Admission Regulations (Amended) 2020-2021

Pursuant to the powers vested in the Medical and Dental Council under Section 8(2)(f) of the Pakistan Medical Commission Act, 2020 the Council hereby promulgates these Admission Regulations (Amended) 2020-2021.

1. These Regulations shall be applicable to all private and public medical and dental college admissions in Pakistan for the 2021 session only.

2. Any student seeking admission in any medical or dental college shall mandatorily be required to have passed the MDCAT examination held by Pakistan Medical Commission. The passing marks for the MDCAT examination shall be 60%.

   Provided the mandatory requirement of having passed the MDCAT examination shall not apply to any student admitted on a quota seat on the basis of a government scholarship program for foreign students under bilateral agreements with other countries subject to such student not being entitled to apply for a Full License to practice in Pakistan.

3. All admissions to public and private medical colleges shall be concluded by or before 21st February 2021 and classes shall begin from January 2021 at the latest. Provided that classes in Baluchistan may begin later than January 2021 after the winter break.

4. A certified list of students admitted to a public or private medical or dental college shall be provided to the Pakistan Medical Commission by the relevant university within sixty (60) days of close of admissions after having verified the high school leaving certificate / degree of the student and other necessary credentials.

   Provided the information to be provided to the Pakistan Medical Commission shall be in the form prescribed and certified to be true by the University.

4A. No college shall admit a student over and above the allocated maximum seats of a college under any circumstances including on account of any government quota or program. Any admission over and above the allocated maximum seats shall not be considered a valid admission and any student presented by a college as having been admitted in excess of the allocated seat shall not be eligible for grant of license by the Pakistan Medical Commission notwithstanding having been granted a degree by the college or university.

   Provided the restriction shall apply to students enrolled in Session 2021.

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4B. A fee of Rs.5,000 per student shall be payable by the college for registration of the student with Pakistan Medical Commission.

5. The Pakistan Medical Commission shall within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the admitting students from the University register the students with the Pakistan Medical Commission and issue each student a unique PMC Student Number.

Provided no student over and above the allocated maximum seats of a college shall be registered by the Pakistan Medical Commission.

Provided further that if the college presents for registration students over and above the allocated maximum seats, the students in excess of the maximum limit having lowest merit at the time of admission shall be rejected. The college shall be liable to refund any and all fee and charges charged from a student whose registration is refused along with a penalty equivalent to 50% of the fee charged.

6. Any students whose degree is not duly verified by the granting institution or credentials are found to be false or forged shall have the admission terminated with immediate effect. A student who is found to have forged their high school leaving certificate / degree or presented a false document shall be barred from applying to any medical or dental college in Pakistan in the future.

Provided further a student whose admission is terminated on account of having submitted a forged or false document at the time of seeking admission shall have any fee paid to the college forfeited and deposited by the college with the Commission, and which shall be used by the Commission for granting scholarships to deserving students on need basis.

7. In the event that a student drops out or is removed after being admitted within sixty (60) days of close of admissions, and there are during the transfer period no applicants for transfer pursuant to Regulation 8, the college shall be permitted to admit a student on the vacant seat within fourteen (14) days of the sixty (60) day period provide herein ending, subject to fulfilment of merit as per the merit list issued by the Commission or in the event of a public college the merit list issued by the relevant provincial admitting authority. No college shall be permitted to fill a seat falling vacant after the close of sixty (60) days period.

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Provided an admission on a vacant seat shall be notified by the college to the Pakistan Medical Commission through the University within seven (7) days of the end of the sixty (60) day period.

8. If a seat is vacant in a college after the close of admissions, a student having been admitted to any other college apply to such college for transfer within thirty (30) days of close of admissions. The transfer shall be approved by the accepting college strictly on higher merit if more than one applicant for a vacant seat immediately at the close of the thirty (30) day transfer period. The college from whom the student transfers shall be required to reimburse the student the fee deposited by the student, other than the non-refundable admission fee, within fourteen (14) days of transfer and after deducting pro rata the fee for the number of days the student remained at the college. The reimbursable fee shall be transferred by the college of the student to the accepting college directly. A transferred student shall not be refused a transfer or restrained from attending classes by the accepting college in the event of a delay in transfer of fees by the relieving college. Any dispute as to transfer of fees by one college to another may be referred by such college or colleges to the Council without affecting the studies of the student.

Provided a transfer shall be notified by the college through the University to the Pakistan Medical Commission within three (3) days of the transfer being completed.

Provided further, a transfer from one public college to another public college shall be subject to any applicable policy of the provincial government or relevant university of such provincial government.

