

# QUEZON CITY UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2024



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**Quezon City University**  
**Research, Extension, Planning, and Linkages**

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# About QCU

The Quezon City University, formerly known as the Quezon City Polytechnic University, came into existence on March 1, 1994, by virtue of the City Council Ordinance No. SP-171. The institution was created to undertake skilled workers' training in response to the manpower requirement by industry and business establishments within the city. The organization of the Polytechnic as a local government educational institution included the old Skills and Training Center. The QCP established its reputation among local government units as a show window and model technology-based institution, paving the way for its recognition by the Technical Education Skills and Development Authority (TESDA) and developing a strong alliance with the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA).



On August 20, 1997, the Polytechnic was enhanced into a University through City Council Ordinance No. SP-544, S-97. The leadership of former Quezon City Mayor Feliciano “Sonny” Belmonte saw meaningful access to higher education.

Starting 2005-2006, the University has started offering degree programs. Initially, the courses are BS in Entrepreneurial Management, BS in Information Technology, and BS in Industrial Engineering. SP-1945, s. 2009, otherwise known as “An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. SP1030, s. 2001 (or the QCPU Charter)”, passed by the Quezon City Council, grants the Quezon City Polytechnic University semi-autonomy as to its fiscal management and control over its operations, budgeting and reporting requirements. Under the Ordinance SP-2308 s. 2014, the QC Council authorizes the University to offer the Senior High School Program as mandated by the Department of Education. In July 2019, the SP-2812 s.2019 or the “Ordinance converting the Quezon City Polytechnic University to Quezon City University and enhancing its charter” was fully implemented, with Dr. Victor B. Endriga being named as the OIC President of the University.

On October 8, 2020, after the search committee for president recommended three (3) qualified applicants and nominees, the University Board of Regents appointed Dr. Theresita V. Atienza as its first elected University President with a fixed six-year term. Dr. Atienza envisions QCU to be recognized as the # 1 local university of employable graduates. For 27 years since its establishment, QCU has evolved significantly.

QCU now offers degree programs in accountancy and entrepreneurship, information technology, and engineering from being a technical education provider. And soon, QCU will cater to more talented and deserving students by providing relevant undergraduate and graduate programs that meet domestic and global markets’ demands.

**1 NO POVERTY**



**10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES**



**11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**



**13 CLIMATE ACTION**



**5 GENDER EQUALITY**



**8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**



**2 ZERO HUNGER**



**6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**



**7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY**



**17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS**



**4 QUALITY EDUCATION**



**3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**



**9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**





## MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT



Quezon City University reaffirms its commitment to sustainability as a cornerstone of its mission to deliver quality, inclusive, and transformative education. In 2024, we advanced initiatives in environmental stewardship, responsible consumption, sustainable urban agriculture, and community engagement—efforts that are fully aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

These milestones reflect not only compliance with global benchmarks but also QCU's deep responsibility to the people of Quezon City. By embedding sustainability into teaching, research, extension, and campus operations, we are shaping future-ready graduates who are also conscious stewards of society and the environment.

As we move forward, QCU will continue to strengthen its role as a local university with a global mindset—pioneering practices that build resilient communities and ensuring that sustainability remains at the heart of our journey.

**Dr. Theresita V. Atienza**  
University President





# NO POVERTY

At Quezon City University (QCU), poverty alleviation is a central pillar of its institutional mission. In 2024, QCU deepened its commitment to eradicating poverty by forging strategic partnerships, empowering out-of-school youth, advancing urban agriculture, and promoting equitable access to education and livelihood opportunities.

These initiatives reflect the University's belief that education is a powerful tool in breaking the cycle of poverty and building resilient, inclusive communities.





## AgriFair 2024 - Harvesting Innovation for Community Resilience

On April 18, 2024, Quezon City University (QCU) held AgriFair 2024, back-to-back with the Annual Entrepreneurship Conference, under the theme “Harvesting Innovation: Highlighting Sustainable Agriculture and Community Resilience in Quezon City.”

