

PM&DC announces new Syllabus for MDCAT 2025

Islamabad 12th June, 2025: The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PM&DC) has officially uploaded the new syllabus for the Medical and Dental College Admission Test (MDCAT) 2025 on its official website. This new syllabus will serve as the core framework for the upcoming MDCAT examination. The MDCAT is likely to be held on the last Sunday of September or 1st Sunday of October 2025. However, the final date will be announced in a couple of days in consultation with the admitting universities and with the approval of the council.

As the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council is the national statutory body responsible for regulating the standards of medical and dental education throughout the country. PMDC oversees curriculum development, licensing, and accreditation of medical institutions.

The new syllabus encompasses five key subjects i.e, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English, and Logical Reasoning, with a focus on conceptual understanding and critical thinking. The PM&DC encourages all aspiring medical and dental students to begin their preparation following the newly issued curriculum syllabus.

The structure, weightage, and difficulty levels for the MDCAT 2025 exam have also been officially defined. The exam will consist of a total of 180 multiple-choice questions (MCQs), to be completed within a three-hour duration. The difficulty distribution of the questions will be as follows: 15% easy, 70% moderate, and 15% difficult. The format of the exam will be entirely MCQ-based, and no negative marking will be applied. To qualify for admission, candidates must achieve a minimum of 55% marks for admission in medical colleges and 50% marks for admission in dental colleges. These standards have been lined up to ensure a fair and comprehensive evaluation of each candidate's knowledge and readiness for medical or dental education.

PM&DC President Prof. Dr. Rizwan Taj in his statement, apprised that the new syllabus for MDCAT 2025 is a step toward promoting transparency, fairness, and standardization in medical and dental admissions. He added that, few gaps were pointed out in the previous syllabus, which have been rectified and the PM&DC has successfully addressed the issue and introduced the revised syllabus within just six months. He added that this updated curriculum has been compiled to balance foundational knowledge with analytical and reasoning skills, serving the evolving academic needs of our next generation of healthcare professionals

Dr. Taj reaffirmed that the updated syllabus lays the foundation for a merit-based, unified national assessment. He added that PM&DC is also developing a question bank with expert input.

He acknowledged past challenges and emphasized that the Council has worked diligently to resolve these issues and ensure a fair testing system. The new syllabus was developed through extensive consultations with education experts, universities, and provincial authorities, aligning it with national academic standards and international best practices. It places strong emphasis on conceptual understanding and analytical skills across core science disciplines.

The MDCAT (Medical and Dental College Admission Test) Committee, along with its dedicated working groups, has successfully finalized a unified national curriculum for the MDCAT through a transparent, inclusive, and collaborative process.

A total of nine meetings were held by the Committee and its working groups to develop and refine the curriculum. The first draft was issued in March, after which comprehensive feedback was sought from all stakeholders, including Provincial Education and Health Departments, the regions of AJK and Gilgit-Baltistan, the Inter Board Committee of Chairmen (IBCC), Federal and Regional Boards, Admitting Universities across the country and the public at large.

President PM&DC thanked all stake holders for their valuable feedback on the new document. All suggestions and inputs were thoroughly reviewed and carefully incorporated into the curriculum syllabus. After the approval from the National Medical and Dental Academic Board and the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PM&DC) the final draft has been uploaded on the PM&DC website.

This collaborative effort ensured that all necessary measures have been taken to implement a standardized national curriculum for MDCAT to maintain consistency, transparency, and fairness in medical and dental college admissions nationwide.

He emphasised that the candidates are advised to regularly visit the PMDC website for any further updates regarding the exam schedule, registration, and other important announcements.