# HIGHLIGHTS AND SALIENT FEATURES OF MAJOR ITEMS IN THE PROPOSED FY 2027 AGENCY BUDGET

As education remains a key driver of national development, the DOST - Philippine Science High School System (PSHSS) remains committed to providing accessible, high-quality, and future-ready STEM education for gifted Filipino learners.

For Fiscal Year 2027, DOST-PSHSS has prioritized key programs aimed at strengthening institutional capacity, expanding access to quality science education, enhancing learner support systems, modernizing campus infrastructure and ICT facilities, and improving digital and operational readiness. These initiatives will operationalize the expansion provisions of Republic Act No. 12310 (Expanded PSHSS Act) while responding to the evolving demands of science education and the national innovation agenda.

Through these programs, DOST-PSHSS will be able to continue advancing its mission of delivering quality STEM education nationwide and producing graduates who are academically excellent, globally competitive, ethically grounded, and prepared to become innovators, problem solvers, and future leaders of national development.

The following are the major items in the FY 2027 proposed budget and their salient features:

## I. Enhancement of Scholarship Stipend and Support Benefits for PSHS Scholars

**Proposed Budget: ₱ 873,297,000.00**

PSHSS continues to strengthen its scholarship program to ensure equitable access to specialized STEM education for academically gifted Filipino students across all campuses.

For FY 2027, the PSHSS proposes to **retain the ₱8,000 monthly stipend for Full Scholars and simplify the existing three Partial scholarship categories into a single Partial scholarship category with a standardized monthly stipend of ₱4,000,** as shown in the table below.

| Scholarship Category | Since FY 2014 | FY 2026 | FY 2027 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Stipend | Stipend | Scholarship Category (Proposed) | Stipend (Proposed) |
| Full | ₱4,000 | ₱8,000 | Full | ₱8,000 |
| Partial 1 | ₱3,500 | ₱3,500 | Partial | ₱4,000 |
| Partial 2 | ₱2,500 | ₱2,500 | | |
| Partial 3 | ₱500 | ₱500 | | |

This proposed revision strengthens the scholarship framework by increasing financial support for scholars, particularly Full Scholars, and **updating a stipend structure that has remained largely unchanged since FY 2014**

despite inflation and rising living and education costs. It also promotes greater equity, improves administrative efficiency, and ensures that financial assistance is responsive to students' actual needs.

The proposal also **expands student welfare benefits,** including allowances for uniforms, transportation, books, research, instructional supplies, internships, competitions, conferences, and other academic, cultural, and student development activities.

The proposed budget will support the **11,145 projected number of scholars for SY 2027–2028**, **including the initial intake for the new Negros Island Region Campus (NIRC)**. This number is broken down as follows:

| CAMPUS | SY 2027-2028 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number of Scholars per Grade Level | | | | | | |
| | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | Grand Total |
| BRC[1] | 120 | 120 | 120 | 119 | 117 | 87 | 683 |
| CARC[2] | 90 | 90 | 90 | 85 | 85 | 84 | 524 |
| CBZRC[3] | 120 | 120 | 120 | 116 | 115 | 114 | 705 |
| CLC[4] | 120 | 120 | 120 | 116 | 116 | 115 | 707 |
| CRC[5] | 120 | 120 | 120 | 114 | 113 | 113 | 700 |
| CVC[6] | 120 | 120 | 120 | 118 | 117 | 116 | 716 |
| CVisC[7] | 120 | 120 | 120 | 118 | 118 | 87 | 683 |
| DRC[8] | 120 | 120 | 120 | 117 | 116 | 115 | 708 |
| EVC[9] | 90 | 90 | 90 | 85 | 84 | 83 | 522 |
| IRC[10] | 120 | 120 | 120 | 112 | 112 | 111 | 695 |
| MC[11] | 240 | 240 | 240 | 227 | 227 | 226 | 1400 |
| MRC[12] | 90 | 60 | 60 | 45 | 40 | 40 | 335 |
| NIR[13] | 120 | - | - | - | - | - | 120 |
| NMC[14] | 120 | 120 | 120 | 119 | 118 | 117 | 714 |
| SRC[15] | 120 | 120 | 120 | 117 | 117 | 116 | 710 |
| WVC[16] | 120 | 120 | 120 | 116 | 115 | 114 | 705 |
| ZRC[17] | 90 | 90 | 90 | 85 | 84 | 84 | 523 |
| **Total** | **2,040** | **1,890** | **1,890** | **1,809** | **1,794** | **1,722** | **11,145** |

