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ADMISSION TO TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS IN NIGERIA: THE PROCEDURE

The need for the general public to be conversant with the process and procedure for admission into tertiary institutions in Nigeria is critical given the many erroneous impressions being circulated in public space.

There are few commentators who misunderstand and misconstrue certain admission criteria as evidence of lack of equity on the part of the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB).

One of such critics is the highly-respected Governor of Kaduna State who incidentally is an ardent supporter of quality education and by extension the



Board.

His Excellency, the Governor of Kaduna State, is one of the Governors, who has in the last five years, rendered significant material support to the Board, nevertheless the clarification is necessary.

Mallam Nasir Ahmad el-Rufai, the Kaduna State Governor recently accused the Board of

tilting the admission process in favour of Northern States for the mere facts according to him that, Educationally Less Developed States are given underserved special consideration in the admission process. The fact is that it is the proprietor of each institution in Nigeria that determines the criteria for admission into their

...Admission to Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria: The Procedure

respective institutions subject to the law, policies of government and international treaties to which Nigeria subscribes.

Additionally, the Senate or the Academic Board of each institution set the minimum standard acceptable to it and no institution is expected or persuaded to recommend for approval of JAMB any candidate below the standard set by the institution.

Furthermore, each institution aspires to be as inclusive as possible. Equity, access, quality and funding are essential features of higher education all over the world. Minimum standards are set and within such standards, every world-class university prides itself with as much plurality as possible.

Affirmative action in the admission process is an international feature. What Nigeria refers to as federal character principle is similar to what others present as equal opportunity, affirmative or inclusive actions.

Moreover, Educationally Less Developed

States are neither determined by JAMB nor limited to the States in the Northern part of Nigeria.

Besides, *prima-facie* qualification for admission into tertiary institution anywhere in the world including Nigeria is not the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination score, rather it is the secondary school Certificate(SSC) with five C grades as stipulated by global convention such as the Arusha (Recently renamed the Addis Ababa Convention). There is no controversy as the acceptable is C6, the least available in the 'C' category.

No admission policy in Nigeria lowers the international stipulated tertiary education admission criteria for candidates from any part of Nigeria. It is also a known fact that federal character principles are rightly enshrined in the Nigerian Constitution and until such are abrogated they remained the correct position of the law.

The Joint Admissions and Matriculation

Board only ensures that, subject to the minimum criteria set by each institution, the admission process is as inclusive as possible.

For the avoidance of doubt, the admission criteria put in place for federal tertiary institutions, except for a minor amendment about fifteen years ago, have remained the same. That is (a) Merit 45% (b) Catchment States (Generally, the closest States around every federal government tertiary institution) 35% and (c) Educationally Less Developed States 20%.

Institutions established by State Governments, including that of Kaduna State, stipulate criteria which generally include, statewide-spread of admitted candidates.

It is, therefore, not advisable to make merit the sole criterion of admission into tertiary institutions and no State Government in Nigeria has, so far, stipulated such a policy for any of its higher institutions.

JAMB CONSOLIDATES ON THE FINANCIAL TRAINING OF ZONAL DIRECTORS, STATE COORDINATORS AND FINANCE OFFICERS

As part of the efforts to deliver quality service, the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board(JAMB) has consolidated on the training of its Zonal Directors, State Coordinators and Zonal Finance Officers to effectively discharge certain responsibilities at the zonal and state levels.

At a virtual meeting held on Thursday, 30th September 2021, the Registrar, Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, who was represented by the Director of Finance and Accounts, Mr Mufutau Bello, received briefings from the various Zonal Directors and State Coordinators on what remained to be done to fully activate their respective accounts on the Treasury Single Account (TSA).

Declaring the meeting open, Mr Bello said the meeting was convened to give a practical demonstration of some aspects of the training they received during the Retreat in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State.

Mr Bello pointed out that the meeting would give the Board the opportunity to take stock of the level of implementation of the various steps on the Remita platform, ensure full compliance with financial regulations as well as appraising the successes and challenges to fine-tune the relevant operations.

It would be recalled that the Board had organized an all-inclusive training for Zonal Directors, State Coordinators and Zonal Finance Officers to afford them the opportunity to improve on their knowledge of basic elements of accounting and financial operations at the Zonal and State levels.

The participants were taken through the sequential process of opening TSA accounts. Similarly, demonstrations were given in line with extant procedures on how to launch the browser and run the Remita application, how to select accounts, create username and

password, supply the organisation ID and generate OTP, among others.

The participants were also taken through the Advisory on creating a batch, initiating payments as well as tips on recovering forgotten passwords, etc.

Under the new dispensation, Zonal Directors are vested with the power of approval. As such, all requests must be approved by the Zonal Director before any payment process is initiated.

It should be noted that the payment process is to be initiated by the Zonal Finance Officers while the State Coordinators review the payment to be made before going to the Zonal Director for approval.

In the States where the Zonal Director doubles as the State Coordinator, the power to review is to be delegated to another senior staff in the Zonal Office or another State Coordinator within the Zone.





