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Module 1: CITIZENSHIP TRAINING

National Service Training Program

CITIZENSHIP TRAINING

MODULE

01

OVERVIEW

This module on Citizenship Training explores the meaning of citizenship and the civic duties of every Filipino as grounded in the 1987 Philippine Constitution. It covers the Bill of Rights, human rights, and the Good Citizenship Values (Maka-Diyos, Maka-tao, Makakalikasan, and Makabansa) that guide national identity and social responsibility. Students will also examine Filipino values such as hospitality, compassion, and resilience, alongside modern expressions of nationalism and patriotism.

In addition, the module highlights the importance of voter education, respect for national symbols under the Flag and Heraldic Code, and active democratic engagement. By integrating constitutional awareness with cultural values, learners are encouraged to practice responsible citizenship, protect human dignity, participate in governance, and contribute to the development of a just and humane society.

PRE-ACTIVITY

1. In your own words, explain what it means to be a responsible Filipino citizen. Give at least two examples of how this can be shown in everyday life.
2. The Preamble of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mentions values such as truth, justice, freedom, love, equality, and peace. Choose one of these values and explain why it is important in building a just and humane society.
3. Discuss the importance of the Bill of Rights in protecting Filipino citizens. How does it ensure fairness and prevent abuse of power?
4. The Good Citizenship Values Cluster includes Maka-Diyos, Maka-tao, Makakalikasan, and Makabansa. Select one value from the cluster and explain how students like you can apply it in your community.
5. Why is voter education essential for a healthy democracy? In your answer, include the responsibilities of voters aside from simply casting a vote.

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this module, students are expected to:

1. Analyze the key principles of the 1987 Philippine Constitution and Bill of Rights to assess their role in shaping responsible citizenship.
2. Evaluate current social and human rights issues in the Philippines and justify possible courses of action grounded in constitutional and Filipino values.
3. Synthesize the Good Citizenship Values (Maka-Diyos, Maka-tao, Makakalikasan, Makabansa) into practical strategies that promote active community and national involvement.

TERMINOLOGIES

CITIZEN. A legally recognized member of a state who enjoys rights and carries responsibilities such as obeying laws and contributing to society.

CITIZENSHIP. The status of being a citizen, involving legal recognition, rights and duties, and a sense of belonging to a nation.

CIVIC DUTY. The responsibilities of citizens to help maintain order and contribute to the welfare of the community and the country.

BILL OF RIGHTS. Part of the 1987 Philippine Constitution that protects fundamental freedoms and ensures fairness, justice, and equality.

HUMAN RIGHTS. Basic and inalienable rights inherent to all people, regardless of nationality, status, or belief.

OVERVIEW: WHAT IS CITIZENSHIP TRAINING?

INTRODUCTION

Citizenship Training refers to educational and practical activities designed to instill civic duty and responsibility among students. It emphasizes national pride, civic rights and responsibilities, and active participation in community and nation-building.

KEY CONCEPTS

Citizen - a legally recognized member of a sovereign state or nation who is entitled to certain rights and responsibilities. Citizenship often implies belonging to a particular country and can involve:

1. **Legal Status:** Citizens have legal recognition and protection under the law of their country.
2. **Rights:** These typically include the right to vote, work, and reside in the country, access to public services, and protection from arbitrary arrest and deportation.
3. **Responsibilities:** Citizens are usually expected to obey the laws, pay taxes, and contribute to the community and nation in various ways.

Citizenship - refers to the status or condition of being a citizen of a particular country. It encompasses:

1. **Legal Relationship:** The formal and legal bond between an individual and a state.
2. **Rights and Duties:** The set of rights (e.g., political rights, civil rights) and duties (e.g., abiding by laws, paying taxes) associated with being a citizen.
3. **Identity and Belonging:** Citizenship often reflects a sense of belonging and identity within a community or nation, and it can also involve a commitment to the values and norms of the country.

