



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region III
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF BULACAN

April 24, 2023

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 183, s. 2023

**REITERATION OF DEPED MEMO NO. 227, S.2012 AND DEPED ISSUED
ACCOUNTS SECURITY**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
Division Chiefs
Public Schools District Supervisors
Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. In relation to the **DICT – Computer Emergency Response Team** report regarding the rising incidence of alleged data leakages and reports of DepEd Gmail Accounts being disabled due to **Google Workspace Policy Violations**, this Office requires all schools to submit a compliance report on securing their DepEd Issued Accounts on or before May 19, 2023.
2. **All teaching, teaching-related, and non-teaching personnel** are required to perform the following on their respective DepEd-issued accounts:
 - 2.1 Reset passwords and enroll accounts with 2 step-verification.
 - 2.2 Monitor their account for any suspicious activity and report promptly if they detect anything unusual.
 - 2.3 Only use DepEd-issued accounts on official functions and work-related matters.
 - 2.4 Use strong passwords and avoid using the same passwords for different accounts.
 - 2.5 Perform a full system scan of the desktop/laptop using windows defender.
3. These actions are taken to strengthen account security against possible data leakage. Additionally, this is to reiterate DepEd Memo No. 227, s2012 titled “Guidelines on the Use of the DepEd Email Service” for guidance and reference.
4. Attached is the template for the compliance report to be submitted using this link:<https://bit.ly/ascr2023>.
5. For your information and strict compliance. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is hereby enjoined.


NORMA P. ESTEBAN, EdD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

OSDS/ICT unit
May 3, 2023





Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

DEC 26 2012

DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **227**, s. 2012

GUIDELINES ON THE USE OF THE DEPED EMAIL SERVICE

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau Directors
Directors of Services, Centers and Heads of Units
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools
All Others Concerned

1. To achieve the policy objectives of enhancing the existing media of communication, promoting a sense of identity, and facilitating a culture of collaboration, the Department of Education (DepEd) issues the **Guidelines on the Use of the DepEd Email Service** to operationalize the use of the DepEd Email Service pursuant to DepEd Order No. 85, s. 2012 entitled *Policy on the Establishment of DepEd Email Service*.
2. The enclosures contain the following guidelines for reference:

Enclosure No. 1 - Guidelines on Registration for deped.gov.ph accounts; and
Enclosure No. 2 - Guidelines on the Acceptable Use of deped.gov.ph accounts.
3. These guidelines shall remain in force and in effect until such time when they will be rescinded or amended. This Department through the Office of the Technical Service (TS) shall make the necessary modifications when deemed necessary, as long as consistency with the above stated policy thrusts is satisfied.
4. Any concern on these guidelines shall be directed to the Office of the Director, TS, DepEd Central Office (CO) through email address: helpdesk@deped.gov.ph or at telephone no.: (02) 638-4878.
5. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


BR. ARMIN A. LUISTRO FSC
Secretary

Encls.:

As stated

Reference:

DepEd Order (No. 85, s. 2012)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

EMPLOYEES
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
POLICY
PROGRAMS
PROJECTS
RULES and REGULATIONS

JBM/DM Guidelines on the Implementation of the DepEdService
1734-November 14, 2012/12-17-12

GUIDELINES ON REGISTRATION FOR *deped.gov.ph* ACCOUNTS

1. Roles and Responsibilities

- a. **Super Administrators.** The full system administrators shall be assigned by the Secretary. They shall have complete access to the *deped.gov.ph* control panel and all administrator actions.
- b. **ICT Administrators.** The Central Office, each regional office, and each division office shall assign an ICT administrator to be in charge of the administrative maintenance of users and groups in their respective area of responsibility.
- c. **Personnel Officer.** The Central Office, each regional office, and each division office shall assign a Personnel or Administrative Officer who will serve as the authorized officer for creation and deactivation of accounts.
- d. **Helpdesk.** Troubleshooting and other technical concerns relative to the service shall likewise be addressed by the Technical Service (TS), in coordination with other assigned employees of the Department.

2. Assignment

- a. All permanent employees of this Department shall be assigned a *deped.gov.ph* account which can be accessed through <http://mail.deped.gov.ph>.
- b. Consultants and personnel under contract of service may be assigned their respective accounts upon the request of their immediate heads of the unit and subject to the discretion and approval of the super administrators. The requests shall be based on the need of the said individuals for official email accounts in the performance of their duties.
- c. All users will be divided into three domains in the administrative panel: employees; consultants; and contracts of service.
- d. The *deped.gov.ph* accounts assigned will adhere to the following naming conventions:
 - <first name>.<last name>@deped.gov.ph for regular employees;
 - <first name>.<last name>@consultant.deped.gov.ph for consultants; and
 - <first name>.<last name>@cos.deped.gov.ph for contracts of service.
- e. Email addresses following a different naming convention, assigned as an alias, will be assigned upon the request of the head of unit and will be subjected to the discretion and approval of the super administrators.
- f. Offices which need an email address will be assigned a distribution list, with its employees who need to communicate using the said address under it, upon the request of the head of unit and will be subjected to the discretion and approval of the super administrators.

3. Registration Kiosks

- a. One (1) computer terminal must be set up, to function as a registration facility, in every office (regional and division), and in all DepEd Training Centers from January 2, 2013 to March 30, 2013. This terminal should be readily available to all teaching and non-teaching DepEd employees.
- b. The abovementioned computer terminal must have a stable internet connection. The default homepage, <http://depedverify.appspot.com>, must be kept open during office hours.
- c. The regional or division ICT administrator shall be the officer responsible for the said registration kiosk.