The event, staged at the QCU Triangle, underscored the role of sustainable agriculture in promoting innovation, food security, and resilience in local communities. The ribbon-cutting ceremony was led by University President Dr. Theresita V. Atienza, together with key administrators and entrepreneurship students, symbolizing QCU’s commitment to advancing agriculture as part of its extension and innovation agenda.

AgriFair 2024 showcased exhibits, produce, and innovations that highlight how academic expertise and community collaboration can create inclusive solutions to urban and peri-urban agricultural challenges. The activity also served as a learning platform for students to engage with real-world applications of sustainability and entrepreneurship, linking academic knowledge with community development.



## Championing Social Mobility in Global Higher Education

Dr. Theresita V. Atienza, President of Quezon City University (QCU), participated as a speaker in a roundtable discussion on “How universities support students’ future success? Exploring global good practice of how higher education enables social mobility” at the Times Higher Education Global Sustainable Development Congress (THE GSDC) 2024 on June 12, 2024.

The discussion, facilitated by Elizabeth Shepherd, the Managing Director of Consultancy at Times Higher Education, and co-organized with Lumina Foundation, aimed to gather insights from international best practices and share them in a global thought leadership report.

In her opening statement, Dr. Atienza highlighted how QCU and other local universities in the Philippines provide students with free tuition, ensuring access to high-quality education. She also emphasized QCU’s commitment to promoting social mobility, aligning with its vision of becoming the top local university for producing employable graduates.

Other participants in the roundtable discussion included university presidents from Brunei, Thailand, Singapore, and the United Kingdom.



**10,689**

Total Students Enrolled



**90+%**

Enrollment from  
Indigent Households



# Breaking Barriers to Poverty Through Education: QCU's Robust Enrollment and UNIFAST Support

Quezon City University (QCU) continues to demonstrate its steadfast commitment to inclusive education and poverty alleviation, as shown by its sustained enrollment growth over the past six years. From **7,493** students in **Academic Year (A.Y.) 2019–2020**, the university has now reached **10,915** students in **A.Y. 2024–2025**, marking a **46%** increase and affirming QCU's role as a transformative institution in higher education.

This growth is not merely a numerical achievement; **it represents lives transformed**. All QCU students are beneficiaries of the **Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education (UniFAST)** program by the **Commission on Higher Education (CHED)**, ensuring that access to quality education is not hindered by financial limitations. The majority of QCU students come from **low-income** and **lower-middle-income households**, making the university's programs a lifeline for thousands of families striving for upward mobility.

**Enrollment Growth as a Pathway to Opportunity** QCU's robust enrollment reflects both its rising reputation and its vital role in shaping a future where education is a powerful equalizer. The steady increase—from 9,428 students in 2020–2021 to over 10,000 in 2023–2024 and beyond—underscores the growing trust of Quezon City residents in the **university's mission of inclusive, affordable, and quality education**.

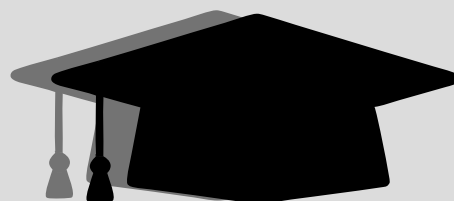
This expansion directly aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 1 (No Poverty) **by providing accessible education that paves the way for economic empowerment**. By nurturing a new generation of entrepreneurs, educators, engineers, accountants, and IT professionals, QCU equips its graduates with the skills to secure stable employment, support their families, and contribute to national development.

**Diversity of Programs for Inclusive Growth** The distribution of enrollment across QCU's degree programs illustrates the breadth of opportunities made available to students, regardless of their socio-economic background:

**BS Entrepreneurship (3,605 students)** – cultivating future job creators and innovators. **BS Information Technology (2,928 students)** – preparing graduates for high-demand digital careers. **BS Industrial Engineering (1,717 students)** and **BS Electronics Engineering (647 students)** – training engineers to drive productivity and innovation. **BS Accountancy (922 students)** and **BS Management Accounting (369 students)** – equipping future financial leaders.