IMPORTANCE OF CITIZENSHIP TRAINING

Personal Development

Citizenship training develops personal skills such as:

1. **Leadership** – Guiding, inspiring, and influencing others by taking initiative, making decisions, and leading by example.
2. **Discipline** – Practicing self-control, following rules, and staying focused on goals despite challenges.
3. **Responsibility** – Understanding and fulfilling duties and obligations to others and the community.

Community Engagement

Citizenship training encourages:

1. **Active Participation** – Taking part in projects that improve community well-being, moving beyond observation to action.
2. **Understanding Societal Needs** – Recognizing and addressing the challenges faced by different sectors of society.

Fostering Civic Responsibility

Civic responsibility means performing the duties and actions expected of citizens to contribute positively to society.

KEY FOCUS

The goals of citizenship training in terms of **personal development** and **community engagement** are closely intertwined. By focusing on personal growth areas such as leadership, discipline, and responsibility, programs **prepare students to be effective and ethical contributors to society**. Simultaneously, by promoting active community participation and understanding societal needs, these programs ensure that students not only **develop individual skills but also engage meaningfully with their communities**, enhancing their sense of civic duty and social responsibility.

KEY POINTS

Citizenship Training instills civic duty, national pride, and active participation in community and nation-building.

A citizen is a legally recognized member of a state with rights and responsibilities.

Citizenship includes legal relationship, rights and duties, and a sense of identity and belonging.

Importance of Citizenship Training includes personal Development, community Engagement and Civic Responsibility.

Citizenship training helps develop effective, ethical contributors who actively engage with their communities.

LESSON 1:

PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTION

OVERVIEW OF THE 1987 CONSTITUTION

Established/Effectivity: Ratified by a national plebiscite on February 2, 1987, and took effect on the same day.

Historical Context: Drafted after the 1986 People Power Revolution that ended Ferdinand Marcos' dictatorship, replacing the 1973 Constitution.

Drafting Body: Written by the 1986 Constitutional Commission (ConCom), composed of 48 appointed members.

Preamble: Expresses the ideals, sovereignty, and goals of the Filipino people.

Composition: 18 Sections in total

1987 CONSTITUTION'S PREAMBLE

We, the sovereign Filipino people, imploring the aid of Almighty God, in order to build a just and humane society and establish a Government that shall embody our ideals and aspirations, promote the common good, conserve and develop our patrimony, and secure to ourselves and our posterity the blessings of independence and democracy under the rule of law and a regime of truth, justice, freedom, love, equality, and peace, do ordain and promulgate this Constitution.

KEY PHRASES

"We, the sovereign Filipino people" - Asserts that sovereignty resides in the people, and all government authority emanates from them.

"imploring the aid of Almighty God" - Reflects the deep religiosity of the Filipino people and acknowledges a divine providence.

"to build a just and humane society" - Articulates the fundamental goal of the Constitution: to create a society characterized by fairness, equity, and compassion.

"establish a Government that shall embody our ideals" - Outlines the purpose of the government—to serve the people's collective vision, work for the welfare of all, and protect the nation's heritage.

"secure to ourselves and our posterity the blessings of independence and democracy" - Highlights the enduring values: truth, justice, freedom, love, equality, and peace.

18 SECTIONS

1. National Territory
2. Declaration of Principles and State Policies
3. Bill of Rights
4. Citizenship
5. Suffrage
6. Legislative Department
7. Executive Department
8. Judicial Department
9. Constitutional Commissions
10. Local Government
11. Accountability of Public Officers
12. National Economy and Patrimony
13. Social Justice and Human Rights
14. Education, Science and Technology, Arts, Culture, and Sports
15. The Family
16. General Provisions
17. Amendments or Revisions
18. Transitory Provisions

CORE VALUES

Maka-Diyos
Pro-God

Maka-Tao
Pro-People

Makakalikasan
Pro-Nature

Makabansa
Pro-Country

The Preamble sets the tone for the entire Constitution, establishing the fundamental principles that guide the Philippine state.