Public College Admissions

9. Pursuant to Section 18(3) of the PMC Act 2020, all public universities, colleges or provincial governments, for purposes of preparing merit lists when admitting students shall be required to give minimum 50% weightage to the marks obtained by the student in MDCAT. A provincial government or its authorized admitting university shall at least 15 days before opening of applications for admission to public medical and dental colleges declare the exact weightage given to MDCAT result subject to it being 50% at the least.

10. All admitting universities or provincial governments, as the case may be, shall provide to the Pakistan Medical Commission a copy of each merit list issued during the admissions process for record.

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11. A Provincial Government or the Federal Government may declare a quota for special seats in defined categories in public colleges administered by the Provincial or Federal Government subject to such quotas being publicly declared prior to opening of admissions.

Provided further, that students admitted against special quotas seats shall be required to mandatorily have passed the MDCAT and obtained a high school leaving certificate / degree.

12. All admissions to public medical and dental colleges shall be completed by or before 14th January 2021.

Private College Admissions

13. Both Agha Khan University and NUMS in respect of its constituent, affiliated and administered colleges have a previously declared admission criteria for admissions which includes in addition to the MDCAT an entry test and other criteria specific to such colleges hence substantially fulfilling the requirement of prior disclosure of admission criteria pursuant to Section 18(3) of the PMC Act 2020. Therefore, admissions in the Army Medical College and all constituent, affiliated and administered colleges of NUMS shall be undertaken by NUMS and admissions to Agha Khan Medical College shall be undertaken by Agha Khan University respectively, subject to the mandatory requirement of any student admitted having passed the MDCAT. Any student seeking to apply to said colleges shall be required to apply directly to the relevant university and fulfill the additional requirements for admission imposed and declared by such colleges.

Provided quota for special seats in colleges under the administrative control of NUMS shall be regulated by NUMS as may be notified by the relevant Directorate and approved by the Ministry of Defence subject to the maximum allocated seat limit of each college.

Provided further, that students admitted against special quotas seats shall be required to have mandatorily passed the MDCAT and obtained a high school leaving certificate / degree.

14. Admissions to all private medical and dental shall be conducted only for the 2021 Session through a centralized automated admission system.

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15. An Admissions Committee consisting of three members of the Council nominated by the President and two representatives of private colleges shall oversee the conduct of the centralized automated admission system.

16. The Pakistan Medical Commission shall invite applications on a national level from students seeking admission to private medical and dental colleges immediately after the announcement of the MDCAT result. Students shall be required to submit their applications within a fifteen (15) day period from the opening date for submission of applications. An application fee of Rs.500 per student shall be applicable for the purposes of the applying through the automated admission system.

Provided a student may apply for admission to the private colleges notwithstanding having also applied for admission to public colleges.

Provided further, while for purposes of admission to a private medical or dental colleges no restriction as to domicile of the student exists, one may be imposed by a provincial government in exercise of its executive powers. A restriction as to domicile if imposed shall be accounted for in admissions undertaken by the Commission subject to fulfillment merit.

16A. A student who does not hold a Pakistani nationality, or holds a dual nationality or is an overseas or a non-resident Pakistani citizen and having obtained their HSSC or equivalent 12th grade qualification from outside Pakistan shall for purposes of admission be deemed a 'Foreign Student'. The admission of a Foreign Student shall be strictly on the basis of merit and no exception or special quota shall be created for Foreign Students.

16B A college may charge a Foreign Student a fee in foreign currency and higher than the fee charged to Pakistani resident Students subject to the fee for Foreign Students declared by the college.

Provided a student who is a dual national or an Overseas Pakistani or a non-resident Pakistani citizen shall be charged a fee reasonably lower than the fee declared by the college for Foreign Students.

17. A student applying for admission to a private medical or dental college shall provide in their application a list of colleges to which they seek to apply for admission.

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18. For purposes of preparing the merit list the MDCAT result shall carry a 50% weightage and 30% weightage shall be given to the students marks acquired in the F.Sc. or equivalent marks as certified by IBCC in the case of any other recognized high school qualification obtained by either an external board examination taken in Pakistan or outside Pakistan, with 20% weightage given to marks obtained in the interview to be conducted by each college.

Provided as an exemption for admission in the Session 2021 a Foreign Student may use results of SAT II exam in the subjects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics / Maths as an alternative to MDCAT. The result of the student in SAT II shall be equated with the scores of MDCAT by using a weightage of 40% for Biology, 35% for Chemistry and 25% for Physics / Maths.

