



Green, Digital, Compliant: A Policy Roadmap for Cagayan State University's Public Procurement Reform



S&T in Education

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Background

Government procurement is a critical function that ensures transparency, accountability, and efficient use of public funds. Despite the implementation of Republic Act 9184 and its 2016 Revised IRR, issues such as delays, lack of transparency, and inconsistent compliance continue to affect procurement processes in government institutions like Cagayan State University (CSU). These challenges can lead to inefficiencies, reduced service delivery, and potential risks of corruption.

Research Objectives

- To determine the profile of procurement-related personnel and end-users.
- To assess the level of awareness of RA 9184 provisions.
- To evaluate the extent of compliance across CSU campuses.
- To identify gaps and problems in procurement implementation.
- To develop an action plan to improve compliance and efficiency.

Methodology

The study used a descriptive-correlational research design. Data were collected through a structured questionnaire administered to 1,283 respondents from eight CSU campuses. Respondents included BAC members, college officials, technical working groups, faculty, and end-users. Statistical tools such as frequency, percentage, weighted mean, and t-test were used for analysis.

Key Findings

As shown in Figure 2, all eight campuses of Cagayan State University are perceived to have a Great Extent of compliance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 9184 across all procurement dimensions. Andrews Campus obtained the highest overall mean rating (3.89), while Lal-lo Campus recorded the lowest (3.60). The computed overall mean of 3.76, interpreted as Great Extent, indicates that procurement practices across the University are implemented to a high extent in accordance with the Government Procurement Reform Act and its implementing rules and regulations.

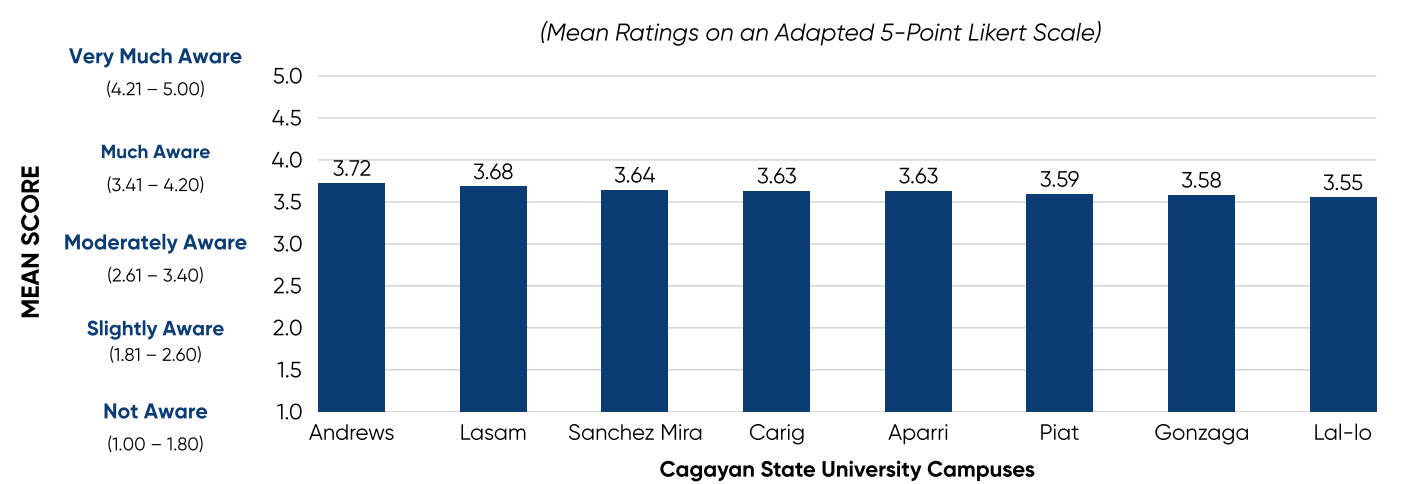


Figure 1. Overall Level of Awareness of RA No. 9184 by Campus.

As shown in Figure 1, all eight campuses of Cagayan State University are Much Aware of the provisions of Republic Act No. 9184. Andrews Campus obtained the highest overall mean rating (3.72), while Lal-lo Campus recorded the lowest (3.55). The computed overall mean of 3.62, interpreted as Much Aware, indicates that procurement implementers and end users across the University possess a high level of awareness of the Government Procurement Reform Act and its implementing rules and regulations.

Table 1 shows that only Andrews Campus had a significant difference in the level of awareness, while significant differences in the extent of compliance were observed in six of the eight campuses. Carig and Lal-lo Campuses showed no significant differences in either awareness or compliance. These findings suggest that awareness of RA No. 9184 is generally consistent across campuses, whereas perceptions of procurement compliance vary among respondent groups.

