units:	18	
	Tuition:	₱17, 788.14 (18 units x ₱988.23)
	Other Fees :	₱2,399.34
	Labaratory Fees:	₱0.00
	Misc Fees:	₱1,563.23
	Total:	₱21, 750.71

3rd Semester - Elective Courses (9 units)

COURSE NO.	UNITS	FEES
ELT 220	3	₱988.23 (per unit)
ELT 223	3	
ELT 224	3	
ELT 225	3	
EM 201	3	
ELT 226	3	
Total units:	9	
	Tuition	₱8,894.07 (9 units x ₱988.23)
	Other Fees:	₱2,399.34
	Labaratory Fees:	₱0.00
	Misc Fees:	₱1,563.23
	Total:	₱12, 856.64

4th semester (6 units)

COURSE NO.	UNITS	Fees
T200 S	3	₱988.23 (per unit)
T200 W	3	
Total units:	6	
	Tuition:	5, 929.38 (6 units x ₱988.23)
	Other Fees :	₱2,399.34

Labaratory Fees:	₱0.00
Misc Fees:	₱1,563.23
Total:	₱9, 891.95

Theses Expenses

Thesis Adviser	₱6, 000
Panelist 1	₱3, 000
Panelist 2	₱3, 000
Panelist 3*	₱3, 000
Proofreader	₱2, 000
Statistician	₱2, 000
Hardbound	₱8, 000 - ₱ 10, 000
Total:	₱26, 0000

*optional**