



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NEGROS ISLAND REGION

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 1114, s. 2026

OCT 05 2026

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN EY AI LEAD PROGRAM 2026-2027

To: Schools Division Superintendents of Negros Occidental, Dumaguete City,
and Bayawan City
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is a letter from the Junior Achievement of the Philippines, Inc. (JA Philippines) Director of Operations, Paula Patrice Dela Cruz to participate in EY AI Lead Program 2026-2027.
2. The identified Schools Division Offices are requested to nominate two (2) participating schools, preferably those with a strong interest and capacity to engage in AI, STEM, innovation, and technology-related learning activities.
3. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.


RAMIR B. UYTICO EdD, CESO III
Regional Director

Encl.: As stated

Reference: As stated

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

CURRICULUM PROGRAM

MMPR/CLMD-RM- Invitation to Participate in EY AI Lead Program 2026-2027
000/October 1, 2026



Address: Batinguel, Dumaguete City, 6200
Telephone Nos:
Email Address: nir@deped.gov.ph
Website: <https://tinyurl.com/nir-gov-ph>

Invitation to Participate: EY AI Lead Program 2026–2027

From Ralph Joseph Ornopia <ralph@japionline.org>

Date Wed 9/23/2026 9:44 AM

To Negros Island Region (NIR) <nir@deped.gov.ph>

Cc Tovi Marie Luna <tovi@japionline.org>; MAYLEEN JOY FARINAS <mayleenjoy.farinas@deped.gov.ph>; Felix Mosqueda <felixiii.mosqueda@deped.gov.ph>; Ma.Lira Cynthia Quejada <maliracynthia.quejada@deped.gov.ph>

 1 attachment (468 KB)

[EY AI Lead] Teacher Capacity Building Letter_NIR.pdf;

You don't often get email from ralph@japionline.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good day!

Greetings from Junior Achievement of the Philippines!

In partnership with **EY GDS Philippines**, Junior Achievement of the Philippines is pleased to invite your Region to participate in the **EY AI Lead Program for School Year 2026–2027**, an AI and STEM learning initiative designed to equip teachers and learners with relevant knowledge, skills, and experiences in AI, STEM, innovation, and problem-solving.

The program will include **Teacher Capacity-Building sessions**, student AI and STEM learning sessions, webinars, mentoring, and the **EY AI Lead Challenge**.

For interested teachers, the **Teacher Capacity-Building and Program Launch** will be held on **October 23, 2026, in Cebu**, with two onsite sessions. Teachers from participating schools in Regions V, VII, NIR, VIII, X, XII, and XIII are invited to register through the link below:

Teacher Registration:

<https://forms.gle/aXYQRX9mPzjqTPxEA>

Interested **students/learners** may also register through the general program registration link:

Student/Learner Registration:

<https://forms.gle/2jJyKSbuE7heYt2c7>

For coordination, we kindly request your office to assist in **identifying and endorsing three (3) Schools Divisions**, with each Division identifying **two (2) participating schools**. The designated Division and school focal persons will be requested to provide their contact details and **join a dedicated group chat to be created by JA Philippines**. This group chat is important and will serve as the primary channel for coordination, announcements, submission of requirements, and other program-related updates.

Additional program guidelines, schedules, participation requirements, and other relevant information will be provided to registered participants.

We look forward to your support and participation in providing meaningful AI and STEM learning opportunities for teachers and learners.

Thank you very much!