4. Ingress and Egress Procedures

- a. During the initial registration, from October 1, 2012 to March 30, 2013, all registrants will go through a verification facility that can be accessed through <http://depedverify.appspot.com>.
- b. Registrants who provide information consistent with the DepEd database shall automatically be issued email accounts by the verification facility and can log-in to their accounts on the same day.
- c. Registrants who provide information inconsistent with the DepEd database shall undergo manual verification. They will be contacted within a week after their registration.
- d. To address manual verification concerns, the Central Office (CO) verification team has been established to coordinate with the respective ICT administrators and personnel officers of each region and division.
- e. Starting April 1, 2013, all newly hired regular employees shall be given a *deped.gov.ph* account by the ICT administrator upon instruction of the personnel officer. Such account shall be created for the employee on the first day that the same is required to report for work. A basic orientation of this usage policy and other matters related to the *deped.gov.ph* service shall also be administered by the personnel officer.
- f. Individuals who are no longer connected with DepEd by reason of resignation, transfer of office, retirement, or other causes of termination or suspension of service, shall be prohibited from access to the *deped.gov.ph* service through account deletion. In every instance of effective separation from the DepEd, the Personnel Officer shall include the deactivation of accounts by the ICT administrator as part of the clearance process.

5. Suspension

- a. When persons are suspended or are separated pending the accomplishment of clearances, or other analogous instances, the personnel officer shall inform the ICT administrator so that the latter can suspend email accounts or otherwise prevent unauthorized access to the same.
- b. Likewise, upon notice from the personnel officer, when the cause for account suspension has resolved or remedied, the ICT administrator shall restore the account access.

GUIDELINES ON THE ACCEPTABLE USE OF *deped.gov.ph* ACCOUNTS

1. Scope

- a. These guidelines cover the use of a *deped.gov.ph* email account assigned to employees of DepEd.
- b. Where applicable, the substance of this policy shall also cover email communications by persons connected to the Department and acting on its behalf.

2. Core Principles

- a. *Use*
Whenever an employee of DepEd is assigned a *deped.gov.ph* email account, the use of such account for all online official communications is highly encouraged.
- b. *Professional Discretion*
 - i. Considering that all communications through the *deped.gov.ph* email account are treated as official representations, exercise of utmost professional discretion is required specially when sending out to external parties.
 - ii. The content of all such communications shall meet the appropriate standard in terms of form (e.g. language, spelling, grammar, punctuation, presentation), as well as substance.
- c. *Protection Against Liability*
 - i. Appropriate discretion shall be applied at all times in terms of representations, claims, and disclosures made through the *deped.gov.ph* email account.
 - ii. In the spirit of email risk awareness and to mitigate possible liability, the inclusion of the following disclaimer in the signature line of all communications sent through the service is automatically included in every email:

"This communication may contain confidential or privileged information, and is intended solely for the individual or entity to whom it is originally addressed. Any disclosure, copying, dissemination, or any action taken in reliance to it by others, other than the intended recipient, is strictly prohibited. The opinions, conclusions, and statements expressed in this message are those of the sender and may not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Education."
- d. *Prohibited Use*
 - i. The *deped.gov.ph* email account is a government email service obtained in the interest of public service. Transmission and storage of offensive, disruptive, discriminatory, pornographic, profane, abusive, libellous, derogatory, illegal, and otherwise similar material unbecoming of agents of the civil service are strictly prohibited.
 - ii. The email account shall not be used in connection with any commercial, religious, social, political, and other similar interests.

- iii. Disclosing confidential and sensitive personal information is strictly prohibited, unless it is required by duty or assignment.
 - iv. Use of the account to access illegal content or to access content (e.g. copyrighted information) in a manner that violates the law is likewise stringently forbidden.
 - v. The introduction, intentional or otherwise, of any form of computer virus or malware, may it be from an email attachment or external link to a file, into the network is also strictly prohibited.
 - vi. Each individual is responsible for any information or statement sent out from his or her own account, making him/her liable for violations stated in this policy.
- e. *Acceptable Personal Use*
- i. Reasonable use of the *deped.gov.ph* service for personal electronic correspondence is acceptable. However, strict professional discretion is still expected to be employed at all times.
 - ii. It is recommended that personal emails are saved in a folder separate from work-related email messages.
- f. *Other Limitations*
- DepEd shall exercise dominion over the *deped.gov.ph* account and over all data, material, and information received, transmitted, stored, or otherwise processed through the service.

3. Monitoring

- a. The privacy of every individual user shall be respected as a strict general policy. Supervision of accounts shall only be undertaken upon a finding of probable cause indicating a breach of the safe, proper, and reasonable use of the *deped.gov.ph* service or a violation of any law or other rules or regulations as possibly evidenced by contents processed through the *deped.gov.ph* service, as determined by the Executive Committee (ExeCom).
- b. The individual shall be informed that the account will be subjected for investigation and of the reason behind it.

4. Enforcement

- a. In the event that the prohibited acts stated in Section 2.d of this Policy Guidelines are violated, formal complaints may be lodged with the ICT administrator. This shall be done in coordination with the appropriate Division, Regional, Central DepEd legal officer against individual users whether they are still connected with DepEd or not, and upon a determination by the three super administrators that there is a probable cause to rely on the validity and veracity of the allegations contained therein.
- b. Any user found to be guilty of violating, intentional or otherwise, the policies of the *deped.gov.ph* email account service shall be subject to disciplinary action, without prejudice to such other civil, administrative, and penal remedies as the gravity of the violation may merit.
- c. The specific disciplinary action to be meted out shall be determined by the ExeCom member assigned as the ICT Chairperson, in consultation with the unit head of the person at fault.