

Information for Indian Students Desirous of Pursuing Medical Studies in Nepal

Over the years, there has been an increase in the number of Indian students going abroad to pursue medical education. Earlier, all students interested in taking a medical qualification from outside India were required to get an eligibility certificate from the government before leaving for their studies. However, since 2019, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has made it mandatory for the students to clear the NEET-UG (National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test-Under Graduate) exam, which is the entry examination for undergraduate medical education in India, as a prerequisite to pursue medical education abroad.

2. Beginning 2019, only those students who appear for the NEET-UG for admission to Undergraduate medical education in India will be eligible to appear for the screening test, namely, the Foreign Medical Graduates' Exam (FMGE). This step has been an important advancement in screening of students and has been well received by the host countries as well. However, as the quality of education in various countries differs considerably; continued and systematic effort in providing guidance to students regarding selection of course and institution to gain maximum academic exposure is needed.

3. As per the IMC (Indian Medical Council) Act, 1956, all students who acquire a medical qualification from countries outside India are required to clear the FMGE in order to practice in India. The Exam is conducted by the National Board for Examination (NBE) twice (i.e. in June and December) every year.

4. It may be noted that the number of students, having medical degrees from Institutions abroad, appearing for FMGE in 2009 was 6170, which has increased to 21,351 in 2018. However, the pass percentage of students appearing for the FMGE has been very low, and continues to be below 20%.

5. National Examination Board, New Delhi has published a list of Indian students who had passed out from various Medical colleges/Universities of Nepal and their year-wise performance in Foreign Medical Graduates' Exam for the period 2015-2018:

Sl No	Name of Institute/University Of Nepal	2015-2018		
		Appeared	Passed	Pass Percentage
1.	B P Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Dharan(Autonomous Univ.)	239	100	41.84
2.	Biratnagar Medical College, Biratnagar (KU)	0	0	0.00
3.	College of Medical Sciences, Bharatpur, (KU)	836	149	17.82
4.	Gandaki Medical College, Pokhara (TU)	6	4	66.66
5.	Kathmandu University, Dhulikhel(KU)	54	9	16.67
6.	Janaki Medical College, Janakpur (TU)	328	64	19.51
7.	Kathmandu Medical College, Sinamangal, KTM (KU)	139	16	11.51
8.	Lumbini Medical college, Palpa (KU)	5	3	60.00
9.	Manipal College of Medical Sciences, Pokhara (KU)	567	162	28.57
10.	National Medical College, Birgunj (TU)	848	121	14.27
11.	Nepalgunj Medical	406	97	23.89

	College, Chisapani, Banke (KU)			
12.	Nepal Medical College, Jorpati, KTM (KU)	42	4	9.52
13.	Nobel Medical College, Biratnagar (KU)	145	31	21.38
14.	Institute of Medical Sciences, Kathmandu, Tribhuvan University (TU)	1404	146	10.39
15.	Universal College of Medical Science, Bhairahwah (TU)	871	135	15.50

6. All Indian students desiring to undertake medical education in Nepal should take into account the above mentioned information. In case they need any clarification about any particular institution, they may contact Indian Embassy in Kathmandu. The students are also advised to visit official website of Medical Council of India (<https://www.mciindia.org>) regularly to know the list of accredited foreign medical institutions/universities for MBBS or equivalent courses; and other important useful information.

Dos & Donts for Prospective Indian students before taking admissions in Medical Colleges of Nepal

Do's

1. Students must ensure that they strictly fulfill the eligibility criteria for their admissions as per the regulations of Nepal as well as of India, including passing of NEET-UG.
2. All necessary documents are required to be carried personally for the admissions in MBBS in Nepal.
3. Students should approach the college directly to check if it is a bonafide institution and must gather authentic information about the eligibility criteria, procedures of admission, availability of faculties, curriculum, facilities for practical, etc. Students should not merely depend on the website of the College. Prior to getting admission, the student should also explore the social media and extract various information/details including reputation/grading of the colleges/Universities and its examination system.
4. While seeking admissions, students should check the results of previous years and the proportionate pass percentages of Indian students from a particular College.
5. Before taking final decision for admission, the student must speak with existing Indian students of the Colleges and ascertain problems, if any. The student should gather all details very carefully pertaining to the procedure for examinations, re-examinations, revaluation of answer-sheets and charges involved thereof, number of permitted attempts to clear re-examinations, NFTE (Not Fit for Technical Education) criteria, etc.
6. The fee component and its mode of payment should be understood clearly. If possible, an authentic signed copy of fee payment schedule (including year wise fee structure, installments and date of payment against each installment) should be taken from the College/University in Nepal. Some colleges charge heavy penalty (almost 100%) on the pending dues, which may lead to heavy financial burden on the student. All these should be clarified before seeking admission.

7. Detailed enquiry should be made about facilities being provided by the college including hostel, food, transportation, medical, etc., and expenses towards these. The student must ask for hidden charges levied by the College, if any.

Don'ts

1. The student should be beware of any Agent or Consultancy services either for seeking admission in MBBS in Nepal or asking for any discount for fee, etc.
2. The student should refrain from engaging in unlawful/political activities after getting admission in the college.
