

## **Influences on Academic Success: Evaluating Factors Affecting Educational Outcomes in Thailand's Local Administrative Organization Schools**

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### **Abstract:**

This study investigates the factors influencing academic achievement among students in Local Administrative Organization (LAO) schools in Thailand, utilizing the Ordinary National Educational Test (ONET) scores for Grade 9 students as the primary measure of educational outcomes. Data from the 2019 academic year was analyzed, a year when participation in the ONET was mandatory for all students. The findings reveal that while the overall average scores of LAO schools were lower than the national average, significant regional variations existed, with schools in the northern region performing notably better. Additionally, the analysis indicated that educational expenditure from LAOs positively impacted academic achievement; however, this relationship was moderated by the type of LAO and the number of teachers in each school. Schools under city municipalities achieved the highest scores, suggesting that factors such as teacher quality and community engagement play critical roles in enhancing educational outcomes. These findings underscore the necessity for tailored educational policies that prioritize funding, teacher development, and community involvement to improve student performance across diverse local contexts.

### **Keywords:**

Educational Outcomes, ONET, LAOs, Educational Expenditure.