[1]Bicol Region Campus in Camarines Sur | [2]Cordillera Administrative Region Campus in Baguio City | [3]CALABARZON Region Campus in Batangas City | [4]Central Luzon Campus in Clark Freeport Zone | [5]Caraga Region Campus in Butuan City | [6]Cagayan Valley Campus in Nueva Vizcaya | [7]Central Visayas Campus in Cebu | [8]Davao Region Campus in Davao City | [9]Eastern Visayas Campus in Leyte | [10]Ilocos Region Campus in Ilocos Sur | [11]Main Campus in Diliman, Quezon City | [12]MIMAROPA Region Campus in Romblon | [13]Negros Island Region in San Carlos City | [14]Northern Mindanao Campus in Lanao del Norte | [15]SOCCSKARGEN Region Campus in Koronadal City | [16]Western Visayas Campus in Iloilo City | [17]Zamboanga Peninsula Region Campus in Dipolog City

## II. Rehabilitation/Retrofitting/Upgrading /Expansion/Completion of School Buildings and Facilities

**Proposed Budget: ₱ 816,512,000.00**

To ensure safe, resilient, and conducive learning environments, the PSHSS proposes major infrastructure interventions through the rehabilitation, retrofitting, upgrading, expansion, and completion of school buildings and facilities across campuses.

The program **addresses aging facilities, incomplete structures, overcrowding in residential facilities, and critical utility gaps** that affect the delivery of quality STEM education.

Priority interventions include the completion of ongoing projects; rehabilitation and retrofitting of existing facilities; expansion of dormitories and residential halls; upgrading of electrical, water, drainage, and sewer systems; and campus safety and site development works, as detailed in the table below.

| Type of Infrastructure | Cost (in PhP) |
|---|---|
| Academic Buildings | 252,612,000.00 |
| Dormitories/Residence Halls | 374,000,000.00 |
| Power Supply System | 24,000,000.00 |
| Water Supply System | 4,000,000.00 |
| Flood Control System | 25,000,000.00 |
| Multipurpose Buildings | 116,900,000.00 |
| Other Structures | 20,000,000.00 |
| **GRAND TOTAL** | **816,512,000.00** |

These investments will improve structural safety, student welfare, campus livability, and climate resilience while maximizing the use of previous government investments and supporting long-term campus development.

## III. Upgrading and modernization of ICT Facilities of the Philippine Science High School Campuses

**Proposed Budget: ₱ 449,114,005.00**

As PSHSS advances its digital transformation agenda, robust and modern ICT infrastructure remains essential **to support hybrid learning, research, innovation, and efficient institutional operations**.

The program aims to strengthen digital infrastructure across all campuses through the upgrading, standardization, and modernization of ICT systems.

Major investments include:

- Continuing ICT costs such as cloud subscriptions, communication expenses, and software subscriptions (**₱ 99,4770,373.00**)
- ICT project investments for equipment, machineries, servers, computing systems, and network infrastructure (**₱ 136,051,896.00**)
- Office productivity systems and ICT equipment for campuses and the Office of the Executive Director (**₱ 213,591.736.00**)

The program will also **support cybersecurity enhancement, campus-wide connectivity improvement, LMS platforms, digital learning systems, and ICT-enabled research tools such as data science, AI, simulation, and advanced computing**. These strategic investments will institutionalize a resilient, scalable, and future-proof ICT ecosystem across PSHSS and will strengthen its role in national science, technology, and innovation systems.

## IV. Philippine Science High School Resource Optimization for Enhanced Campus Operations

**Proposed Budget: ₱ 1,968,532,000.00**

Campus operations remain the core driver of the PSHSS's budget, ensuring the continuous delivery of quality STEM education across all campuses nationwide. As enrollment increases and program requirements become more complex, resource constraints across Personnel Services (PS), Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE), and Capital Outlay (CO) continue to affect the ability of campuses to fully support academic, administrative, and technical functions.

For FY 2027, PSHSS proposes a comprehensive resource optimization strategy that integrates the augmentation of MOOE, expansion of personnel complement, and targeted capital investments in equipment and facilities to ensure that campuses remain safe, functional, and future-ready.

The proposed budget consists of:

- Personnel Services (PS): **₱ 722,611,000.00**
- Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE): **₱ 439,835,000.00**
- Capital Outlay (CO): **₱ 806,085,000.00**

A significant portion of the proposal **supports the creation of new positions, filling of vacant plantilla items, and reclassification of existing positions to strengthen teaching, administrative, and technical operations** across campuses.

