

DepEd Region III Career Camp equips Grade 12 students for future careers

The Department of Education (DepEd) Regional Office III, through the Education Support Services Division (ESSD), hosted the Career Intervention Camp themed “Pathways to Possibility: Building Careers for Brighter Futures” from September 16 to 19, 2025 at Hacienda Gracia Resort and Hotel in Lubao, Pampanga to equip Grade 12 students with practical skills and insights for their future careers.

Detailed in Regional Memorandum no. 213, s. 2025 titled “Career Intervention Camp towards Improved Learning Outcomes: Empowered and Employable Learners,” the activity connects academic learning with real world applications through hands-on activities and industry insights while linking learners with mentors and role models who guide goal setting and decision-making with emphasis on critical thinking, life skills, entrepreneurial thinking and practical job preparation.

Grade 12 student leaders from the Schools Division Office of Science City of Muñoz, the Schools Division Office of Cabanatuan, and the Schools Division of Zambales joined the first day program that began with a welcome message from Chief Education Supervisor Sammy P. Sampang, words of inspiration from Regional Director Ronnie S. Mallari, PhD, CESO V of DepEd Central Luzon, and a message of support from Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS) Assistant Secretary Dr. Dexter A. Galban before moving into sessions such as “Life Skills in the Context of Transformative Education” by Dean Henry Francisco S. Tenedero, “Overcoming Challenges Toward a Successful Career” by Shawntel Nicole M. Nieto, “The Right Skills on Digital Economy” by Ezra P. Tanciongo, and “Virtual Assistant 101: Preparation Skills” by Alvin C. Cac.

In a separate interview after the camp, Nieto shared this message for Grade 12 students to remember as they face challenges on their way to a successful career: “Life will take you many places—most of which may not even be at the back of your minds right now. Wherever it is you do go, always remain steadfast, grounded on your roots. You may forget everything, but never your faith nor your moral compass. Life will show you many things—that’s what makes life so beautiful, never take your face away from your God—He is what gives life purpose.”

The second day proceeded into a learning session on higher education with representatives from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), and partner universities, a learning session on middle level skills development with agencies such as the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Clark Development Corporation (CDC), and the Subic

Clark Alliance for Development (SCAD), and afternoon breakout groups for skill-building that ranged from communication and personality development to various forms of career planning.

“Career Intervention Camp [is] one of the reasons how I was able to better understand what my career goals are in the future,” said Alpha Angel Eligado, president of the Supreme Secondary Learner Government (SSLG), adding that she “gained insights like choosing the proper program that best suits a learner’s interests, abilities, and long term goals.”

Participants spent the third day in a learning session on employment led by speakers from the Public Employment Service Office (PESO) and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) along with representatives of business process outsourcing (BPO) companies, then in a follow-up session on entrepreneurship with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and the Young Entrepreneurs of Pampanga (YEP), and finally in mock job interviews facilitated by school-based career advocates in 15 groups.

“These activities, especially the mock interviews, made most of them realize which career path they should choose,” said Carrie Flores, school-based career advocate of Science City of Muñoz Senior High School.

“Some of them arrived unsure or without any plans at all, but because of the activities in the career camp, they were able to see how they should make their choices and which career would best fit them,” she added.

The final day concluded with preliminaries and a closing program where Assistant Regional Director Jessie L. Amin, EdD, CESO V, of DepEd Central Luzon led the awarding of certificates and words of gratitude before the participants gathered for a photo opportunity.