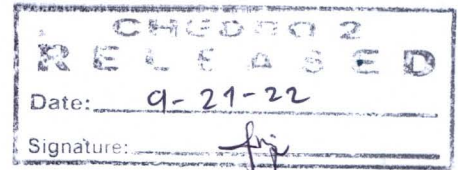




Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
Region 02



REGIONAL MEMORANDUM ORDER
No. 272, series of 2022

FOR : **PRESIDENTS/HEADS/OFFICERS-IN-CHARGE OF THE**
FOLLOWING HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN REGION 2:

CAGAYAN STATE UNIVERSITY,
Carig Campus, Tuguegarao City, Cagayan

ST. PAUL UNIVERSITY PHILIPPINES
Mabini St., Tuguegarao City, Cagayan

PLT COLLEGE
College of Medicine, Solano, Nueva Vizcaya

SUBJECT : **RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE CONCERNS OF**
INDIAN MEDICAL STUDENT-APPLICANTS RELATIVE TO THE NATIONAL
MEDICAL ADMISSION TEST (NMAT) REQUIREMENT FOR ENTRY INTO
PHILIPPINE MEDICAL SCHOOLS

DATE : **SEPTEMBER 21, 2022**

Attached is a copy of the Memorandum from **Dr. J. Prospero E. De Vera III, Chairman, Commission on Higher Education**, regarding the Resolution of the Commission on the concerns of Indian Medical Student-Applicants relative to the National Medical Admission Test (NMAT) requirement for entry into Philippine Medical Schools.

The Commission en Banc (CEB) Resolution No. 445-2022, that without setting a precedent, resolved to suspend, in the case of the affected Indian medical student-applicants, the requirement of NMAT before the entry to medical schools and the NMAT cut-off score of at least 40th percentile for **one (1) academic year (AY 2022-2023)** in order to conditionally accept/admit the affected Indian medical student-applicants in the respective Philippine medical schools, subject to the following:

1. Before entry to the medical school, Indian medical student-applicants shall be subjected to rigid admission requirements (e.g., mandatory admission test) to be implemented in lieu of the NMAT as a quality indicator and predictor of a student's academic performance in medical school; and
2. Indian medical student-applicants are still required to take the NMAT within a period of one (1) year.

In view of this, the CHED Regional Office 2 is directed to monitor the entry of Indian medical student-applicants in the Doctor of Medicine program of above mentioned HEIs.

For your information and compliance.


Digitally signed by Marco
Cicero F. Domingo
Date: 2022.09.21 10:59:30
+08'00'
ATTY. MARCO CICERO F. DOMINGO
OIC - Director IV

Encl.: as stated

rgd/09212022/Tracking No.18455



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION



MEMORANDUM FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CHAIRPERSON

FOR : **DR. DANILO B. BOSE**
Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Director IV, CHEDRO I

ATTY. MARCO CICERO F. DOMINGO
Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Director IV, CHEDRO II

DR. LEONIDA S. CALAGUI
Director IV, CHEDRO III

ATTY. SEPTON A. DE LA CRUZ
Director IV, CHEDRO V

DR. MAURA CONSOLACION D. CRISTOBAL
Director IV, CHEDRO VII

DR. MARICAR R. CASQUEJO
Director IV, CHEDRO XI

DR. DEMETRIO P. ANDUYAN, JR.
Director IV, CHEDRO Cordillera Administrative Region

DR. JULIETA M. PARAS
Director IV, CHED National Capital Region

SUBJECT : **RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE CONCERNS OF
INDIAN MEDICAL STUDENT-APPLICANTS RELATIVE TO THE
NATIONAL MEDICAL ADMISSION TEST (NMAT) REQUIREMENT
FOR ENTRY INTO PHILIPPINE MEDICAL SCHOOLS**

DATE : **14 SEPTEMBER 2022**

This is with reference to the communication from Estrada and Aquino Law, who is representing the concerned twenty-one (21) medical schools in the Philippines, requesting for the Commission to:

1. Intervene on the recent rules and regulations of the National Medical Council (NMC) of India, which in essence effectively bar/restrict entry or admission of Indian students in the Philippine medical schools, which affects the Indian students who are currently enrolled in the Philippine medical schools and the completion of their degree programs;

2. Suspend the imposition of the National Medical Admission Test (NMAT) to Indian medical students due to the following:
 - a. Many of the Indian medical students abroad cannot take the NMAT online as most of them come from remote areas with no internet connectivity. This scenario coupled with the extreme difficulty in traveling to testing areas on specific schedules set by the Center of Educational Measurement, Inc. (CEM) invariably disenfranchises the students, and in the end, even those who can register for testing could not complete the process and therefore, invalidating testing results and all efforts gone to waste;
 - b. Each school has its own criteria for admission, which in the name of academic freedom and institutional autonomy will suffice in determining whether or not students may be accepted into the medical degree program and have the potential to complete the course; and,
 - c. Although most countries of origin have screening procedures for their citizens to apply to medical schools abroad, specifically for the Indian medical students, a very stringent screening examinations such as the National Eligibility Examination Test (NEET) which is heavy in the sciences (i.e., Biology, Anatomy, Mathematics) is a top requirement.

The Commission en Banc discussed the said concerns during the 582nd Joint Management Committee and Commission en Banc Meeting held on 30 August 2022, and through CEB Resolution No. 445-2022, that without setting a precedent, resolved to suspend, in the case of the affected Indian medical student-applicants, the requirement of NMAT before the entry to medical schools and the NMAT cut-off score of at least 40th percentile for one (1) academic year (AY 2022-2023) in order to conditionally accept/admit the affected Indian medical student-applicants in the respective Philippine medical schools, subject to the following:

- a. Before entry to the medical school, Indian medical student-applicants shall be subjected to rigid admission requirements (e.g., mandatory admission test) to be implemented in lieu of the NMAT as a quality indicator and predictor of a student's academic performance in medical school; and,
- b. Indian medical student-applicants are still required to take the NMAT within a period of one (1) year.

As such, all CHED Regional Offices concerned are directed to monitor the entry of Indian Medical student-applicants in the Doctor of Medicine programs of the following medical schools in relation to the above decision of the Commission:

1. Davao Medical School Foundation, Davao City
2. AMA University College of Medicine, Manila
3. Emilio Aguinaldo College of Medicine, Manila
4. Our Lady of Fatima College of Medicine, Valenzuela
5. Perpetual Help University College of Medicine, Las Piñas
6. University of the Visayas - Gullas College of Medicine, Cebu
7. Virgen Milagrosa Educational Foundation College of Medicine, San Carlos
- ✓8. St. Paul University College of Medicine, Tuguegarao
9. Lyceum Northwestern University, Dagupan City
10. PHINMA Southwestern University, Cebu City
11. Brokenshire College, Davao City



12. PLT College of Medicine, Nueva Vizcaya
13. Cagayan State University, Tuguegarao City
14. University of Northern Philippines, Vigan City
15. Cebu Doctors University, Mandaue City
16. Bicol Christian College, Albay
17. Manila Central University, Caloocan
18. Angeles University Foundation, Angeles City
19. Southwestern University – Matias H. Aznar Memorial (SU MAHAM) College of Medicine, Inc., Cebu City
20. Lorma Colleges, Inc., La Union
21. Saint Louis University, Baguio City

For your information and compliance.



J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III, DPA
Chairman