LESSON 1: THE PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTION

BILL OF RIGHTS

INTRODUCTION

The Bill of Rights, found in Article III of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, is one of the most powerful safeguards of democracy in the Philippines. It defines the basic freedoms and protections that every citizen is entitled to, regardless of status, gender, religion, or belief. More than just a set of legal rules, the Bill of Rights ensures that no government official or institution can act above the law. It reminds us that sovereignty rests with the people, and that government exists to serve, not to control, its citizens.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS

- Protects the life, liberty, and property of every Filipino.
- Prevents abuse of power by government officials.
- Guarantees fairness, justice, and equality under the law.
- Promotes democratic participation by safeguarding freedoms like speech, press, and assembly.

REAL-LIFE APPLICATIONS

Social Media Use – Freedom of speech allows posts about government issues, but with responsibility (no false information or harmful speech).

Community Protests – People may organize rallies for social causes, provided they remain peaceful.

Police Encounters – Authorities must show a legal warrant before entering homes or seizing property.

Court Cases – Even the most unpopular individuals have the right to be heard and defended.

KEY PROVISIONS

Right to Due Process and Equal Protection (Article III, Section I) – No one can be punished or deprived of property without a fair trial.

Freedom of Speech, Expression, and the Press (Article III, Section IV) – Citizens can share ideas, express opinions, and criticize government policies.

Freedom of Religion (Article III, Section V) – Citizens may practice their faith freely, without state interference or favoritism.

Right Against Unreasonable Searches and Seizures (Article III, Section II) – Protects privacy; authorities need lawful warrants.

Rights of the Accused (Article III, Section XII - XIV) – Every accused person is presumed innocent until proven guilty, has the right to a lawyer, and must be given a speedy trial.

The Bill of Rights protects the fundamental freedoms of every Filipino and limits government power. By knowing, respecting, and practicing these rights, citizens help strengthen democracy and ensure justice for all.

REFLECTION ACTIVITY

1. Which right in the Bill of Rights do you think is most important in today's society, and why?

2. How can you, as a student, practice and protect these rights responsibly?

LESSON 2:

HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PHILIPPINE CONTEXT

UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS

- These rights are inherent and inalienable to all human beings.
- Apply to everyone regardless of nationality, sex, ethnic origin, religion, or language.
- Serve as the foundation of a just and equitable society.

LEGAL PROTECTION IN THE PHILIPPINES

The **1987 Philippine Constitution, Article III (Bill of Rights)**, is the primary law that upholds fundamental human rights in the country.

CURRENT HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

Extrajudicial Killings

- Thousands of Filipinos have been killed, with at least 2,555 deaths linked to the Philippine Drug War.

Enforced Disappearances

- 14 cases under President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr., including 4 new cases in 2024.

Red-Tagging

- Labeling individuals or groups (especially activists, journalists, and community leaders) as communists, threatening their safety.

Arbitrary Detention

- Unlawful arrest and detention often affect juveniles and those in areas of unrest.

LEGAL PROTECTION IN THE PHILIPPINES

Commission on Human Rights (CHR)

- Investigates killings, enforced disappearances, and other human rights violations.
- Ensures that victims and their families are heard and protected.

Judicial System

- Upholds rights through the courts.
- Acts as an independent body to check abuses of power.

International Criminal Court (ICC)

- Handles cases of crimes against humanity.
- Example: investigating extrajudicial killings in the Philippines.

Congressional Investigations

- Conduct hearings on state abuses.
- Ensure government officials are held accountable for human rights violations.

REAL-LIFE CASES OF CRIMES AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS



Labor rights activists Dyan Gumanao and Armand Dayoha were abducted.

