



Supreme Court of the Philippines
MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION OFFICE
4th Floor, IBP Building
15 Doña Julia Vargas Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

MCLE Governing Board Resolution No. 01-2020

(Resolution Setting the Activity Fee of MCLE Online Pursuant to Court En Banc Resolution in A.M. No. 19-10-16-SC dated 26 November 2019)

WHEREAS, in the En Banc Resolution dated 26 November 2019 on A.M. No. 19-10-16-SC, the Court approved the Rules and Regulations in the conduct of MCLE Online;

WHEREAS, Rule 6, Section 1 of the aforesaid Rules and Regulations provides that "*Payment of Activity Fee of Per Unit Taken by the Participants. – MCLE Online shall be subject to an activity fee. The fee and the period for payment shall be determined in the MCLE Implementing Guidelines. The fee is subject to change as may be deemed necessary by the MCLE Governing Board/Office, subject to the approval of the Supreme Court En Banc. Sufficient notice and reasonable time allowance shall be given to the Provider in case of adjustment of fees*";

WHEREAS, at present, for traditional MCLE lectures, the activity fees as approved by the Court in the Implementing Guidelines for the Collection of MCLE Fees and the Utilization and Disbursement of MCLE Fund dated 07 June 2016, are as follows:

Provider Category	Activity fee per participant per day	Number of days to complete 36 units @ 9 units maximum per day	Total
Private Provider	P 200.00	4	P 800.00
IBP, U.P. Law Center, Government Offices, State Colleges and Universities	P 100.00	4	P 400.00

WHEREAS, one of the rationalizations underlying the Implementing Guidelines for the Collection of MCLE Fees and the Utilization and Disbursement of the MCLE Fund is that "*there is a need to improve the financial condition of the MCLE Office so as to enable it to carry out its mandate to oversee the continuing legal education for lawyers, without much subsidy and financial support from the government*";

WHEREAS, the MCLE Fund is used for the entire maintenance and operating expenses of the MCLE Office except personal services; hence, the need to ensure that the fund is sufficient to cover the said expense and other expenses allowed under the guidelines;

WHEREAS, considering that MCLE online is a new offering and there is yet no definitive basis or formula to set a higher or lower amount than what is presently being collected as activity fee, it is deemed reasonable to pattern the MCLE online activity fee after the present amount of activity fee by dividing the present activity fees to thirty-six (36) units to get the per unit amount; thus, the present fee of P800.00 for private providers and P400.00 for IBP, UP Law Center, government offices and state colleges and universities for a full program of four (4) days equivalent to 36 credit units, divided by 36 would result in quotient amounts of P22.22 and P 11.11, respectively;

WHEREAS, the above amounts are commensurate with the existing activity fees only if a participant will enroll for a full program of 36 credit units, but will result to lower activity fee charges for those enrolling fractional units only as they have to be computed per unit and not per day as presently practiced;

WHEREAS, for easy computation of payment, it is practicable to remove the fraction and come up with an amount more or less at par with the present activity fees;

WHEREAS, while the cost of physically monitoring the MCLE activity is eliminated in online MCLE activity, there are expenditures that may be incurred relative to its implementation such as the fees for content referees or critiques who will review the online offerings of accredited providers, cost of higher internet capability requirement, additional equipment that may be necessary in the monitoring process, and other expenses that may eventually arise as the delivery of MCLE online progresses;

WHEREAS, the comparative cost of monitoring traditional MCLE lectures, vis-a-vis the cost of monitoring on the conduct of MCLE online and the concomitant effect it may have on the viability of the MCLE fund cannot be definitively ascertained at this time, the Board hereby sets the activity fee for MCLE online at an amount which approximates the existing cost of credit units;

WHEREAS, the MCLE Office's collection and disbursement should be reviewed at regular intervals of time from the inception of MCLE online to determine if there is any significant impact on the MCLE fund of the pricing per unit of MCLE online;

WHEREFORE, in view of the foregoing, the MCLE Governing Board resolves to initially set the following activity fee for MCLE online:

1. **P 25.00** per unit for Private Providers;
2. **P 12.00** per unit for IBP, UP Law Center, government offices and state colleges and universities.

The aforesaid fees are subject to appropriate adjustment as may be necessary.

Further, the MCLE Office is directed to regularly review the collection and disbursement of the MCLE fund upon the inception of MCLE online with particular focus on the fees collected and disbursed relative to MCLE online, and submit its report to the MCLE Governing Board;

This Resolution shall take effect upon approval of the Supreme Court.

26 February 2020

APPROVED BY:

MCLE GOVERNING BOARD



MINERVA P. GONZAGA-REYES

Chairperson



SEDFREY M. CANDELARIA

Member



NILO T. DIVINA

Member



ABDIEL DAN ELIJAH S. FAJARDO

Member



FIDES C. CORDERO-TAN

Member