Capital investments include laboratory equipment, ICT systems, technical and scientific equipment, motor vehicles, office equipment, and furniture and fixtures necessary **to support hybrid learning, research, and campus operations**.

This initiative ensures safer, cleaner, and more conducive learning environments while improving institutional efficiency, strengthening service delivery, and sustaining excellence in science education across the PSHS System.

## V. Establishment of New PSHS Campuses

**Proposed Budget: ₱ 440,590,000.00**

In line with Republic Act No. 12310 or the Expanded Philippine Science High School System Act, PSHSS proposes the strategic establishment of new campuses to expand equitable access to specialized STEM education nationwide.

The program supports geographic expansion, system capacity building, and future-ready infrastructure development through three major components:

1. ***Establishment of PSHS Campus in Negros Island Region (NIR)***
   ***Proposed Budget: ₱320,690,000.00***

   This supports the **foundational infrastructure of the new NIR Campus (in San Carlos City, Negros Occidental)**, including academic buildings, administration building, dormitories, gymnasium, utilities, and initial operations. Once implemented, this **will address access gaps for learners from Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental, Siquijor, and nearby areas** while strengthening regional STEM education and science capacity.

2. ***Establishment of New PSHS Campuses (RA 12310 Implementation)***
   ***Proposed Budget: ₱36 Million***

   This covers **feasibility studies, site assessments, campus master planning, institutional design, and implementation frameworks** necessary for standards-based and sustainable campus expansion. Moreover, this **operationalizes the expansion provisions of RA 12310**, which envisions a broader and more inclusive PSHSS, capable of reaching more Filipino learners, especially from underserved areas.

3. ***Establishment of PSHS–Infinitum in New Clark City***
   ***Proposed Budget: ₱83.900 Million***

   PSHS–Infinitum is envisioned as **a next-generation campus integrating education, research, and innovation** aligned with emerging fields, advanced manufacturing, digital technologies, sustainability sciences, etc.. It positions PSHSS within the New Clark City innovation ecosystem and serves as a national model for future-ready STEM high schools.

   These investments will strengthen PSHSS's long-term capacity to serve more scholars while modernizing and future-proofing its STEM education delivery. They also support the **evolving role of PSHSS not only as an education provider but also as a catalyst for research, innovation, and national competitiveness**.

## VI. Advancing Climate-Smart, Quality, Inclusive and Resilient Education (ACQUIRE)

**Proposed Budget:** **₱ 3,435,276,000.00 (Foreign)**
**₱ 37,617,552.00 (Local)**

The ACQUIRE Project is a strategic initiative aligned with the Philippine Development Plan 2023–2028 to address disparities in the quality of STEM education across PSHSS and other DepEd science-oriented secondary schools. It aims **to close performance gaps by ensuring equitable access to qualified teachers, curriculum-aligned learning materials, modern facilities, and reliable utilities** that support continuous learning.

The project will establish a network of well-resourced schools that serve as models for standardized quality and hubs for sharing best practices across the education system.

The local cost component of the Advancing Climate-Smart, Quality, Inclusive and Resilient Education (ACQUIRE) Project complements externally funded interventions by strengthening institutional readiness for climate-smart and resilient education delivery.

The project supports:

- manpower for technical, administrative, and support functions
- hybrid learning systems
- ICT infrastructure enhancement
- science laboratory improvements
- training, utilities, and operational support

This will ensure that PSHSS campuses are **equipped with adaptive, technology-enabled, and inclusive learning systems capable of delivering quality education** during both normal operations and disruption scenarios.

The initiative aligns with national education priorities, climate resilience goals, and the broader DOST innovation agenda while strengthening the long-term sustainability of STEM education delivery.

## VII. Completion of Infrastructure Standards of Existing Philippine Science High School Campuses

**Proposed Budget: ₱ 240,000,000.00**

This project addresses critical infrastructure gaps to ensure that existing PSHS campuses meet prescribed standards for quality science education delivery.

Priority investments include:

- Expansion of the PSHS System Training and Administration Center under the Office of the Executive Director (**₱ 80,000,000.00**)
- Construction of a Multipurpose Gymnasium at the Zamboanga Peninsula Region Campus (**₱ 100,000,000.00**)
- Construction of an Integrated Student Support Services Facility at the SOCCSKSARGEN Region Campus (**₱ 60,000,000.00**)

These interventions improve institutional capacity, strengthen student welfare, and provide enabling environments that support holistic learning, training, and organizational efficiency.

The project ensures that infrastructure development keeps pace with increasing student population, evolving educational demands, and the need for safe, inclusive, and learner-centered environments across the System.

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