Read full from *Days of torture: Cebu development workers share abduction ordeal (Espina-Varona, 2023)*.

access through:
<https://www.rappler.com/philippines/visayas/cebu-development-workers-share-abduction-ordeal/>



The extrajudicial killing of Kian Delos Santos

Read full from *Philippines drug war: Police guilty of murdering Kian Delos Santos (BBC, 2018)*.

access through:
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-46381697>



Unlawful arrest of director Jade Castro

Read full from *Admin case filed vs cops over unlawful arrest of director Jade Castro, others (Bollo, 2024)*.

access through:
<https://www.rappler.com/entertainment/celebrities/admin-case-filed-cops-unlawful-arrest-director-jade-castro-companions/>

LESSON 2: HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PHILIPPINE CONTEXT

CASE STUDY ANALYSIS:

In this activity, you will read a short case about a real human rights issue in the Philippines. After going through the case, think carefully about what rights were violated and how different accountability mechanisms could have responded. Reflect on how the situation connects to your role as a citizen. Then, answer the guide questions in 3–5 sentences each, making sure to explain your ideas clearly.

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF KAREN EMPEÑO AND SHERLYN CADAPAN

Summarized from the article written by Macatuno and Reyes-Estrobe (2018)

On June 26, 2006, University of the Philippines students Karen Empeño and Sherlyn Cadapan were abducted in Hagonoy, Bulacan, while conducting research. Witnesses testified that they were taken by military personnel and subjected to torture and abuse. The two have remained missing, symbolizing the issue of enforced disappearances in the Philippines.

After years of advocacy from families and human rights groups, a Philippine court in 2018 convicted retired Major General Jovito Palparan and two other officers for kidnapping and serious illegal detention in connection with the case. Despite this, the victims' bodies were never found, and justice for their families remains incomplete.

GUIDE QUESTIONS

1. What rights guaranteed by the Constitution and humanitarian law were violated in this case?

2. Which accountability mechanism(s) (CHR, Judiciary, ICC, Congress) were used or should have been used?

3. Why was it difficult for the victims' families to achieve justice?

4. How does this case highlight the risks and challenges of being an active, rights-aware citizen in the Philippines?

5. What can students and youth groups do to help prevent such cases and support human rights defenders?

KEY POINTS

Human rights are **universal** and **inalienable**; they cannot be taken away.

Enforced disappearances, killings, red-tagging, and arbitrary detention are serious violations that weaken democracy.

Accountability mechanisms (CHR, Judiciary, ICC, Congress) exist to **protect citizens and deliver justice**.

As citizens, especially the youth, we share the **responsibility** to **respect, protect, and uphold human rights** in our communities.

REFLECTION

Think about the Bill of Rights in the 1987 Philippine Constitution and how it applies to your life as a citizen. Reflect on the following questions:

1. Which right in the Bill of Rights do you value the most, and why?

2. How can you, in your own way, help protect the rights of others?

CASE STUDY: THE DISAPPEARANCE OF KAREN EMPEÑO AND SHERLYN CADAPANING**GUIDELINE OR CRITERIA FOR SCORING**

This rubric evaluates your Case Study Analysis on content accuracy, depth of analysis, application to citizenship, and clarity/organization. Each criterion is scored from 2–5 points. Add the four criterion scores to get the total per response (maximum 20 points per question).

Criteria	5-Excellent	4-Proficient	3-Satisfactory	2-Needs Improvement
Content Accuracy	Clearly identifies rights violated, mechanisms used, and justice issues with accurate references to the Constitution/human rights principles.	Mostly accurate with minor errors or omissions.	Shows partial understanding; identifies some correct points but misses key details.	Limited accuracy; answers are vague and contain several errors.
Depth of Analysis	Demonstrates deep insight; connects case to broader issues of democracy, accountability, and citizenship.	Shows good analysis with some explanation of implications.	Provides general answers with little depth.	Minimal analysis; mostly restates facts without reflection.
Application to Citizenship	Strong connection to role of citizens and youth in protecting rights; gives practical, realistic suggestions.	citizens and youth in protecting rights; gives practical, realistic suggestions. Connects case to citizenship role with some practical ideas.	Mentions general role of citizens but lacks detail.	Weak connection to personal or civic responsibility.
Clarity and Organization	Well-structured, logical, and easy to follow; answers are coherent and within 3–5 sentences each.	Organized and mostly clear; minor issues in flow or length.	Some organization but may be repetitive or slightly unclear.	Disorganized or confusing; answers too short/long

“Responsible citizenship begins with you; lead with integrity, serve with compassion, do everything with a heart.”

