



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
CARAGA REGION

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 0915, s. 2026

To: Asst. Regional Director
Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN PROJECT: START (SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY, AND RESEARCH FOR TOMORROW)

1. In reference to **DepEd Advisory No. 146, s. 2026**, the University of the Philippines Society of Proactive Advocates for Research and Knowledge (UP SPARK) will host a national research competition entitled Project: START (Science, Technology, and Research for Tomorrow) on **November 21, 2026**.
2. Project START is designed for high school learners (Grades 10–12) and aims to provide a platform for young innovators to pitch their inventions directly to investors and industry leaders. The competition seeks to:
 - a. Provide learners with opportunities to share their scientific discoveries and talents;
 - b. Strengthen professional and scientific discourse between student researchers and experts;
 - c. Exhibit the potential of Filipino youth in science and technology; and
 - d. Enhance learners' skills in research and innovation
3. Schools may form teams to participate in the following research clusters:
 - a. **Environment and Resources** (Water, Air, Land, Agriculture)
 - b. **Health, Wellness, and Assistive Technology** (Biotechnology, Mental Health)
 - c. **Services and Industries** (Logistics, Education, Business Analytics)
 - d. **Disaster Resilience and Public Safety** (Earthquake, Fire, Flood prevention)
 - e. **Smart Living and Machine Learning** (Automation, Urban Planning, Cyber Protection)
4. Participation of schools shall be **purely voluntary** and must not hamper instructional time, in compliance with **DepEd Order No. 009, s. 2026** (Three-Term School Calendar), **DO 9, s. 2005** (Engaged Time-on-Task), and **DO 66, s. 2017** (Off-Campus Activities). This is likewise subject to the **no-collection policy** under Republic Act No. 5546 (Ganzon Law).
5. Interested schools may register through the official link: **tinyurl.com/ProjectSTART-RegistrationForm**. The regular registration deadline is **September 19, 2026**. Updates and event guidelines may be accessed via the UP SPARK Facebook page.



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Trunkline No: (085) 225-1151
Telefax No: (085) 342-5959
Email: caraga@deped.gov.ph
Website: caraga.deped.gov.ph



6. For inquiries, schools may contact: **Mr. Roi Edan Victoria** External Affairs Director, Project START Email: upd.spark.org@gmail.com Facebook: facebook.com/upd.spark

7. Schools Division Superintendents are requested to **disseminate this information** to all concerned schools under their jurisdiction for guidance and voluntary participation.

8. For dissemination, guidance, and voluntary participation.

ALLAN G. FARNAZO
Director IV

VCN/PPRD/RM-Attendance and Participation in Project: STARK (Science, Technology, and Research...
14430/September 3, 2026



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Advisory No. **146**, s. 2026

August 7, 2026

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013

This advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 39, s. 2009,
but only for the information of DepEd officials,
personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public.
(Visit www.deped.gov.ph)

PROJECT: START (Science, Technology, and Research for Tomorrow)

The University of the Philippines Society of Proactive Advocates for Research and Knowledge (UP SPARK) will host a national research competition, Project: START (Science, Technology, and Research for Tomorrow), on November 21, 2026.

Project START is a research competition for high school learners (Grades 10–12) dedicated to turning brilliant ideas into real-world community solutions. It provides a platform for young innovators to pitch their inventions directly to investors and industry leaders who can scale their impact. The event will feature an exclusive Investor Showcase, offering partners dedicated time to connect and invest in tomorrow's breakthroughs.

The Competition aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Provide high school learners a platform to share their scientific discoveries and talents with their peers, educators, investors, and the wider scientific community;
2. Boost and strengthen professional and scientific discourse between rising student researchers and field experts to revitalize scientific appreciation for science and technology among the youth;
3. Exhibit the incredible potential and abilities of Filipino youth in the field of science and technology; and
4. Enhance learners' minds and skills in science and discovery by immersing them in the world of research.

Interested participants may visit the UP SPARK's Facebook page to register and access the event primer, handbook, and other updates on Project START.

Participation of schools shall be purely voluntary and will not hamper instructional time in compliance with the provisions of DepEd Order (DO) No. 009, s. 2026, titled Guidelines on the Implementation of the Three-Term School Calendar in Basic Education and Activities and DO 9, s. 2005, titled Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith, and the policy on off-campus activities stated in DO 66, s. 2017.

This is also subject to the no-collection policy as stated in Section 3 of Republic Act No. 5546, also known as An Act Prohibiting the Sale of Tickets and/or the Collection of Contributions for Whatever Project or Purpose from Students and Teachers of Public and Private Schools, Colleges and Universities (Ganzon Law).

For more information, please contact:

Mr. Roi Edan Victoria
External Affairs Director, Project START
UP Society of Proactive Advocates for Research and Knowledge
Email: upd.spark.org@gmail.com
Facebook: facebook.com/upd.spark

DTS No. 2026-09-14342
1:31 pm Sept. 3, 2026

Office of the Regional Director:

Greetings!

I am Roi Victoria from the External Affairs Committee of the **University of the Philippines Society of Proactive Advocates for Research and Knowledge (UP SPARK)**, a duly recognized student organization from the **University of the Philippines - Diliman**.

This semester, we are hosting **Project: START (Science, Technology, and Research for Tomorrow)**. More than just a competition, it is a launchpad for your students' brightest ideas. We have created a space where students in **Grades 10-12** can step beyond the classroom and pitch their inventions directly to investors and industry leaders. Our goal is to bridge the gap between academic research and real-world application, helping your students turn their "what ifs" into tangible outcomes.

We strongly believe that the most groundbreaking advancements frequently originate within the high school classroom. All too often, however, exceptional research driven by raw potential and creative vision remains confined behind closed doors. To help us give these students a platform, we would be deeply grateful for your assistance in sharing this information with the schools under your jurisdiction. We believe that with your help, we will be able to reach the right students for this project.

We are looking for passionate teams to represent your school in the following research clusters:

- **Environment and Resources:** (e.g., Water, Air, Land, Agriculture)
- **Health, Wellness, and Assistive Technology:** (e.g., Biotechnology, Mental Health)
- **Services and Industries:** (e.g., Logistics, Education, Business Analytics)
- **Disaster Resilience and Public Safety:** (e.g., Earthquake, Fire, Flood prevention)
- **Smart Living and Machine Learning:** (e.g., Automation, Urban Planning, Cyber Protection)

We would love to see the innovative spirit of the students showcased on our stage. For a deeper look at the event guidelines and how to register, please find the attached **Primer and Handbook**.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss how schools can be part of this initiative, please feel free to reach out. We are eager to support students and young minds as they take these first steps toward changing the future.

Furthermore, the Department of Education has issued **DepEd Advisory No. 146, s. 2026**, regarding **Project: START**. This advisory is for information dissemination and highlights the project's alignment with national educational standards, aiming to provide a supportive experience for students and institutions.

Attached to this email is the DepEd Advisory. You may also [access the DepEd Advisory here](#).

Should they be interested in participating, please direct them to kindly complete the **registration form** through the following link:

tinyurl.com/ProjectSTART-RegistrationForm
tinyurl.com/ProjectSTART-RegistrationForm
tinyurl.com/ProjectSTART-RegistrationForm

Stay updated on the latest news and announcements by liking our [Facebook Page](#). Please note that the **Regular Registration deadline is on September 19, 2026**.

Thank you for your tireless dedication to nurturing the next generation of Filipino innovators.

Igniting change with SPARK,

Roi Edan Victoria

External Affairs Director

**University of the Philippines Society of Proactive Advocates for Research and Knowledge
(UP SPARK)**

University of the Philippines

Diliman, Quezon City