



**UNIVERSITY OF THE
PHILIPPINES**

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OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

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Memorandum No. OVPAA 2020-66

For: Successful UPCAT Applicants

(through the Vice-President for Public Affairs and
the Director of the Office of Admissions)

CIAT

From: Maria Cynthia Rose Banzon Bautista
Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Subject: On the Offer of Slots in UP and What to Expect in AY 2020-2021

Congratulations on having successfully hurdled the UP Admissions process! UP System President Danilo L. Concepcion and the Chancellor of the UP Constituent University (CU) you are offered a slot in will welcome you more formally once you are enrolled.

By way of a background, more than 100,000 high school students applied to take the University of the Philippines College Admission Test (UPCAT) in October 2019. On 30 May 2020, the University informed you online that you are among almost 12,000 applicants offered a slot in UP. This is about the same number of applicants offered slots in 2019. Your application was processed following the Excellence-Equity Admissions System (EEAS), which aims for a greater geographic distribution as well as socio-economic equity among the students admitted to UP while maintaining high academic standards.

As a successful applicant, you were informed of the Constituent Unit (CU)—e.g. UP Diliman, UP Manila, UP Los Baños, UP Visayas, UP Open University, UP Mindanao, UP Baguio and UP Cebu—where you have been placed, which may either be your first or second choice of CU. You were subsequently categorized into four types depending on the action of the degree program you applied to. Type 1 would be those accepted in their first choice of degree program, Type 2 would be those accepted in their second choice of degree program but waitlisted in their first choice, Type 3 would be those who are waitlisted in their choices of degree

programs, and Type 4 would be those who will be assigned to a degree program with available slot.

The deadline for confirming your acceptance of the University's offer is on **30 June 2020**. Slots will be made available to waitlisted applicants depending on the outcome of the confirmation process. After 30 June 2020, the confirmation is shifted to the CU level to process those who are waitlisted and those who are assigned to a degree program with available slots. Confirmation at the CU level will be on **6 - 31 July 2020**. Appeals for reconsideration are submitted to the CU of interest and will be processed beginning **6 July 2020 up to 15 August 2020**.

There will be successful applicants with pending cases whose application will be resolved upon submission of documentary deficiencies. Applicants who were not accepted, were informed of the option to either appeal for reconsideration or transfer to UP after a year or two, subject to compliance with University requirements.

Putting the safety of our students and faculty first, UP, like other universities in the country, the ASEAN region and the world, is generally adopting remote teaching and learning for academic year (AY) 2020-2021 with the possibility of blending remote and face-to-face meetings—especially in courses requiring the development of discipline-specific skills (e.g. laboratory, studio, practicum courses)—if the COVID-19 situation permits, subject to public health requirements (e.g. social distancing).

Remote teaching and learning cover the entire spectrum of asynchronous or non-real time communication between teachers and learners—from text-based (basic email, FB Messenger, Viber group, etc.) to online discussion boards in different platforms (UP's Learning Management Systems, Canvas, Google Classroom, etc.)—and synchronous or real time communication between teachers and learners (e.g. lectures, webinars and teleconferences using such platforms as Zoom, Google Hangouts Meet).

Given the uncertain trajectory of the pandemic at this time, the University is preparing for the scenario where courses are delivered remotely throughout the first term without sacrificing quality. Starting 1 July 2020, the faculty will be redesigning the AY 2020-2021 course offerings for remote learning. It is important for you and your parents to understand that remote learning is not necessarily inferior to face-to-face learning. Administered well and for particular courses it may even be superior to learning primarily from lectures in physical classrooms.

In preparation for the shift to remote learning, the University is simultaneously laying the physical infrastructure for remote learning—e.g., gadgets for online learning, internet or cell phone data connectivity—as well as the academic infrastructure for it—e.g., upgrading of the University's Library Management System; subscription to a cloud-based service that provides remote access to library resources; subscription to relevant databases of peer-reviewed literature and e-publications; retooling of faculty and staff; and redesigning of courses for remote delivery to different types of students depending on their internet connectivity—from those having quality internet connections in their homes or the area where they live to those with poor or no internet connectivity.

To ensure UP's readiness to provide the same, if not better, quality education remotely, the UP System administration has obtained the Board of Regent's approval in principle to move the opening of classes to 10 September 2020 subject to ongoing consultations with faculty and students. You will be informed of the academic calendar and details of UP's remote learning delivery within July 2020.

Should you choose to accept our offer and enroll in UP, we assure you that your wellness is paramount and that we will exert every effort in these extremely trying times to transform the way we teach so that you will continue to learn. We are committed to ensuring that you **THRIVE** in your new learning environment; **ENGAGE** in learning, leveraging on digital and information technology; **LEARN** with the appropriate teaching strategies best suited to your enrolled course; and **CREATE** through various learning partnerships.

We look forward to formally welcoming you to UP. Stay safe!