



Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
22nd City Council

PO22CC-066

19th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- 3174, S-2023

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE BETTY GO-BELMONTE RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM FOR QUALIFIED QUEZON CITY RESIDENTS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

Introduced by Councilor ALY MEDALLA.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Bernard R. Herrera, Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Joseph P. Juico, Nikki V. Crisologo, Charm M. Ferrer, Fernando Miguel "Mikey" F. Belmonte, Candy A. Medina, Dave C. Valmocina, Tatay Rannie Z. Ludovica, Godofredo T. Liban II, Kate Galang-Coseteng, Geleen "Dok G" G. Lumbad, Albert Alvin "Chuckie" L. Antonio III, Don S. De Leon, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Atty. Anton L. Reyes, Edgar "Egay" G. Yap, Imee A. Rillo, Raquel S. Malañgen, Irene R. Belmonte, Nanette Castelo-Daza, Marra C. Suntay, Joseph Joe Visaya, Alfred Vargas, MPA, Ram V. Medalla, Shaira "Shay" L. Liban, Aiko S. Melendez, Mutya Castelo, Maria Eleanor "Doc Ellie" R. Juan, O.D., Kristine Alexia R. Matias, Eric Z. Medina, Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar, Vito Sotto Generoso, Victor "Vic" Bernardo, Alfredo "Freddy" Roxas and Noe Dela Fuente.

WHEREAS, Section 2 (3), Article XIV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall establish and maintain a system of scholarship grants, student loan programs, subsidies and other incentives which shall be available to deserving students in both public and private schools, especially to the underprivileged;

WHEREAS, Section 17 of the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that local government units shall exercise such other powers and discharge such other functions and responsibilities as are necessary, appropriate, or incidental to efficient and effective provisions of the basic services and facilities, including support for education;

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WHEREAS, Proclamation No. 247, "Declaring the Month of September of Every Year as Development Policy Research Month," issued by then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, calls for the promotion, enhancement, instilling, and drawing nationwide awareness and appreciation of the importance and necessity of policy research as a tool for national socio-economic development and for insuring the support of the public at large for all activities aimed at advancing the quality and standard of policy research in the country;

WHEREAS, Section 476 of the Local Government Code of 1991 provides for the mandatory appointment of the Planning and Development Coordinator, institutionalized in the City through Ordinance No. SP-2672, S-2017, entitled "An Ordinance Rationalizing the Functional Structure of the Quezon City Planning and Development Department," which, among others, is responsible for (1) formulating integrated economic, social, physical, and other development plans and policies for consideration of the local government development council, (2) conducting continuing studies, research, and training programs necessary to evolve plans and programs, and (3) integrating and coordinating all sectoral plans and studies undertaken by different functional groups or agencies;

WHEREAS, according to the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), policy research plays a critical role in the socioeconomic advancement of the Philippines and there is a need to cultivate a strong culture of research and use of data and evidence among the country's national and local decision makers in policymaking and program planning and to raise the public's literacy on important socioeconomic issues;

WHEREAS, in the pursuit of economic development and progress, the State shall give priority to the creation of a critical mass of elite students and professionals who shall take the lead in harnessing science and technology, culture and arts, policy and social research, and related disciplines towards accelerating the productivity of the country's human resources;


WHEREAS, the City Mayor, Honorable Ma. Josefina "Joy" Belmonte, in her 14-Point Agenda, states that the success of the City lies upon having trustworthy leadership, data and information-driven decision making, and an efficient and well-functioning government system that is worthy of public trust;

WHEREAS, Mayor Belmonte, citing the work of the City Council, also highlighted the need for efficiency and professionalism that puts a premium on excellence over political expediency and the attainment of a high standard of service through adequate research that is sensitive to all opinions of the various sectors and accommodates the current concerns of the public;

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WHEREAS, there is a need to develop a critical mass of first-rate specialists in various disciplines and areas of specialization vital to the City's development to form a collective LGU-academe "think tank" who shall continuously place their knowledge and skills at the service of the community, be it in industry, the academe or the highest policy-making levels of the City Government, with the City Government taking the lead in harnessing their knowledge and skills for the greater good of the City and its people;

WHEREAS, named after the late Billie Marry "Betty" Go-Belmonte, a renowned journalist and newspaper publisher who understood the importance of gathering and relaying facts for an informed and engaged public, this Ordinance establishes a research grants program anchored under the City Planning and Development Department (CPDD) that aims to bridge the knowledge of the academe and the planning and policy-making processes of the government.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. TITLE. - This Ordinance shall be known as the "Betty-Go Belmonte Research Grants Program of Quezon City".

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. - It is hereby declared a policy of the City Government to ensure that plans, policies, and programs are grounded on a comprehensive body of facts and research. In view thereof, the City Government shall provide research grants that will support exceptionally able and highly motivated Quezon City undergraduate, post graduate students and professors in undertaking advanced studies in branches of science and technology, culture and arts, policy and social research, and other fields of learning that would contribute to the holistic and sustainable progress of the City.

