

## HOW TO BE A DAKILANG GURO

*by:*  
**Jennifer B. Mangalindan**

How does one become a Dakilang Guro? And what is the essence of being a Dakilang Guro?

The Dakilang Guro Award is an annual special acknowledgement for a teacher who has shown an exemplary performance in their profession. To become a Dakilang Guro awardee, a series of documents of each nominee will be evaluated by a School Selection Committee. According to the Division Memorandum No. 213 S. 2022, there are requirements that the nominees must meet in order to become a Dakilang Guro.

These requirements include obtaining an Outstanding performance rating and must not have any drop-outs, failure, non-reader, and non-numerate. It also requires winning any Dep-Ed initiated contest, leading community projects, submitting an Action Research proposal, serving as author, illustrator, evaluator or layout artist, and complete an income-generating project.

The nominees will be then evaluated based on the criteria of Instructional Competence, Professional Growth, Community Development, and Professionalism which will be conducted through an interview. After all these numerous screenings and requirements submitted, the most outstanding teacher with the highest points will be awarded.

To be awarded as the Dakilang Guro is both a prestigious honor and a worthwhile achievement, as it mirrors your efforts and dedication to your profession. However, not everyone dares to achieve this award. Not everyone gives their best to be named a “Dakilang Guro”.

The mentality itself of thinking of the title as a competition is wrong. Although it is a good motivation to have a competition going, it is not advisable in some situations. Teachers should have a mindset that being a Dakilang Guro is only an after effect of their hard work and determination. It is not a goal; it is the reward.

We teachers must always aim to be a Dakilang Guro. Whether there is an award or not, it is our duty to perform our greatest, to teach our students to the best of our abilities, to guide the next generation through a better education. The true essence of being a teacher, a Dakilang Guro, is not to claim the title to boast.

Coming from a Dakilang Guro Awardee for four consecutive years since 2018-2019, I believe that being a Dakilang Guro is not just glitter and gold. It is achieved from hard work and perseverance, by dedication and passion, not only for your own growth, but also for your students. It is a great responsibility to uphold, but if you work hard for your goals, it will become easier.

One becomes a Dakilang Guro, not only by achieving a certification, but in essence, through the legacy one leaves to their students. The image and memories you instill to your students, the bonds of trust and care, your support and teachings to them, these are the true things that matters.

It is of great pleasure and gratitude for me to be able to share such joyous feeling to others. And I, as a Dakilang Guro Aspirant will continue to strive to be the best teacher that I could be to the best of my abilities. Not to receive awards, but to inspire other people and continue the service that I have already started for my students.

*References:*

<https://www.scribd.com/document/578264171/Division-Memorandum-No-213-s-2022#>