Best regards,

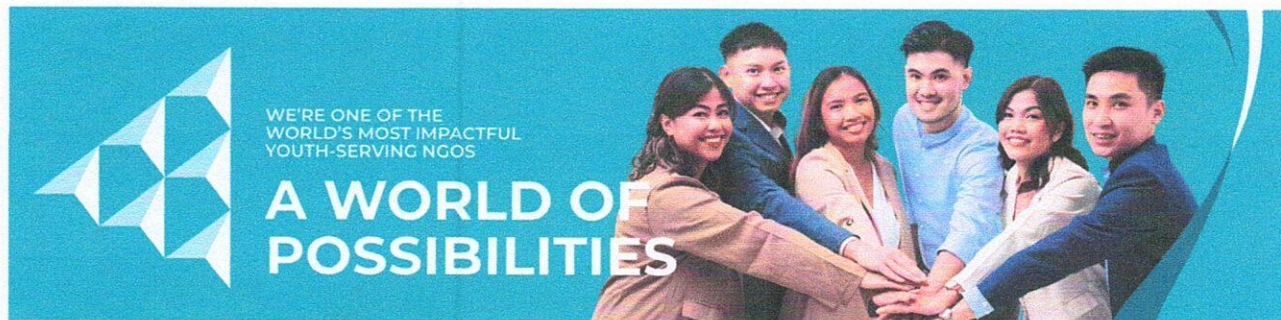
Ralph Ornopia
Accounts
Team



Office Hours: Mondays to Fridays, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Advance OOO:

www.japhilippines.org | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)



September 23, 2026

RAMIR B. UYTICO

Regional Director

Department of Education - Negros Island Region (NIR)

Greetings from Junior Achievement of the Philippines!

Junior Achievement of the Philippines, Inc. (JA Philippines), a member of **JA Worldwide®**, is committed to empowering young people with the knowledge, skills, and mindset they need to succeed in an increasingly digital and rapidly evolving world.

In partnership with **EY GDS Philippines**, JA Philippines is pleased to invite your office to participate in the **EY AI Lead Program** for School Year 2026–2027, an integrated Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) learning initiative designed to equip students and educators with the knowledge, skills, and experiences needed to thrive in an increasingly technology-driven world.

The program combines **AI literacy, STEM learning, innovation, problem-solving, certification, mentorship, and real-world application**, providing participants with opportunities to understand how AI and STEM can work together to address relevant challenges in their schools, communities, and society. **For students**, the program will introduce AI and STEM concepts, emerging technologies, responsible technology use, innovation, and future career pathways. **For educators**, it will provide capacity-building opportunities and access to AI and STEM learning resources and a platform that may support classroom instruction across different subject areas.

Selected teachers will participate in the Teacher Capacity-Building component, while student participants will engage in the AI & STEM Learning Journey, Student Webinars and Learning Sessions, and other applicable program activities, including the EY AI Lead Challenge.

Invitation to Participate

In line with this initiative, we would like to invite your Region to participate in the **EY AI Lead Learning Program** for School Year 2026–2027.

We kindly request your good office to **nominate three (3) Schools Divisions** from your Region. Each identified Division will then be requested to nominate **two (2) participating schools**, preferably schools with a strong interest and capacity to engage in AI, STEM, innovation, and technology-related learning activities.

This will result in a total of **six (6) participating schools from your Region.**

Participation Structure	Target
Schools Divisions	3 Divisions
Schools per Division	2 Schools
Total Participating Schools	6 Schools

We respectfully seek the support of your office in **identifying and endorsing the three (3) Schools Divisions** that will participate in the program. We likewise request the identified Divisions to coordinate with and endorse **two (2) schools each** to participate in the EY AI Lead Program.

Below is the program timeline for your reference and guide.

The participating schools will be encouraged to identify and endorse qualified **teachers and student participants** who will take part in the various program components, including the Teacher Capacity-Building sessions, AI and STEM Learning Journey, Student Webinars and Learning Sessions, Mentoring Sessions, and the **EY AI Lead Challenge**.

We also kindly request your assistance in disseminating the program information to the identified Schools Divisions and facilitating coordination with their designated focal persons.

For Coordination

To facilitate the coordination and confirmation of participating Divisions and schools, we kindly request your office to provide the following:

- Name of the **3 nominated Schools Divisions**
- Name and contact details of the **Division focal person** for each Division
- The **2 participating schools** identified by each Division
- Name and contact details of the **school focal person** for each participating school
- **Participation in a dedicated group chat** to be created by JA Philippines with the designated school focal persons for coordination, announcements, and other program-related updates.