SECTION 3. SCOPE. - This Ordinance shall include all Quezon City residents undertaking undergraduate, postgraduate degree studies including professors with approved research, thesis, or dissertation proposal related to pertinent issues and concerns of the City Government and its citizens.

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SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. - For the purposes of this Ordinance, the following definitions are adopted:

- (a) **Fellow** - a student researcher accepted into the Betty Go-Belmonte Research Grants Program.
- (b) **Student** - any person enrolled in a University or College in Quezon City.
- (c) **Professor** - any person teaching in a University or College in Quezon City.
- (d) **Undergraduate degree** - an academic program achieved upon completion of courses leading to a Bachelor's degree.
- (e) **Post-graduate degree** - a course of study or academic program taken after a Bachelor's degree has been obtained.
- (f) **Quezon City Resident** - a Filipino of good moral standing and a bonafide resident of Quezon City.

SECTION 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROGRAM. - There shall be established under the City Planning and Development Department (CPDD), in coordination with colleges and universities, the private sector, and relevant government agencies such as the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), a research grant program, to be known as the "Betty Go-Belmonte Research Grants Program," hereinafter referred to as the "Program," for Quezon City residents pursuing undergraduate and postgraduate studies including professors.

SECTION 6. ESTABLISHMENT OF AN LGU-ACADEME SECRETARIAT. - There shall be established an LGU-Academe secretariat, hereafter referred to as the Secretariat, with the following functions:

- (a) Identify, negotiate, and secure foreign and/or local sponsorships;
- (b) Serve as the Selection Panel of applicants to be accepted as Fellows into the Program;
- (c) Provide the Fellows continuing assistance from the time of selection to the time of completion of their research, including assistance for the production, dissemination and utilization of their research output; and

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- (d) *Promulgate and implement the policies and guidelines of fellowships, research, scholarships, and related matters.*

The Secretariat shall be headed by an Executive Officer, to be appointed by the City Mayor. The members of the Secretariat shall consist of representatives from the following offices:

- (a) *Office of the City Administrator;*
- (b) *City Planning and Development Department (CPDD);*
- (c) *Youth Development Office (QCYDO);*
- (d) *Quezon City University (QCU);*
- (e) *Chairperson, Committee on Education, Science and Technology of the City Council;*
- (f) *Four (4) graduate faculty representatives from higher education institutions (HEIs) in Quezon City; and*
- (g) *Qualified individuals duly appointed by the City Mayor.*

SECTION 7. QUALIFICATIONS AND SELECTION OF FELLOWS. - *There shall be an annual selection of undergraduate, postgraduate students and professors distributed across the various fields of specialization identified by the Quezon City Government as essential for promoting the sustainable development thrusts of the City. In order to qualify for the Program, the applicant must at least:*

- (a) *Be a Filipino citizen and resident of Quezon City;*
- (b) *Have an approved research, thesis, or dissertation proposal from his/her HEI;*
- (c) *Demonstrate leadership and exceptional performance;*
- (d) *Be enthusiastic in undergoing further training; and*
- (e) *Undertake research beneficial to the City.*

The Secretariat shall make the final decision on the applicants nominated by their respective HEIs who will be accepted as Fellows into the Program.

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SECTION 8. SUPPORT FOR FELLOWS. - *The Fellows shall be entitled to the following benefits:*

- (a) *Maximum of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php100,000.00) cash grant;*
- (b) *Access to all units and/or departments of the City Government, as well as its officials and personnel at all levels, including the barangay, with prior permission from the City Government;*
- (c) *Maximum of Twenty Thousand Pesos (Php20,000.00) worth of books/instructional materials for research;*
- (d) *Maximum of Twenty Thousand Pesos (Php20,000.00) worth of health, insurance, and transportation fees of the fellow;*
- (e) *Maximum of Twenty Thousand Pesos (Php20,000.00) worth of printing and reproduction of research; and*
- (f) *Public forum presentation arrangement.*

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION AND FUNDING. - *An initial amount of One Million Pesos (Php1,000,000.00) shall be allocated on the first year of the program which will be taken from any available funds of the City. Upon the recommendation of the Secretariat for purposes of expanding the program in its subsequent years of implementation, additional funding shall also be taken from any available funds of the City.*

SECTION 10. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. - *Within ninety (90) days upon approval of this Ordinance, the Secretariat, in consultation with relevant government agencies such as the NEDA, DOST, CHED, DepEd, Education Affairs Unit, QCYDO, and the Quezon City University shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) necessary for the implementation of this Ordinance.*

SECTION 11. AUTHORITY. - *The City Mayor is hereby given authority to sign documents, agreements, and other necessary orders in pursuance of this Ordinance.*

SECTION 12. REPEALING CLAUSE. - *All Quezon City Ordinances, Resolutions, Executive Orders, Memorandum Circulars and Administrative Regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.*

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SECTION 13. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. - If for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of the Ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, or other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 14. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. - This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation.


ENACTED: January 23, 2023.


GIAN G. SOTTO
City Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:



Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Government Dept. Head III

APPROVED: FEB 13 2023


MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on January 23, 2023 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on January 30, 2023.


Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Government Dept. Head III