**₱661.95 M**

Scholarship Funding  
Academic Year 2020-2025





**Early Childhood Education (490 students)** – shaping teachers who will build the foundations of future generations. Other specialized fields such as **Computer Science (93)**, **Information System (95)**, and **Computer Engineering (49)** further strengthen QCU's contribution to diverse sectors. These programs are not only designed for academic excellence but also serve as tools of empowerment for students who might otherwise be excluded from higher education. Scholarships as an Anti-Poverty Program Through the UniFAST full scholarship, students at QCU enjoy tuition-free education, removing one of the greatest barriers faced by families from disadvantaged communities.

The impact of this support is two-fold:

- **Immediate Relief for Families** – Parents are freed from the financial burden of tuition and miscellaneous fees, allowing them to allocate scarce resources to daily needs.
- **Long-Term Poverty Reduction** – Graduates are better positioned to secure decent jobs or start their own businesses, breaking cycles of poverty and contributing to sustainable development.

Education as QCU's Anti-Poverty Commitment QCU's enrollment growth story is a testament to its role as an active partner in nation-building. Each of its 10,915 students is a symbol of hope, resilience, and the university's anti-poverty mission in action. By opening its doors wide to marginalized communities, QCU advances not only the aspirations of individual students but also the broader fight against poverty in Quezon City and beyond.

As the university looks forward to further strengthening its academic and social impact, its message is clear: QCU is more than an institution of learning— it is a ladder out of poverty, a beacon of opportunity, and a partner in building a just, inclusive, and sustainable society.

# QCU Graduation 2024: Empowering Scholars from the Bottom 20%

On July 1, 2024, Quezon City University (QCU) held its much-anticipated Graduation Ceremony at the Smart Araneta Coliseum, celebrating the achievements of thousands of students who have persevered through academic challenges and socio-economic barriers.

A remarkable highlight of this year's graduation is that a significant portion of the graduates belong to the bottom 20% of the population by income level, many of whom have been scholars under the **Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education (UniFAST)** of the **Commission on Higher Education (CHED)**. Through the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES), these students were able to complete their degrees without the financial burdens that often prevent low-income families from pursuing higher education.

**Breaking Barriers through Education** QCU President Dr. Theresita V. Atienza, in her message, emphasized that this year's graduates represent the transformative power of accessible and inclusive education. "Our scholars stand as living proof that when support systems are in place, talent and determination will always prevail over poverty," she said.

For many of the graduates, being UniFAST beneficiaries meant having access not only to tuition coverage but also to allowances for books, transportation, and daily living. This financial assistance enabled them to focus on their studies and engage actively in research, internships, and community projects. Scholars as Future Leaders The 2024 graduates are set to contribute to various sectors, with many coming from QCU's flagship programs in Entrepreneurship, Accountancy, Information Technology, Industrial and Electronics Engineering, and Education. As UniFAST scholars, their journey symbolizes the government's commitment to equity in education and QCU's mission of providing opportunities to those who need it most.

## Education as a Legacy

The ceremony also became an avenue to recognize Quezon City's leadership, under Mayor Joy Belmonte, for continuously investing in QCU as the city's legacy project. By prioritizing inclusive education, QCU strengthens its role as a university of the people, committed to uplifting marginalized families and communities through sustainable academic excellence.

## SDG Alignment

This milestone directly supports SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by ensuring that higher education is accessible to the poorest sectors of society. The success of these graduates affirms QCU's dedication to transforming lives and building a more inclusive and equitable Quezon City.