PROGRAM TIMELINE	
SCHEDULE	ACTIVITY
Cebu October 23, 2026 2 sessions 9:00 - 11:00 AM 2:00 - 4:00 PM Onsite	Teacher's Capacity Building / Launch Teachers from the participating Schools Divisions and schools from Regions V, VII, NIR, VIII, X, XII, and XIII will participate in the onsite Teacher Capacity-Building and Program Launch in Cebu. The sessions will be conducted with EY GDS Volunteers and will focus on AI and STEM resources and approaches that can be adapted across different subjects and classroom settings. The sessions will cover AI and STEM fundamentals, responsible and ethical AI, AI-supported classroom learning, the AI Skills Passport, STEM problem-solving and innovation, emerging technologies, future careers, and classroom applications across subject areas. Registration Form: https://forms.gle/aXYQRX9mPzjqTPxEA
November 6, 2026 9:00 - 11:00 AM Online	EY AI Lead Webinar Launch Program Introduction and students will have the opportunity to participate in the EY AI Lead Challenge, a national innovation challenge where teams will identify real-world problems relevant to their schools, communities, or environment and develop practical AI- and STEM-enabled solution concepts. Teams will apply STEM-based inquiry, evidence or data where appropriate, AI and digital technology, and the learning gained from the program.
Webinar 1 November 20 1:00 - 3:00 PM Online Webinar 2 December 4 1:00 - 3:00 PM Online	Student AI and STEM Learning (Webinars) Students will participate in interactive learning sessions featuring AI, STEM, emerging technologies, innovation, problem-solving, and future career pathways. These sessions will form part of the broader learning journey in preparation for the EY AI Lead Challenge.
January 15, 2027	Submission Deadline

January 22, 2027	Announcement of Top 10 Teams
Session 1 January 29, 2027 9:00 - 11:00 AM Online Session 2 February 11, 2027 10:00 AM - 12:00 NN Onsite	Mentoring Session The Top 10 Finalist Teams will advance to a structured mentoring phase with EY volunteers, professionals, and/or invited industry mentors. Through the mentoring sessions, teams will further develop their solutions and presentations, with focus areas including problem and solution validation, STEM reasoning, responsible AI application, feasibility, potential impact, innovation, creativity, and final pitch preparation.
March 5, 2026 Cebu 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM Onsite	Innovation Challenge Finals The program will culminate in the EY AI Lead Finals, where finalist teams will present their AI- and STEM-enabled solutions before a panel of judges. The Finals are proposed for February 10–11, 2027, with Day 1 dedicated to final mentoring and preparation and Day 2 dedicated to the final competition. The proposed competition schedule is 9:00 AM–12:00 NN for both days.

Registration

Interested teachers and learners may register through the link below:

- **Registration Link:** <https://forms.gle/2jJyKSbuE7heYt2c7>
- Additional program guidelines, schedules, participation requirements, and other relevant information will be provided to registered participants.

We believe that the **EY AI Lead Program** will provide meaningful opportunities for teachers and learners to develop the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to navigate and contribute to an AI-enabled future. We sincerely hope for your favorable support and participation in this initiative. We look forward to working closely with your office and the participating schools in providing meaningful AI and STEM learning opportunities for our teachers and learners.

For questions or further information, please feel free to contact **Ms. Jilliane Chan** at jilliane@japionline.org and **Ms. Martina Serilla** at martina@japionline.org.

Thank you very much for your continued support and partnership.





Member of JA Worldwide



JA PHILIPPINES
LEARNING INSTITUTE

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paula Patrice De la Cruz".

PAULA PATRICE DELA CRUZ

Director of Operations

Junior Achievement of the Philippines

ENTREPRENEURSHIP



FINANCIAL LITERACY



WORK READINESS



EMAIL.
info@japionline.org



WEBSITE.
www.japhilippines.org