



NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PRINCIPALS OF COLLEGES OF EDUCATION-GHANA (PRINCOF)

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PRINCOF COMMUNIQUÉ

COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE END OF THE 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE CONFERENCE OF PRINCIPALS OF COLLEGES OF EDUCATION, GHANA (PRINCOF)

Held at the Volta Serene Hotel, Ho, Volta Region, Ghana from 24th – 28th November, 2025.

The Conference of Principals of Colleges of Education, Ghana (PRINCOF), held its 2025 Annual Conference from 24th to 28th November, 2025 at the Volta Serene Hotel, Ho. The theme of the Conference was **Leveraging AI Technology in Colleges of Education in Ghana for Improved Teacher Education**. The Conference was also used to launch **The National NextGen Teachers' Challenge for Teacher Education Institutions**, under the auspices of the Centre for National Distance Learning and Open Schooling of the Ministry of Education, Ghana.

PRINCOF, after a comprehensive assessment of the state of teacher education and the broader national context, issues this communiqué to inform Government, Parliament, Ministries, Agencies, Stakeholders, and the general public of the pressing concerns and recommendations emanating from its 2025 Annual Conference.

PRINCOF acknowledges the support from Government and Sector Agencies, but notes several urgent issues requiring national attention.

CETAG Strike and Impact on the 2025/2026 Academic Calendar

PRINCOF expresses grave concern over the ongoing industrial action by the Colleges of Education Teachers Association of Ghana (CETAG). The strike has halted teaching, assessment, and academic supervision across all Colleges, creating uncertainty and anxiety among students.

1. PRINCOF urges Government and all relevant agencies to expedite negotiations with CETAG and resolve the outstanding issues.
2. PRINCOF cautions that a prolonged strike will have severe national consequences, including disruption of the academic calendar, delayed teacher deployment, increased pressure on basic schools, and financial strain and pressure on Colleges and trainees. Government is encouraged to demonstrate good faith and urgency in resolving the impasse.
3. PRINCOF wishes to appeal to CETAG to return to the negotiation table and resume academic work in the interest of students and the nation. While appreciating the legitimate concerns of CETAG members, PRINCOF urges lecturers to consider the broader impact on teacher development and national education continuity.

4. PRINCOF also calls on the National Labour Commission, GTEC, Ministry of Education, Parliamentary Select Committee on Education, and civil society to support mediation efforts. A collaborative, transparent, and empathetic approach is needed to permanently resolve the recurring disputes in the Colleges of Education sector.

Digitalisation, AI Integration, and Research Capacity

Digital readiness across Colleges varies today.

1. PRINCOF proposes the creation of a National Digital Resources Fund for sustainable ICT upgrades and support from the Government towards PRINCOF's e-Teaching & Learning platform.
2. PRINCOF also advocates support for research clusters focusing on AI in teaching and learning.

Operational Vehicles for Principals of Colleges of Education.

PRINCOF is grateful to Government for the recent assurances to acquire several operational vehicles for some Principals of Colleges of Education.

1. While thanking Government for the gesture, PRINCOF wishes to appeal to Government to procure the additional number required for the remaining Principals of colleges of education in Ghana.

Delayed Release of Feeding Grants and Statutory Funds

Persistent delays in the disbursement of feeding grants and other statutory payments continue to disrupt operations across Colleges. The current daily feeding grant of GHS6.50 per student remains inadequate and continues to plunge the colleges of education into debt.

1. PRINCOF appeals to Government to adhere to a predictable monthly release schedule of feeding grants.
2. PRINCOF urges Government to adjust feeding grants upwards to reflect inflation and market volatility.
3. Also, Government should take steps to pay colleges the top-up arrears of GHS 1.50 per student for the 2024/2025 Academic Year, as well as the extra two months' feeding arrears to colleges as a result of the prolonged strike by staff of the colleges of education in 2024.

Infrastructure Deficits and Overstretched Facilities

Lecture halls, laboratories, libraries, hostels, ICT centres, and staff accommodation remain inadequate and obsolete in many Colleges.

1. PRINCOF acknowledges Government's efforts toward the provision of critical infrastructure across colleges.

2. PRINCOF recommends that GETFund fast-tracks ongoing and stalled GETFund projects, while Government takes steps to expand digital infrastructure (smart classrooms, Wi-Fi, LMS, e-libraries), and launch a National College Infrastructure Modernisation Initiative.
3. There is an urgent need to allocate seed money to the Colleges of Education to support their infrastructure development, as is done for newly established tertiary institutions.

Staff Shortages and Delayed Recruitment Clearances

Colleges continue to face understaffing due to limited recruitment clearances and ageing faculty.

1. PRINCOF appeals to Government to expedite MoF recruitment/clearance authorisations, and offer special dispensation for staff recruitment in Colleges of Education.

Supported Teaching in Schools (STS) and Challenges with the B.Ed SHS Curriculum

STS placements and supervision logistics remain a challenge in all colleges of education. Also, the lack of qualified staff has NOT constrained colleges' capacities to teach the B.Ed SHS Curriculum.

1. PRINCOF urges Government to support the STS programme by providing buses to transport both trainees and supervisors to and from the practicum centres.
2. We appeal to GTEC to grant accreditation to colleges of education to run the B.Ed SHS Curriculum.

Governance Systems

New Governing Councils need orientation/training on their roles toward the effective and efficient running of colleges of education.

1. PRINCOF appeals to the Ministry of Education to support the immediate training of Governing Councils across all colleges of education.

Galamsey and Environmental Degradation

Illegal mining (*galamsey*) continues to damage water bodies, threaten food security, and endanger communities. Some Colleges of Education have their campuses threatened by the activities of these illegal miners.

1. PRINCOF calls on the Government, local communities, and all Ghanaians to intensify the anti-galamsey mining efforts.

Energy Instability and High Utility Costs

Increasing utility tariffs in the Colleges of Education hinder academic activities.

1. PRINCOF recommends that the Government develops an education sector utility fund and support the provision of green energy solutions for campuses.

Economic Pressures, Graduate Unemployment, and Teacher Deployment

Unemployment among graduates, including trained teachers, remains a national concern.

1. PRINCOF appeals to the Government to prioritise teacher posting, especially to deprived areas, and expand entrepreneurship and TVET-linked modules within Colleges.

Strengthening Partnerships and Internationalisation

Colleges need more international exposure for research and innovation.

1. PRINCOF wishes to suggest to Government to facilitate global partnerships in AI, STEM, Early Childhood Education, and Climate Education; provide funding support for international projects, staff exchanges, and research networks; and encourage Colleges to build capacity for global competitiveness.

Ethnic and Communal Conflicts Affecting Education

PRINCOF expresses deep concern about the recurring ethnic and communal conflicts in parts of the country, which continue to disrupt schooling, affect enrolment, and undermine teaching and learning in several Colleges of Education and their surrounding basic school communities. These conflicts force families to flee, interrupt the education of thousands of children, and create insecurity for staff and students.

1. PRINCOF appeals to Government, the National Peace Council, traditional authorities, security agencies, and local assemblies to intensify efforts toward the peaceful and lasting resolution of these conflicts. Sustained peace is essential for stable academic calendars, safe learning environments, and the protection of Ghana's future human capital.

CONCLUSION

PRINCOF reaffirms its commitment to producing competent, ethical, innovative, and globally competitive teachers for Ghana's pre-tertiary sector. The Conference calls on the Government and all stakeholders to give urgent attention to the matters raised in this communiqué to safeguard teacher education and secure Ghana's educational future.

Issued in Ho, Ghana, this 28th day of November, 2025.

Signed:



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(Principal, Atebubu College of Education)