



PUNONGHIMPILAN TANOD BAYBAYIN NG PILIPINAS
(HEADQUARTERS PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD)
139 25th Street, Port Area
1018 Manila

HPCG/CG-12

30 March 2017

CIRCULAR

NUMBER 05 - 17

**ACCREDITATION OF THE DEGREES OF
BACHELOR OF LAWS (LLB) AND DOCTOR OF JURISPRUDENCE (JD)
AS EQUIVALENT TO ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES
COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COURSE (AFPCGSC)**

I. REFERENCES:

- a. DOTC Department Circular dated 19 May 1998 entitled: "Promotion System for Commissioned Officers of the Philippine Coast Guard"
- b. HPCG Circular Nr 05-12 dated 28 May 2012 entitled: "Accreditation of Civilian Post Graduate Courses as Equivalent to AFP Command and General Staff Course (AFPCGSC)"
- c. HPCG Circular Nr 06-14 dated 12 May 2014 entitled: "Granting of Permission to Study after Office Hours"
- d. HPCG Circular Nr 03-04 dated 12 April 2004 entitled: "Functions of the PCG Education and Training Board (ETB) and AFP General Training Policies"

II. PURPOSE:

This circular prescribes the rules, policies, guidelines and procedures governing the accreditation of the degrees of Bachelor of Laws (LLB) and Doctor of Jurisprudence (JD) as equivalent of AFP Command and General Staff Course (AFPCGSC).

III. SCOPE:

This Circular applies to all officers of the PCG who are applying for accreditation of their post graduate degrees in Bachelor of Laws (LLB) or Doctor of Jurisprudence (JD) as equivalent to AFP Command and General Staff Course (AFPCGSC).

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IV. DEFINITION OF TERMS:

a. Command and General Staff Course – is a course taken by PCG Officers at AFP Command and General Staff College to prepare officers for command and staff positions in the operational and strategic levels by developing their intellectual depth and analytical ability and providing with a comprehensive understanding and ability and providing with a comprehensive understanding and knowledge for responsible command, leadership and management. Graduates of this course are given eligibility to occupy higher command and staff positions.

b. Equivalent Post Graduate Course – Courses taken from foreign or local education and training institutions, which are recommended by the PCGETB and approved by the CPCG, as temporary equivalent to the AFP Command and General Staff Course.

c. Bachelor of Laws – the degree in law conferred by a law school, abbreviated as LLB, which means that recipient has successfully completed four years of law studies in addition to at least four undergraduate years on any of the courses allowed by the Legal Education Board (LEB).

d. Doctor of Jurisprudence – the law degree granted upon graduation by accredited law schools instead of the degree of Bachelor of Laws.

V. POLICIES:

a. A degree in Bachelor of Laws or Doctor of Jurisprudence can only be accredited as equivalent to the AFP Command and General Staff Course by the PCG ETB if taken and completed by a PCG Officer while in the PCG service.

b. A degree in Bachelor of Laws or Doctor of Jurisprudence which was used by a PCG Officer as qualification for commissionship shall not be accredited as equivalent to the AFP Command and General Staff Course by the PCGETB.

c. A degree in Bachelor of Laws or Doctor of Jurisprudence which was accredited as equivalent to the AFP Command and General Staff Course by the ETB shall not be a bar for the PCG General Line Officer holding such degree to be nominated for any foreign post graduate study program if deemed qualified.

VI. PROCEDURES:

a. For authority to undertake Bachelor of Laws or Doctor of Jurisprudence at a local university or college, an officer must submit his duly accomplished Personal Action Form (PAF) with accompanying requirements as provided for in HPCG Circular Nr 06-14 dated 12 May 2014 (Granting of Permission to Study after Office Hours)

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b. For issuance of accreditation certificate:

i. Requirements: Original (will be returned to the PCG Officer) and certified true copy of the following documents shall be submitted to the Secretariat, PCGETB, along with request for issuance of accreditation certificate:

- a) Certificate of Completion (Diploma)
- b) Transcript of Records

ii. Upon receipt of the documents, the Secretariat, PCGETB shall determine their authenticity in form and substance including verification from the concerned college or university, as the case maybe.

iii. The Secretariat, ETB shall then request the Chairman for the convening of the PCG ETB for the formal issuance of the accreditation certificate.

VII. TRANSITORY PROVISIONS:

a. PCG Officers who are currently undertaking LLB or JD degrees without authority from the CPCG, in any local college and university shall, within thirty (30) days from the approval of this circular, apply for permission to study after office hours in accordance with HPCG Circular Nr 06-14 dated 12 May 2014.

b. PCG Officers who have already completed a law degree shall, without prejudice to paragraph V of this circular, within sixty (60) days from the approval of this circular, apply for accreditation certificate as provided for in paragraph VI.b. Failure to apply within the prescribed period will mean automatic denial of future applications of concerned officers.

VIII. RESCISSION:

Circulars, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Circular are hereby rescinded.

IX. EFFECTIVITY:

This Circular takes effect upon publication.

BY COMMAND OF COMMODORE GARCIA:

OFFICIAL:

JOSE WILLIAM U ISAGA
CAPT PCG
Chief of Coast Guard Staff


LIEZEL B BAUTISTA
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31/03/17