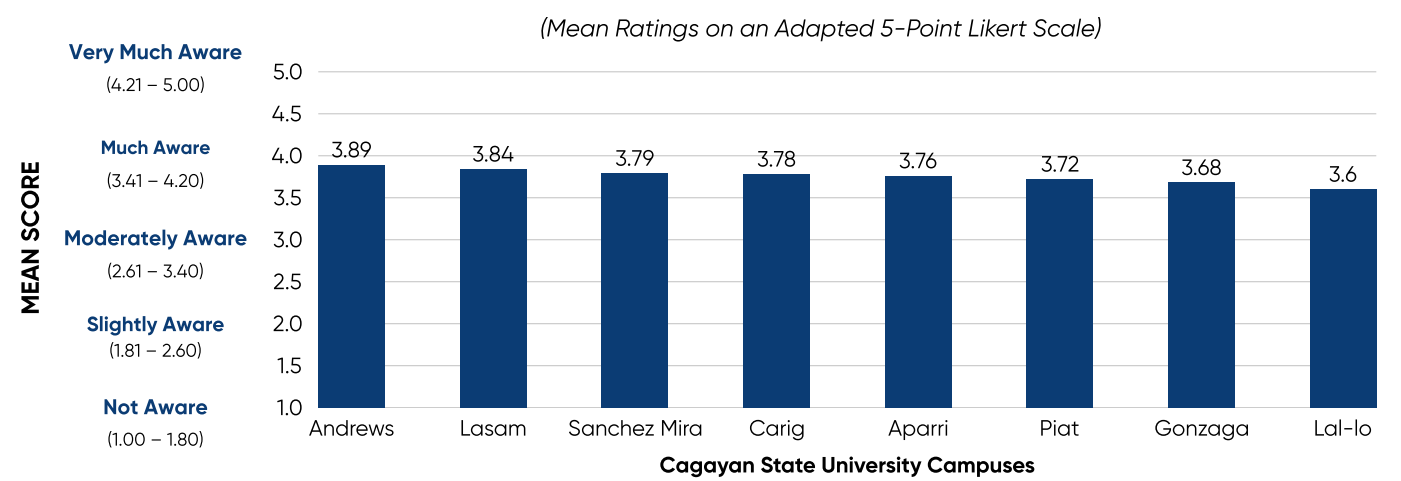


Figure 2. Overall Extent of Compliance with Republic Act No. 9184 by Campus.

Table 1. Summary of Significant Differences in the Level of Awareness and Extent of Compliance with Republic Act No. 9184 Across the Eight Campuses of Cagayan State University.

Campus	Number of samples	Acceptable levels	Extent of Compliance (p-value)	Decision
Andrews	0.0468	Significant	1.19E-06	Significant
Carig	0.4302	Not Significant	0.0590	Not Significant
Lal-lo	0.2854	Not Significant	1.0000	Not Significant
Aparri	0.3418	Not Significant	0.0222	Significant
Gonzaga	0.3639	Not Significant	0.0078	Significant
Sanchez Mira	0.1320	Not Significant	0.0159	Significant
Piat	0.2094	Not Significant	0.0308	Significant
Lasam	0.0502	Not Significant	1.69E-05	Significant

Policy Implications

The findings indicate that while CSU demonstrates general compliance with RA 9184, inconsistencies and operational inefficiencies weaken procurement effectiveness. Without improvements, these issues may lead to delays in project implementation, inefficient use of funds, and reduced public trust. Strengthening procurement systems is essential to support good governance and institutional performance.

Conclusion

Although CSU shows a high level of awareness and compliance with RA 9184, significant gaps remain in implementation, particularly in transparency, training, and efficiency. Addressing these issues through policy and institutional improvements is crucial to achieving effective and accountable procurement systems.

Policy Recommendations

1. Strengthen Procurement Planning

- Enforce realistic Annual Procurement Plans (APPs)
- Implement a centralized procurement calendar

2. Build Capacity of Procurement Personnel

- Conduct regular RA 9184 training and certification
- Establish a dedicated procurement unit

3. Enhance Monitoring and Internal Controls

- Create a procurement monitoring team
- Track key performance indicators (e.g., lead time, failed bids)

4. Digitalize Procurement Processes

- Maximize use of PhilGEPS
- Introduce internal tracking systems for real-time updates

5. Promote Transparency and Accountability

- Publish procurement data and bid results
- Enforce sanctions for non-compliance

Regulatory and Legislative Agencies Benefiting from the Results

- Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB)
- Commission on Audit (COA)
- Department of Budget and Management (DBM)
- Cagayan State University Administration
- Other State Universities and Colleges (SUCs)

References

Gannaban, M. V. C., Narag, E. R., & Zambale, A. C. F. (2025). Compliance of Cagayan State University in the 2016 revised implementing rules and regulations of Republic Act 9184 – Government Procurement Reform Act. *TPM – Testing, Psychometrics, Methodology in Applied Psychology*, 32(S7), 908–927.

Government Procurement Policy Board. (2016). 2016 revised implementing rules and regulations of Republic Act No. 9184. Government Procurement Policy Board

Editor's Note

This policy brief is based on results of the CSU-funded project “Compliance of Cagayan State University in the 2016 revised implementing rules and regulations of Republic Act 9184 – Government Procurement Reform Act” This project was implemented by the Cagayan State University – Andrews Campus. The CSU – Andrews Campus project team is composed of Ma. Victoria C. Gannaban, Edlyn R. Narag and Anthony Ceasar F. Zambale

Note from the author: The accuracy and integrity of the content in this article are the sole responsibility of the author(s).

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Our approach is built on transparency and inclusiveness. By integrating comprehensive data analysis with practical insights from experts and the broader university community, we ensure that our policy recommendations are not only academically robust but also practically implementable. This process underscores our commitment to creating a positive and lasting impact on the university's future.

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