19. The Pakistan Medical Commission shall on 14th January 2021 issue a National Merit List for each private college. The merit list of each college shall list all applicants who have listed the college as a preference and shall be organized strictly on merit.

19A. PMC having conducted the MDCAT examination as per the Act shall calculate weightage up to 80% of the aggregate to determine merit of each applying student. This shall be allocated 50% to MDCAT/SAT II and 30% to F.Sc. or equivalent exam. PMC shall issue the Merit List for each college on 14th January 2021, who shall carry out their own interviews which shall have a weightage of 20%. Each college will display on their website the structure of the interview for the information of students before 25th November 2020.

19B. The college shall add the score of the interview and consolidate with the MDCAT / F.Sc. based Merit aggregate of the student issued by PMC. The college shall finalize the total aggregate out of 100% for final merit of the students. This aggregate shall be used by the college for the purpose of admission to the MBBS / BDS classes. The colleges shall provide to PMC the final merit of all applying student after calculation of the 100% merit aggregate on completion of interviews.

19C. The college shall not seek to admit any student other than students who have applied to the college as per the list provided by PMC. The admissions shall be concluded by all colleges by 15th February 2021.

19D. If any seats remain vacant after 15th February 2021, each college shall have 7 days to fill such seats from students who may have applied to other colleges but did not obtain

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admission in such colleges, subject to them being interviewed by the college and admission being on merit.

19E. The admitted student will pay the fee advertised by the college in advance directly to the college and confirm their admission.

19F. Each college will publish on its website the final admitted list of students and send its final admitted list to its affiliated University who will certify the same and send to PMC after verifying the students F.S.c degree and marks etc. directly.

20. A student having passed the MDCAT exam with a minimum of 60% marks or alterative acquired more than 60% in each of the SAT II designated subject results and having obtained 65% or more in the F.Sc. or equivalent exam shall be eligible for admission in a medical or dental college.

21. A student who appears on the National Merit List of any college issued by the Pakistan Medical Commission shall be required to contact the colleges for seeking admission on whose National Merit List the name of the student has appeared subject to any interview as may be conducted by the college and marks for such interview added to the students merit weightage. A college may in its discretion elect not to interview a student and process admissions on the basis of the National Merit List.

Provided colleges shall ensure that no student is deprived of an opportunity to give an interview in the event of more than one college to which the student has applied having scheduled interviews on the same date. The colleges shall be required to offer such student an alternative date for interview.

Provided further that if two or more students have exactly the same merit upto five decimal points, the students shall position in merit shall be listed by age with the student older in age being placed higher than the student lower in age.

22. The admission shall be undertaken by the colleges strictly on the cumulative merit as per the National Merit List and adding the weightage permissible for an interview, if conducted by the college.

23. A student having accepted an offer of admission to a college shall be required to deposit the declared Fixed Fee or a part thereof as required by the college as confirmation and acceptance of admission.

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Fees and Charges

24. All private medical and dental colleges shall provide to Pakistan Medical Commission by or before 20th October 2020 a breakdown of the tuition fee, non-refundable admission fee, hostel fee, transport charges and all other charges as may be sought to be charged by the college from students obtaining admission in 2021 session with a further breakdown of such fee and charges and any annual escalation thereon on annual basis for the complete period of the program.

25. All fixed fees per year payable by the student without option shall be considered cumulatively the Fixed Fee of the college. All charges which are optional upon the student electing to obtain the corresponding service offered by the college shall be considered Optional Fee. Charges for hostel accommodation, mess/food, transport and medical insurance shall be Optional Fee and shall only be charged for the period the corresponding services are availed by the student.

26. No private medical and dental college shall at any time during the complete duration of the program of study (5 years in the case of MBBS and 4 years in the case of BDS) charge from a student any amount in addition to the maximum charges notified by it to the Commission including the fixed enhanced value.

27. The Pakistan Medical Commission shall review the maximum fee and charges as proposed by each college and shall provide to each college the reviewed Fixed Fee divided over each year of the program and the Optional Fee.

28. The final determined Fixed Fee and Option Fee applicable to students to be enrolled in the 2021 Session for each private medical and dental college shall be notified by each college on its website as communicated by the Commission under Regulation 27, by or before 30th November 2020. If any college fails to notify the fee and charges on its website by 30th November 2020, the Commission shall publish such fee of the college on its website for information of the students.

29. The tuition fee of students already admitted to the college prior to September 2020 shall not be increased by more than 5% per annum.

Secretary
Medical & Dental Council
Pakistan Medical Commission

Approved and Promulgated on 17th November 2020

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Islamabad