JOINT ADMISSIONS AND MATRICULATION BOARD

REPORT OF INFLOW AND OUTFLOW FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 25 - OCTOBER 1, 2021

FINANCIAL INFLOW

S/N	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT(N)
1	E-FACILITIES/SALES	102,130,046.00
2	CBT CENTRE SERVICE CHARGE	1,593,575.00
3	2021 Late Registration	5,171,235.00
	TOTAL	108,894,856.00

FINANCIAL OUTFLOW

S/N	DESCRIPTION	PURPOSE OF PAYMENT	AMOUNT(N)
1	Staff Claims	Various	29,316,913.92
2	Outsourced Service	Agency Service	5,910,000.00
3	Lagos Internal Revenue Service	Taxes	157,894.74
4	CBT Centres	2021 UTME Mop-up	6,608,400.00
5	FCT Internal Revenue Service	Taxes	258,031.98
6	Abuja Municipal Area Council	Tenement Rate	473,090.00
7	Alpha Technologies	IT Subscription	567,072.18
8	Hammer General Venture Ltd	Publicity and Advertisement	3,060,674.41
9	Jated Nigeria Ltd	Computerisation of Okoko Item PTC	15,531,329.46
10	Remita	Financial charges	58,716.50
	TOTAL		61,942,123.19

JAMB CELEBRATES STAFF BORN OCTOBER 4TH – OCTOBER 10TH

Happy Birthday

4TH OCTOBER

Titus Suswam Apaa
Uwani Nuhu Dabo
Fatima Hafiz Abubakar

5TH OCTOBER

Nneka Augustina Ezeoke
Oluwatoyin Olubukola Omokore
Gift Sunday Essien

6TH OCTOBER

Olawale Emmanuel Ojo
Esther Peters
Joshua Danjuma Mutla

7TH OCTOBER

MaryRose Oge Ajah
Olamide Ruth Jacob
Bolanle Bosede Melaiye
Sandaram Yalorusa Mohammed

8TH OCTOBER

Umaru Kudu Mohammed
Tijani Ahmed Abdullahi
Catherine Onyemowo Alex Okpe
Adah Ichana Ogbole

9TH OCTOBER

Paul Oluwafemi Aderinto
Auwal Ahmed Bello

10TH OCTOBER

Is-Haq Olanrewaju Oloyede
Sunday Ojo
Musa Abdullahi
Adamu Ayuba Haruna
Musa Bala Zamuna
Blessing Effiong
Serah Olubukola Olabode
Hajarat Aduke Abdulrasaq
Adamu Abubakar
Musa Harande Umar
Kayode S. Adeniyi
Abosede Ololade Oke
Kabiru Ibrahim Liman
Musa Abba Ismail





EDUCATION IN THE MEDIA

DAILY TRUST, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2021- Education Vulnerable to Cyber Attacks-

NSA, JAMB: The National Security Adviser, Babagana Monguno, says the digital transformation has made the academia and education sector a lucrative target for cybercriminals.

He said the sector had become the target of cyber-attacks since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 when most transactions went virtual.

Also, the Registrar of the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board, Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, said the education sector is vulnerable to cyber-attacks, calling on the government to act fast in taming the menace. He said, "The education sector is based on critical data and with this critical data, we cannot afford to expose them to malicious or opportunistic attackers".

He said the JAMB had put in place several measures to protect its data against cyber-attacks.

They spoke in Abuja recently at a two-day multi-stakeholders sensitisation

workshop on the Implementation of Nigeria's National Cybersecurity Strategy 2021, organised by the Office of the NSA.

DAILY TRUST, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2021- Teachers To Enjoy New Salary Structure

From Jan 2022 —FG: The Minister of State for Education, Dr Chukwuemeka Nwajiuba, says teachers will begin to enjoy the new salary structure promised by the President from January 2022.

Dr Nwajiuba disclosed this at a symposium organised by the Ministry of Education as part of activities to mark the forthcoming 2021 World Teachers Day with the theme 'Teachers at the heart of education recovery.'

He further disclosed that work was also being concluded on other incentives promised by the President during the 2020 World Teachers' Day. He stressed that the other incentives ranging from allowances, housing, training, to elongation of service years from 35 to 40.

He said, "The President specifically approved that it should take effect from 2022." **Also in Punch, Friday, October 1, 2021, Tribune, Friday, October 1, 2021**

LEADERSHIP, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2021- Polymer Institute Partners ABU, Firm in

Waste to Wealth Project: The Polymer Institute of Nigeria (PIN) says it will partner with Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria, and Plastic Recycling Plant, SAJ Foods Ltd on polymer research and development.

The partnership is aimed at encouraging research on polymer to reduce the hazards of plastic waste on the environment.

Prof. Paul Mamza, President of the institute, who disclosed this, said that the polymer science and technology programme students would be brought to the company for an industrial attachment.

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...JAMB Consolidates on the Financial Training of Zonal Directors, State Coordinators and Finance Officers

Given the adequacy of the training, the Thursday meeting was to serve as a follow-up where participants are expected to give feedback on their experiences so far on the usage of the

Remita platform.

The Benue State Coordinator who spoke on behalf of other State Coordinators commended Management for the way and manner it has devolved this critical

responsibility to them and called on his colleagues to ensure that the confidence reposed in them is not betrayed.



JAMB



HEADQUARTERS' ANNEXES: LAGOS, KADUNA AND ILORIN ZONAL AND STATE OFFICES OF THE BOARD

S/N	ZONAL OFFICE	STATES IN THE ZONE
1.	Abuja	Federal Capital Territory, Niger and Kogi
2.	Bauchi	Bauchi, Gombe and Taraba
3.	Benin	Edo and Delta
4.	Enugu	Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu and Imo
5.	Ibadan	Ekiti, Ogun, Ondo, Osun and Oyo
6.	Sokoto	Kebbi, Sokoto, and Zamfara
7.	Kano	Jigawa, Kano and Katsina
8.	Lafia	Benue, Nasarawa and Plateau
9.	Maiduguri	Adamawa, Borno and Yobe
10.	Port-Harcourt	Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River and Rivers

Zonal Offices bear the names of the towns in which they are located.



...Decades of Enhancing Academic Excellence