

Republika ng Pilipinas
PAMBANSANG PANGASIWAAN NG PATUBIG
(National Irrigation Administration)
E. delos Santos Ave., Quezon City

MC # 5, s. 1980

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

T O : All Regional Irrigation Directors, Project Managers,
Irrigation Superintendents, Provincial Irrigation
Engineers in-Charge of National Irrigation Systems

SUBJECT : Standards for Water Management Technicians and
Watermasters in National Irrigation Systems

For the purpose of upgrading services in national irrigation systems and in keeping with the commitment of the Agency, the following standards for Water Management Technicians (WMT) and Watermasters in all national irrigation systems whether supervised by Regional Irrigation Directors or Project Managers, are hereby prescribed:

1. Qualifications

	<u>Education</u>	<u>C.S. Eligibility</u>	<u>Experience</u>
Water Management Technician	Completion of at least two years college course in Agriculture	2nd Grade	One year as Acting Watermaster or Water Management Technician
Watermaster	At least High School graduate	None	At least two years as Gatekeeper or Dichtender

2. Duties

The principal duties of Watermaster are the distribution of water within his division; keeping records of water deliveries; supervision of ditchtenders/gatekeepers in the maintenance of canals and operation of gates within his division; submittal of reports on irrigated areas required for billing; layout on poor standing crop, crop recovery, damaged crop; harvest reports; collection of irrigation fees during off-irrigation periods when designated as collector.

The principal duties of WMT are the above including assistance in the implementation of research findings in his area; gathering of research data as required by the Research Staff in the region.

3. Training

All WMT and Watermasters shall undergo a prescribed training course designed by the Irrigators' Assistance Department in coordination with the Personnel Management Department.

4. Composition

Pursuant to MC No. 63, S. 1978, WMT and Watermaster shall be assigned to an average of 500 hectares irrigated area. 75% of the total requirement shall be WMTs and 25% shall be Watermasters in any single or group of system/s supervised by one superintendent.

5. Mechanics of Implementation

- a) Positions of Watermaster whose incumbents qualify as WMT shall be upgraded to WMT, Grade 10, provided that their number does not exceed 75% of total requirement. Watermasters who cannot qualify shall remain as Watermaster until they retire or vacate the item. Vacated as well as existing vacant watermaster items shall be upgraded to WMT to meet the 75% WMT requirement. All reclassified positions shall be properly identified and shall be filled only with applicants who qualify as WMT. The remaining 25% shall be retained as Watermaster and when vacated may be filled by those who qualify as watermaster only. The RID shall immediately submit the name of watermasters who qualify as WMT.
- b) To overcome deficiency in permanent items, qualified WMT may be hired on daily basis also at Grade 10.
- c) If no qualified WMTs are available, monthly gatekeepers or ditch-tenders (preference to gatekeepers) who are at least high school graduate may be designated Acting Watermaster until qualified WMTs can be hired. They cannot however, be proposed to any vacant watermaster item unless the requirement for WMT in the system has been met.
- d) In case no gatekeeper/ditchtender qualifies as acting watermaster, a high school graduate may be recruited as watermaster at grade 8 on the daily basis.

THIS MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY AND SUPERSEDES AND/OR MODIFIES ALL PREVIOUS MEMORANDUM CIRCULARS OR PORTIONS THEREOF THAT MAY BE IN CONFLICT WITH THE ABOVE.

(SGD.) ALFREDO L. JUINIO
Administrator

January 15, 1980

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