



Republic of the Philippines  
Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT**  
Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **DSWD releases Rice Subsidy to 4Ps Benes**

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) begins releasing of rice subsidy in the form of cash amounting to P600.00 per month to the beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps). The distribution started on March 2017 and around 4.4 million households nationwide are expected to receive the additional grant.

“Following the directive of President Rodrigo R. Duterte during his first State of the Nation Address (SONA) in June 2016, the rice subsidy hopes to address the hunger problem that the poor households continue to battle. The President wants that the poor households are able to eat everyday” said DSWD Secretary Judy Taguiwalo.

Sec. Taguiwalo also added that only households who are active and compliant with the program conditionalities are entitled to receive the additional P600.00.

Pantawid Pamilya is a social protection program of the national government. It invests in the health and education of poor households primarily of children aged 18 and below. Households shall receive their cash grant provided that they comply with the program conditionalities.

These conditions include school attendance of at least 85% per month for children enrolled in the elementary or high school. Children aged 5 and below would need to undergo preventive check-up as mandated by the Department of Health (DoH), while children enrolled in the elementary must receive deworming pills twice within the school year. On the other hand, pregnant women must receive pre and post natal care based on DoH’s protocol. Lastly, parent/s or guardians are required to attend the monthly Family Development Session (FDS).

“We are hopeful that the additional cash grant will be used for its intended purpose. We will use FDS to ensure that the beneficiaries are informed of the relevant provision on rice subsidy,” concluded by Sec. Taguiwalo.

The additional cash grant as Rice Assistance/Subsidy is included as part of the P72,115,230.00 cash grant budget approved for calendar year 2017.

For Pantawid Pamilya ARMM, the schedule of the Region wide simultaneous payout for this period began last week of March and will run throughout the whole month of April. The program shall release cash grants for the following periods:

<b>Province</b>	<b>Periods to be served</b>
Maguindanao	Unpaid P1-P4 2016; P5-P6 2016; MCCT Batch 12-15
Lanao del Sur	P1-P6 2016; MCCT Batch 12-15
Basilan	Unpaid P1-P4 2016; P5-P6 2016; MCCT Batch 13-15
Sulu	Unpaid P1-P4 2016; P5-P6 2016
Tawi-Tawi	Unpaid P1-P2 2016; MCCT Batch 13-15

The additional P600.00 rice subsidy was activated to the Period 6 2016 payment. Currently, the program serves a total of 415,389 households for the whole region including Modified Conditional Cash Transfer Program (MCCT) beneficiaries.