LESSON 3: BASIC VALUES OF FILIPINOS

INTRODUCTION

Filipino values shape how people interact, build relationships, and face challenges. These values reflect both personal character and the collective identity of the nation. They guide everyday life, strengthen communities, and preserve the spirit of being Filipino.

REFLECTION

1. Which of these Filipino values do you practice most in your daily life, and how does it affect your relationship with others?

2. Which value do you think is most important for strengthening the nation today, and why?

TAKEAWAY

Filipino values are more than traditions, they are the living foundation of our culture and national identity. They show the world who we are: caring, resilient, respectful, and united by faith, family, and community spirit.

CORE FILIPINO VALUES



Hospitality (Mabuting Pakikitungo)

Warm welcome and generosity to guests, making them feel at home, shape identity as a society that **values connection and community**.

Compassion (Pagmamalasakit)

Readiness to help others, even strangers, especially in times of crisis, builds a caring society that **prioritizes the welfare of others**.



Resilience with Faith (Tibay at Pananampalataya)

Courage and optimism in facing hardships, trusting in God, create a **resilient population with determination and hope**.

Respect (Paggalang)

Shown through words (po and opo) and gestures (blessing elders' hands), which promotes **harmony across generations**.



Unity and Cooperation (Bayanihan)

Helping others without expecting anything in return, e.g., community projects, strengthens the **spirit of unity and collective progress**.

God-Fearing (May takot sa Diyos)

Strong faith and reliance on God in daily life form a nation with **deep spiritual grounding**.



Hardworking (Masipag)

Dedication to work and perseverance despite struggles builds a **culture of industry and persistence**.

Close Family Ties (Malapit na Pamilya)

Strong bonds among family members, with mutual support and care, that fosters **solidarity and interdependence in society**.



Gratitude (Pasasalamat)

Deep sense of appreciation, often expressed through words or actions, that promotes a **thankful and positive outlook in life**.

LESSON 4: GOOD CITIZENSHIP VALUES CLUSTER

INTRODUCTION

The Good Citizenship Values are derived from the Preamble of the 1987 Philippine Constitution. These values serve as a guide for Filipinos in building a just, humane, and progressive nation. They highlight the importance of living with faith, compassion, environmental concern, and patriotism.

THE FOUR GOOD CITIZENSHIP VALUES CLUSTER



Maka-Diyos (Pro-God)

Values related to religious beliefs and spiritual principles.

Examples:

1. Respect for religious freedom
2. Living by spiritual values and ethics
3. Embracing one's faith while respecting others' beliefs

Maka-tao (Pro-People)

Values related to respect for human dignity and service to others.

Examples:

1. Compassion and community service
2. Promoting human rights and welfare
3. Helping those in need, regardless of background



Makakalikasan (Pro-Nature)

Values related to respect for the environment and sustainable development.

Examples:

1. Protecting the environment
2. Practicing sustainable use of resources
3. Conserving natural resources for future generations



Makabansa (Pro-Country)

Values related to patriotism and contribution to national development.

Examples:

1. Upholding national identity and pride
2. Supporting programs for national development
3. Building the nation through one's talents.

KEY POINTS

The **Good Citizenship Values Cluster** is based on the **Preamble of the 1987 Philippine Constitution**.

It emphasizes four main values: **Maka-Diyos, Maka-tao, Makakalikasan, and Makabansa**.

Maka-Diyos reminds Filipinos to live with faith, respect for religious freedom, and moral responsibility.

Maka-tao highlights compassion, respect for human dignity, and service to others.

Makakalikasan stresses the importance of protecting the environment and ensuring sustainability.

Makabansa calls for patriotism, national pride, and active participation in nation-building.

