



A publication of the Public Affairs and Communication Service on DILG LG Sector News

DILG OJT program hones trainees to be their best

The boulevard towards the fulfillment of a person's educational aspirations is not an easy path. It is splattered with obstacles, massive projects and deadlines to beat, teachers to please and exams to pass. Except for perennial examinations, one true gauge of college students' scholastic retention is the On-the-Job-Training (OJT) of which is a part of the academic requirements and is essentially where they practice their learning.

The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) provides an extensive learning environment within its various offices and bureaus accommodating student trainees who want to further harness their skills and get a glimpse of what the professional set-up is like.

Learning is a must

The DILG through its Human Resources and Management Division (HRMD) opens its arms to student trainees wanting to experience how it is to be a DILG employee through its OJT Program which is up for grabs whole year round.

According to Edna San Diego Fresnoza, Administrative Officer V of HRMD, getting interns is mainly dependent on the need of the office or the bureau.

"Usually, offices would call us if they are in need of trainees. Minsan naman, on our own initiative, we call the offices kasi minsan hindi nila (offices) alam na may mga available interns that they could train," Fresnoza shared.

Also, offices often prefer trainees who have longer internship hours, within 300-400 hours, compared to those with lesser ones, because as Fresnoza said, "ayaw ng mga office na nabibitin, yung palit na ng palit kapag maikli lang ang oras."

She also related that despite the influx of trainees, above all, the program aims to develop and teach trainees for them to be equipped with the right skills and attitude as they themselves would also be professionals after the completion of their degree.

She also clarified that the program does not favor any school, saying that some trainees come from as far as Pangasinan and Samar. "Whoever is willing to be trained by the DILG is very much welcome so long as he is able to submit internship document requisites," she said.

Tell tales of an intern

Stories of adventures and learning often depict the ones we had when we were, at one point, our young selves trying to figure out our place in the world and our spot in our OJT days. Same sentiments still linger in the minds of some enthusiastic interns of DILG patiently roaming the walls of their respective host offices with the goal of acquiring as much knowledge as they can.



Angelo T. Nieto, intern at the Information System and Technology Management Service (ISTMS)

Angelo T. Nieto, a trainee of the Information System and Technology Management Service (ISTMS) and an Information Technology student of STI Colleges-Novaliches Campus only has positive words regarding his experience here at DILG.

"Masaya naman po ako na dito ako sa DILG nag-OJT. Marami po akong natutunan, mga bagay na hindi ko nakukuha sa school ko," Nieto excitedly related to DILG Insider.

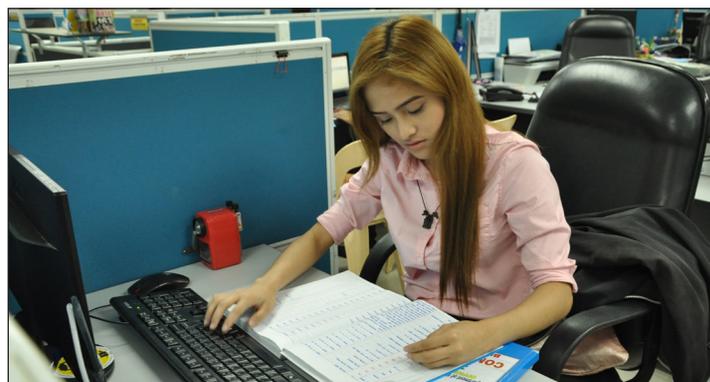
Since starting his training last November 2016, he was able to acquire a lot saying that he mainly learned about DILG's web development which according to him uses an advanced framework.

When asked why he chose to do his internship in a government agency like DILG, he has this to say, "Maganda sa government kasi mas relaxed yung working environment, mas generous sa itinuturong knowledge, unlike sa private sector na very competitive." He clarified that the 'relaxed environment' is due to the kind and welcoming character of the ISTMS employees.

In his 256 hours rendered in 37 days, he was able to assist in various projects specifically citing an inventory system the OJTs were able to develop which regenerates inventory reports of all the supply materials of DILG aiding for a much faster record management.

"Masaya talaga ako na sa DILG ako nag-OJT, hindi lang dahil sa mababait ang mga empleyado kundi sa natutunan ko. Ngayon kasi yung framework na ginagamit ng DILG is yung current trend sa IT. Saka excited din ako kasi the office is looking forward to work on developing a mobile app," Nieto said.

Another intern's tale is that of Angie P. Merida, a Marketing Management student from Our Lady of Fatima-Antipolo City, training for the Financial Management Service (FMS).



Angie P. Merida, intern at the Financial Management Service (FMS)

"Usually po, ako po humaharap sa mga bisita, nagre-receive ng incoming at tumutulong sa outgoing function, marami pa po," Merida animatedly shared with DILG Insider.

According to Merida, her experience in DILG helped in honing her personality in terms of facing and transacting with people. She went on by relating that her stint here aids in introducing her to the actual working environment which she is looking forward to embark on in the near future.

She may be ending her training in DILG soon with her 320 hours dwindling by the second but she will be grateful with how her experience helped in bringing out the better version of her personality, an upgraded version that is ready to conquer the professional realm, and in her own words when asked if her learning in DILG can help her in the future, she said, "Yes, definitely!"

Keph Domingo Garcia

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We, the DILG Central Office, commit to formulate sound policies and provide effective technical and administrative services to promote excellence in local governance, strengthen local government capacities, and enhance the service delivery of our Regional and Field Offices.