

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN  
*Paix – Travail – Patrie*

MINISTRY OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON  
*Peace – Work – Fatherland*

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS

JOINT CIRCULAR No 34/ab LC/MINESEC/MINAS of 02 ~~AOUI~~ 2006  
Relating to the admission of disabled children and children born of needy disabled parents into Government Secondary Educational Establishments

THE MINISTER OF SECONDARY EDUCATION  
AND  
THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS

- To/ - Provincial Delegates for Secondary Education and for Social Affairs  
- Divisional Delegates for Secondary Education and for Social Affairs  
- Principals of Government Secondary Educational Establishments -  
- Heads of Social Centres  
- Heads of Social Action Services in Government Secondary Educational Establishments,

It has been brought to our notice that disabled children and children born of needy disabled parents are increasingly facing difficulties in obtaining admission into Government Secondary Educational Establishments. This situation, which is contrary to the Constitution, to international instruments ratified by Cameroon, and to legal and regulatory instruments in force, widens the gap in the area of access to Education and renders the social integration of young disabled persons more difficult.

In application of:

- The Preamble of the Constitution of the Republic of Cameroon (dash 18) which provides that the State shall guarantee the child's right to education;
- The provisions of the Convention on the rights of the Child, of Africa's Charter on the rights and welfare of the Child, and of the United Nations' rules on equal opportunities for disabled persons;
- Law No 83/13 of 21 July 1983 on the protection of the disabled and its enabling Decree No 90/1516 of 26 November 1990 which authorise an age waiver, the right to repeat, remedial classes, exemption from paying school fees and financial assistance to disabled children and those born of needy disabled parents at all levels of public secondary education;
- Law No 98/004 of 14 April 1998 to lay down Guidelines for Education in Cameroon which, in Article 7, provides that the State shall guarantee equal opportunities for education to all, without discrimination as to

gender, political, philosophical or religious opinion, social, cultural, linguistic or geographical origin;

In view of facilitating admission of disabled children and those born of needy disabled parents into Government Secondary Educational Establishments, we have the honour to prescribe the following measures:

1. The files of children in the category above, duly examined by the local services of the Ministry of Social Affairs shall be deposited each year by 15 August, deadline, in the competent Divisional Delegation for Secondary Education for onward transmission to the host Educational Establishment in view of their appreciation and report to hierarchy. This report shall contain statistics on the number of disabled children and children born of needy disabled parents enrolled in the educational establishment.
2. The Divisional Delegate for Secondary Education shall forward a report to his Provincial Delegate and to the latter's counterpart of the Ministry of Social Affairs on the state of admission of disabled children and those born of needy disabled parents in his area of competence, not later than 31 October.
3. The Provincial Delegate for Secondary Education and his counterpart for Social Affairs shall each forward to their respective Ministers a short report on the state of admission of these children.

This notwithstanding, any child may only be admitted into a Government Secondary Educational Establishment within the confines of the intake allowed by the Ministry of Secondary Education. All the children duly enrolled in a Government Secondary Educational Establishment shall be subjected to the same rules and regulations in matters of academic work and discipline. However, with regard to repeating, the Class Council and the Discipline Council may, at the end of the year, examine the situation of each student in this category.

It is worth reminding you that, pursuant to Circular No 86/L/1658/MINEDUC/CT2 of 13 January 1986, such students shall be exempted from paying school fees. Besides, exemption from paying PTA levies shall exceptionally apply to this category of students.

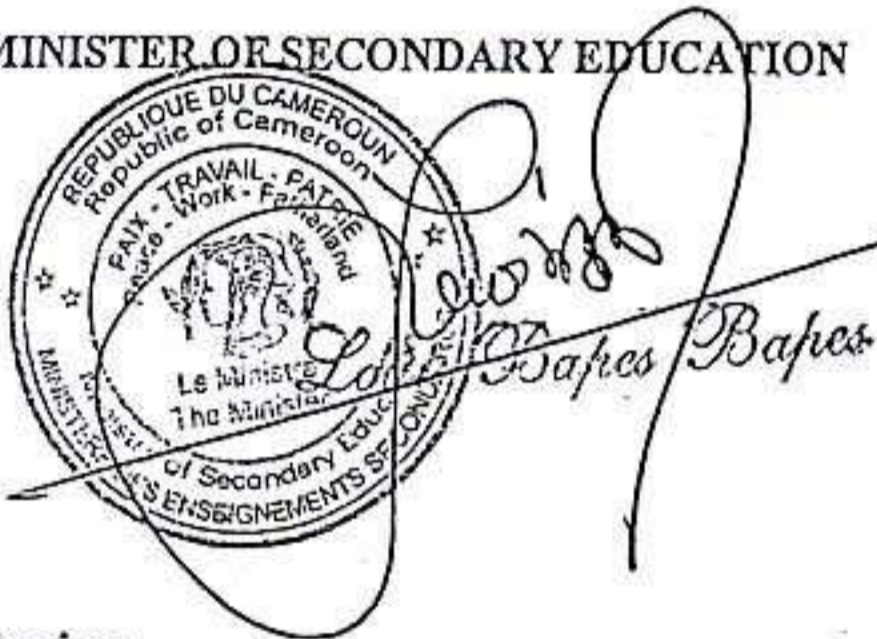
The local service of the Ministry in charge of Social Affairs, initiator of the academic placement of the types of children mentioned above shall ensure that, the registration fees for official examinations are paid and permanently follow those children up, in view of their smooth integration into the education community, in a spirit of national solidarity, tolerance and mutual respect.

Provincial and Divisional Delegates of the Ministry in charge of Secondary Education and of that for Social Affairs, Principals of Government Secondary Educational Establishments, Heads of Social Centres, Heads of Social Action Services in educational establishments are, each in their own sphere, charged with the strict implementation of the terms of this Circular, which takes effect as from the date of signature.

This Circular shall be communicated where and when necessary.

MINISTER OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS



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