Together, these values promote a **balanced life**: faith, compassion, environmental care, and patriotism, all essential for becoming a responsible and active citizen.

"The strength of the Nation lies in the values of its citizens."

LESSON 5: NATIONALISM AND PATRIOTISM

INTRODUCTION

Nationalism and patriotism remain vital in shaping Filipino identity today. While rooted in history and tradition, modern expressions are often reflected in culture, digital platforms, and daily life. These values foster unity, pride, and a deeper sense of belonging to the nation.

NATIONALISM VS PATRIOTISM

Patriotism is interchangeably used with **Nationalism**. Both refer to the feelings of love that people have for their country, but the **values upon which they are grounded are not the same**.

Patriotism is the expression of love for the country, along with the feeling of unity with those who share those feelings. It is marked by understanding the history of the nation and its accomplishments and significant contributions to culture.

Nationalism refers to the strong sense of loyalty and devotion to one's nation, often emphasizing national sovereignty, independence, and identity. At times, nationalism may prioritize the nation above other considerations, such as international cooperation.

KEY POINTS

Patriotism and Nationalism both express love for the country, but differ in focus: **Patriotism** highlights unity, history, and cultural pride, while **Nationalism** stresses loyalty, sovereignty, and national identity.

Modern expressions include celebrating achievements, supporting local products and industries, honoring OFWs as modern heroes, and preserving culture through festivals, food, and social media.

Love of country is best shown not only in grand acts but also in **everyday choices that strengthen the nation**.

MODERN EXPRESSIONS OF PATRIOTISM AND NATIONALISM



Celebrating Achievements

Filipinos show pride in international success in sports, arts, and academics.

Online campaigns like **#PinoyPride** highlight global excellence.



Supporting Local Products

Campaigns such as "Nakakalocal" promote local industries.

Consumers increasingly choose **locally made goods** to strengthen national identity and economy.



OFWs as Modern Heroes

Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) **maintain cultural identity while contributing to national growth**.

Their remittances and cultural promotion abroad embody patriotism in action.



Cultural Pride in Daily Life

Celebrating Filipino festivals abroad.

Cooking and sharing native dishes.

Using social media to promote Philippine culture and values.

LESSON 5: NATIONALISM AND PATRIOTISM

FLAG AND HERALDIC CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8491

RA 8491 known as the **Flag and Heraldic Code of the Philippines (1998)** establishes rules regulating the **national flag, anthem, motto, coat-of-arms, and other heraldic devices of the Philippines.**

It declares that **reverence** and **respect** must always be accorded to these national symbols, as they embody national ideals and solidarity.

The law defines how and where the flag must be displayed in public buildings, institutions of learning, and private residences on certain dates. Moreover, it details the proper hoisting, lowering, and folding of the National Flag.

KEY PROVISIONS

The National Flag

- Must be displayed in all government buildings, schools, and official residences.
- The flag must be displayed on special days that include Araw ng Kagitingan, Labor Day, Flag Days, National Heroes Day, Bonifacio Day, and Rizal Day.
- Rules on display include blue on top in peace, red on top in war; they must never touch the ground; and worn-out flags must be burned solemnly.
- Flag ceremonies are required every Monday for the flag raising on Fridays for the flag lowering.

The National Anthem: "Lupang Hinirang"

- Must always be sung in Filipino and in its original march tempo.
- To be sung with fervor, while standing with the right hand over the chest.
- Cannot be used for entertainment, only for official events and competitions.

The National Motto

- "Maka-Diyos, Maka-tao, Makakalikasan, at Makabansa."

The National Coat-of-Arms and Great Seal

- Official state symbols are to be used only in government functions and documents.

The Prohibited Acts

- Using the flag as drapery, costume, tablecloth, advertising, or in places of vice.
- Adding words, marks, or designs on the flag.
- Printing the flag on merchandise like napkins or cushions.
- Playing/singing the anthem improperly or for mere amusement.

