

# CROSSROADS OF QUALITY ASSURANCE: THE PHILIPPINE BASIC EDUCATION EXPERIENCE



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## **Abstract**

Public elementary and high schools in the Philippines are struggling to cope up with the accreditation standards set by the Department of Education. The questionable stability of the accreditation process in public schools would cause uncertainty among principals to undergo accreditation. Using a phenomenological design, the researcher conducted this study among principals who underwent accreditation. Data was collected via interviews with participants who were principals of their respective schools during the pilot implementation of the Department of Education accreditation program. Transcriptions were derived from the videotapes of the interviews. After gaining the holistic view of the participants, significant statements were extracted that serve as essence from where the themes were formulated. In response to the purpose of this study which is to determine the live experiences of the principals who already experienced actual accreditation, this study emerged that principals experienced extreme pressure in understanding the “whats” and “hows” of accreditation. Contributory to their anxieties were the financial constraints, retrieval of documents for three years, and the pressing time. However, despite hardship and difficulties, the principals were all successful in obtaining certain accreditation.

## **Keywords:**

*Accreditation, Crossroads, Excellence, Principal, Quality Assurance*

