

PMDC DIRECTS MDCAT EXAM CONDUCTING UNIVERSITIES TO ENSURE STRICT MONITORING DURING MDCAT TO PREVENT CHEATING AND ENSURE SMOOTH CONDUCT

Islamabad 20th September 2024: The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) leadership under the chair of Prof.Dr.Rizwan Taj president PM&DC held meeting with vice chancellors of the public universities authorized to conduct the upcoming Medical and Dental College Admission Test (MDCAT).

The MDCAT exam will be conducted across the country on 22nd September 2024. The vice chancellors included Prof. A.W. Rathore VC UHS Lahore, Prof.Dr.Saeed Qureshi V.C Dow University of Health Sciences Karachi, Prof.Dr.Zia-ul-Haq VC Kyber Medical University Peshawar, Prof.Dr.Tariq Iqbal V.C shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University Islamabad, Mr.Zafar ullah registrar Bolan University of Medical and Health Sciences Quetta.

University authorities apprised the PM&DC regarding the preparation of the examination. They apprised that the exam is being conducted in 30 cities and two international centers Riyadh and Dubai.

The universities apprised that the admit cards have been issued and all preparations have been fulfilled with all codal formalities. All concerned quarters including government authorities and security agencies have been involved so that the exam is conducted in a foolproof manner and its secrecy and transparency is maintained . All efforts will be made to ensure smooth conduct of the examination.

To ensure the integrity in MDCAT examinations, the PMDC has stressed the importance of maintaining transparency and fairness during the MDCAT, which is a crucial step in selecting future medical and dental professionals. To this end, the PMDC has directed all involved institutions to carry out strict vigilance during the examination process to avoid malpractice, cheating, or mishaps.

The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) has requested to enforce Section 144 for the upcoming MDCAT to ensure a secure and transparent examination process nationwide. This law prohibits public gatherings and the use of electronic devices, aiming to prevent cheating and disruptions. Law enforcement will ensure compliance, and violators will face legal and disciplinary actions.

Furthermore, Key directives issued by the PMDC include, Comprehensive candidate verification and identification procedures the deployment of invigilators and monitoring teams to uphold examination standards. Use of modern surveillance technology to monitor exam centers and deter malpractice. Implementation of tamper-proof systems to ensure secure handling of exam materials. Additionally, universities have been instructed to take appropriate action against any individual found to be engaging in cheating or other dishonest practices during the exam.

The president PM&DC Prof.Dr.Rizwan Taj in the meeting emphasized the importance of this examination in ensuring only the most qualified and deserving candidates are selected for medical and dental education in Pakistan. The PMDC in order to maintain standards of Pakistan's medical and dental education system calls on all stakeholders to collaborate in ensuring a smooth and successful MDCAT exam.

Universities conducting the MDCAT have arranged examination centers as follows: Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University has set up 33 centers, the University of Health Sciences (UHS) 26 centers, Khyber Medical University (KMU) 13 centers, and Dow University of Health Sciences 6 centers.

He further stated that a total of 167,744 students have been registered for the MDCAT exam. The breakdown of candidate registered for exam in the provinces are Punjab with 58,380 students, Sindh with 38,678, KPK with 42,329, Balochistan with 5,806, ICT with 18,408, AJK 3,145, Gilgit-Baltistan with 739, and 259 international students.

He advised the candidates to refrain from any unethical behavior during the examination and reminded them that strict penalties will be imposed on those attempting to cheat or engage in fraudulent activities.

Additionally, PM&DC emphasized to both students and invigilators the importance of following the established rules and guidelines to ensure the credibility and fairness of the MDCAT. Any misconduct or violations will result in disciplinary action including debarring of the candidates from future examinations.