PROPER DISPLAY OF THE PHILIPPINE FLAG

HORIZONTAL DISPLAY



IN TIMES OF PEACE



IN TIMES OF WAR

VERTICAL DISPLAY



IN TIMES OF PEACE



IN TIMES OF WAR

HALF-MAST RULE

The Philippine flag shall be flown at half-mast as a **sign of mourning** on the day of the official announcement of the death of certain officials.

The flag must **first be hoisted to the peak** for a moment before being **lowered to half-mast**.

Before lowering for the day, it is raised again to the peak before being brought down.



LESSON 6:

VOTER CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

WHAT IS AN ELECTION?

The election process is very important when it comes to formal decision-making in electing an individual to run under the general law to serve the people. **Elections make a fundamental contribution to democratic governance.**

RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE

Enshrined in **Article V of the 1987 Constitution**: Every Filipino, 18 years old and above, has the right to vote regardless of sex, religion, or economic status.

Voting empowers citizens to shape government, influence policies, and express values.

WHO CAN EXERCISE THE RIGHT TO SUFFRAGE?

Article V Section 1 of the Philippine Constitution states that **“No person shall be denied the right to vote by reason of sex, religion, or economic status.”**

Suffrage may be exercised by:

1. Citizens of the Philippines;
2. At Least Eighteen (18) Years Old;
3. A Resident of the Philippines for at Least One Year;
4. A Resident of the Place Where You Intend to Vote for At Least Six Months Immediately Preceding the Election;
5. Not Disqualified by Law;

Why is the right to exercise suffrage important?

It **empowers individuals to have a say** in the decisions that affect their lives and communities. By casting a ballot, you contribute to the democratic process, influencing laws, policies, and leadership. It serves as **a way to express your values and priorities**, ensuring that elected representatives reflect the will of the people.

CURRENT INITIATIVES

COMELEC and NGO Campaigns

The Center for Liberalism and Democracy (CLD) and Friedrich Naumann Foundation Philippines collaborate on “Vovoto c Zelf!”—a training program that empowers young voters to make informed choices.

Legislative Efforts

House Bill No. 2649 – Expanded Voter Education and Political Empowerment Act of 2025 seeks to integrate voter education into the curriculum of junior and senior high schools, ensuring that future voters are prepared early.

Innovative Tools

COMELEC has developed BARMM-tailored voter education materials, including an interactive Voter Education App designed for the Bangsamoro parliamentary elections, making voter learning more engaging and accessible.

VOTER RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Register to Vote with COMELEC.
2. Evaluate Candidates based on platforms, character, and track record.
3. Reject Vote-Buying and uphold electoral integrity.
4. Protect the Vote by engaging in poll watching.
5. Participate actively in discussions and advocacy for fair elections.

ROLE OF CONGRESS

Congress **oversees the legal framework** of elections by passing laws on suffrage, campaign regulations, and electoral reforms.

Congress **passes laws that strengthen voter education** and electoral participation.

Through legislation, Congress ensures that citizens, especially the youth, are **informed, empowered, and prepared** to exercise their right to vote responsibly.

KEY POINTS

1. Voting is a **fundamental civic duty** that impacts our democracy.
2. Register to **vote, stay informed, and participate** in elections.
3. Ensure fair practices and encourage others to **engage in the electoral process**.

LEARNING ASSESSMENT: CITIZENSHIP TRAINING

PART 1: Choose the letter of the best answer. Read each question carefully and analyze the choices provided. Select the letter that corresponds to the most accurate or appropriate answer.