### Flagship programs

Entrepreneurship, Accountancy,  
IT, Industrial & Electronics  
Engineering, Education



### 100% UniFAST-TES Coverage

(tuition + allowances for  
books, transport, and  
daily needs)





## QCU's BYOB Program Fights Poverty through Youth Entrepreneurship Training

From September 10–13, 2024, Quezon City University (QCU), in partnership with QC Small Business and Cooperatives Development Promotions Office (QC SBCDPO), USAID Opportunity 2.0, and EDC, conducted the Be Your Own Boss (BYOB) – QC Youth Entrepreneurship Program to support 44 out-of-school youth from Districts 5 and 6.

The four-day training, led by QCU's College of Business Administration and REPL-Extension Office, focused on business concepts, customer service, finance, and business plan development, aiming to equip participants with skills for self-employment and livelihood sustainability.

University President Dr. Theresita V. Atienza encouraged the youth to continue their education and entrepreneurial journey at QCU.





## 44 OSYs Graduate from Be Your Own Boss Project

On September 23, 2024, at the Great Eastern Hotel in Quezon City, Quezon City University (QCU) celebrated the graduation of 44 out-of-school youth from the second batch of the Project Be Your Own Boss (BYOB) entrepreneurship training program.

Highlights included:

- A talk by Ms. Sylvia Ron (DTI-NCRO) on MSMEs and the entrepreneurial mindset.
- A success story shared by POP QC entrepreneur Ms. Rigie Mae Nieva.
- Business plan presentations evaluated by a panel of experts from QCU, QC SBCDPO, EDC, and POP QC.

Certificates were awarded by QCU officials, including Dr. Theresita V. Atienza, who encouraged graduates to pursue further studies at QCU, aligning with Mayor Joy Belmonte's call for inclusive growth in Quezon City.



### Staffing & Financial Data

Total number of employees: 373  
Number of academic staff: 229  
Total university expenditure:  
₱202,378,805



### Contract Security for Employees

Total employees: 373  
Employees on contracts  
over 24 months: 137



## Strategic Local and Private Sector Partnerships

To broaden the impact of its scholarship programs, QCU collaborates with local government agencies and private sector organizations, including:

- The Quezon City Youth Development Office (QCYDO), which formulates and implements responsive programs addressing the evolving needs of the city's youth, including initiatives beyond the academic sphere.
- The Megaworld Foundation Inc., which provides merit-based scholarships to academically gifted but financially disadvantaged students. This support enables scholars to pursue higher education and uplift their socioeconomic status.



## Accessible Student Services and Support Structures

QCU's Scholarship, Placement, and Alumni Relations Division (SPARD) serves as the central unit for coordinating financial assistance, career placement, and alumni engagement services. Students may inquire through the following contact details:

- Landline: (02) 8806-3254
- Email: [qcusgad@qcu.edu.ph](mailto:qcusgad@qcu.edu.ph)
- Office: 2nd Floor, Room 206, TechVoc Building, 673 Quirino Highway, San Bartolome, Novaliches, Quezon City
- Facebook Page: [QCU-SPARD](https://www.facebook.com/QCU-SPARD)



**₱7.38 M**

Economic scholarships  
via Quezon City  
Scholarship Program



**19 PDLs**

Total PDLs Graduate  
as of September 2024

# Government-Funded Educational Assistance through UniFAST



In line with Republic Act No. 10687 (Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education or UniFAST), QCU participates in a unified and streamlined national mechanism for the delivery of government-funded Student Financial Assistance Programs (StuFAPs). These include scholarships, grants-in-aid, student loans, and other specialized forms of support available to both public and private tertiary learners.

This commitment is further reinforced through Republic Act No. 10931, also known as the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act (UAQTEA).

Through this law, QCU students benefit from the following core programs:

- Free Higher Education (FHE)
- Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES)
- Student Loan Program (SLP)
- Free Technical-Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in state-run institutions

These financial mechanisms significantly alleviate the economic burden on students and their families, ensuring that those from low-income and marginalized sectors are given sustainable opportunities to pursue and complete tertiary education.



**2024 Graduates**

Beneficiaries of  
UniFAST program



**100% Tuition coverage  
+ allowances**

(books, transport, daily living)