1. **The Preamble of the 1987 Constitution begins with the phrase:**
 - a) "We, the Congress of the Philippines"
 - b) "We, the sovereign Filipino people"
 - c) "By authority of the President"
 - d) "Under the rule of law"
2. **Which of the following is not part of the Good Citizenship Values Cluster?**
 - a) Maka-Diyos
 - b) Maka-tao
 - c) Makasarili
 - d) Makakalikasan
3. **The Bill of Rights is found in which Article of the 1987 Constitution?**
 - a) Article II
 - b) Article III
 - c) Article V
 - d) Article VI
4. **The Bill of Rights primarily exists to:**
 - a) Expand government authority
 - b) Guarantee fairness and prevent abuse of power
 - c) Limit freedom of speech
 - d) Remove checks and balances
5. **Which Filipino value emphasizes cooperation and helping others without expecting anything in return?**
 - a) Pakikisama
 - b) Bayanihan
 - c) Utang na loob
 - d) Pakikiramay
6. **The right to vote is enshrined in:**
 - a) Article IV
 - b) Article V
 - c) Article VI
 - d) Article VII
7. **Which agency investigates human rights violations in the Philippines?**
 - a) Department of Justice
 - b) Commission on Human Rights (CHR)
 - c) International Criminal Court (ICC)
 - d) Civil Service Commission
8. **"Makabansa" as a citizenship value primarily relates to:**
 - a) Faith and spirituality
 - b) National pride and patriotism
 - c) Environmental protection
 - d) Compassion for others
9. **The Flag and Heraldic Code (RA 8491) requires the Philippine flag to be displayed:**
 - a) Only on Independence Day
 - b) In all government buildings and schools
 - c) Only during election periods
 - d) At sporting events only
10. **Which is an example of modern patriotism?**
 - a) Posting hate speech online
 - b) Promoting local products and industries
 - c) Ignoring national issues
 - d) Rejecting cultural heritage
11. **Who drafted the 1987 Philippine Constitution?**
 - a) The 1986 Constitutional Commission
 - b) The Batasang Pambansa
 - c) The Supreme Court
 - d) The Senate and House of Representatives
12. **Which of the following best distinguishes patriotism from nationalism?**
 - a) Patriotism focuses on cultural pride and unity, while nationalism emphasizes sovereignty and national identity.
 - b) Nationalism is peaceful; patriotism is aggressive.
 - c) Patriotism rejects cooperation; nationalism embraces it.
 - d) There is no difference.
13. **Congress plays a key role in elections by:**
 - a) Monitoring polling stations
 - b) Passing laws on suffrage and electoral reforms
 - c) Counting votes
 - d) Registering voters
14. **Enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings, and arbitrary detention are examples of violations against:**
 - a) Economic rights
 - b) Cultural rights
 - c) Human rights
 - d) Civil service rules

EXERCISE 1: CITIZENSHIP TRAINING ASSESSMENT

PART 2: Read each statement carefully. If the statement is correct, write 'True' in the space provided. If the statement is incorrect, write 'False.'

- _____ 1. The Bill of Rights in the 1987 Philippine Constitution is designed primarily to limit individual freedoms in favor of state security.
- _____ 2. Nationalism can sometimes be exclusionary and prioritize national interest above global cooperation, while patriotism emphasizes unity and cultural pride.
- _____ 3. Under RA 8491 (Flag and Heraldic Code), burning a worn-out flag in a solemn manner is considered a proper act of respect.
- _____ 4. Enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings constitute violations not only of human rights but also of constitutional guarantees of life and liberty.
- _____ 5. The Good Citizenship Value of "Maka-tao" strictly applies to charitable acts and excludes the protection of human rights.
- _____ 6. Congress contributes to strengthening democratic participation by enacting laws on suffrage, voter education, and electoral reforms.

PART 3: Answer each question in at least 5–7 sentences. Reflect on what you have learned from the module and support your answers with examples (5 points each answer).

1. From the lessons on the Constitution, Bill of Rights, human rights, and citizenship values, which concept has influenced you the most? Explain why it is important and how you can apply it in your daily life as a student and future professional.

2. Looking back at the entire module on Citizenship Training, what is the most meaningful lesson you have learned about being a responsible Filipino citizen? How can you use this knowledge to contribute to your community and the nation?

"We are engaged in the gigantic task of nation-building... we must forge our people into a united, patriotic, God-fearing and contented citizenry... a people influenced by a single devotion —devotion to our native land..."

- Manuel L. Quezon