

Chapter 14: Merit List and Qualifying Criteria

14.1 Qualifying Criteria

- 14.1.1** The NTA will prepare the Merit List/All India Rank (AIR) as per Qualifying/eligibility criteria and other norms as well as the relevant regulations/guidelines of NMC/DGHS/MCC/DCI and Ministry of AYUSH/NCISM/NCH/CCH/AACCC, as the case may be. The details received from the respective competent authority(ies) will be displayed on the NTA website (<https://neet.nta.nic.in/>) in due course of time.
- 14.1.2** The eligibility criteria for admission to **Undergraduate Medical Courses** are as follows:
- a) A candidate must have passed in the subjects of Physics, Chemistry, Biology/Biotechnology, and English individually and must have obtained a minimum of 50% marks taken together in Physics, Chemistry, Biology/Bio-technology at the Qualifying Examination as mentioned in Graduate Medical Education Regulations-1997 as amended in 2018 and BDS Course Regulations, 2007 and in addition, must have come in the merit list of *National Eligibility Cum Entrance Test* for admission to **Undergraduate Medical Courses**. In respect of the candidates belonging to the SC, ST, and OBC-NCL categories, the marks obtained in Physics, Chemistry, Biology/Biotechnology taken in the qualifying examination must be 40% marks instead of 50%. In respect of candidates with Benchmark, Disabilities specified under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 applicable as per NMC guidelines, the minimum marks in qualifying examinations in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology/Biotechnology taken together must be 40% instead of 50% for the Unreserved category & GEN-EWS candidates and 40% for SC/ST/OBC-NCL candidates. For admission in BUMS (Bachelor of Unani Medicine and Surgery) Course, the candidate must have passed the 10th standard with Urdu or Arabic or Persian language as a subject, or clear the test of Urdu of 10th Standard (wherever there is provision to conduct of such test) in the entrance examination conducted by the University or Board or registered Society or Association authorized by the Government to conduct such examination. For admission in the BSMS (Bachelor of Sidhha Medicine and Surgery) course, the Candidate must have passed Tamil as one of the subjects in the

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10th Standard/in Higher Secondary course or Candidates shall have to study Tamil as a subject during the First Professional course.

- b) *Candidates who have passed Class 12 from Open School or as private candidates shall not be eligible to appear for the 'National Eligibility Cum Entrance Test'. Furthermore, a study of Biology/Biotechnology as an Additional Subject at Class 12 level also shall not be permissible. **

**(Note: "The proviso in italics has been a subject matter of challenge before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, Hon'ble High Court of Allahabad, Lucknow Bench, and Hon'ble High Court of Madhya Pradesh at Jabalpur. The provisions of the regulations disqualifying recognized Open School Board candidates and the candidates who have studied Biology/Biotechnology as an Additional Subject has been struck down.")*

** The National Medical Commission (erstwhile, Medical Council of India) has preferred Special Leave Petitions before the Hon'ble Supreme Court and Appeals in the Hon'ble High Courts. Therefore, the candidatures of candidates in the NEET (UG)-2025 who have passed the qualifying examinations i.e. Class 12 from National Institute of Open Schooling or State Open Schools or as private candidates from recognized State Boards; or with Biology/Biotechnology as an additional subject shall be allowed but subject to the outcome of Special Leave Petitions/Appeals filed by the National Medical Commission (erstwhile, Medical Council of India)".*

- c) Provided that a candidate who has appeared in the qualifying examination, the result of which has not been declared, may be provisionally permitted to take up the competitive entrance examination and in case of selection for admission to the **Undergraduate Medical Courses**, he/she shall not be admitted to that course until he/she fulfills the eligibility criteria as specified above. For details, candidates may refer to the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 1997 and BDS Course Regulations, 2007, the Indian Medicine Central Council (Minimum Standards of Education in Indian Medicine) Regulation, and the Homeopathy (Degree Course) Regulations, 1983.

- d) The criteria for minimum qualifying marks to be eligible for admission to MBBS courses shall also be applicable to concerned INIs.

A list of the successful candidates in order of All India Rank based on the marks obtained in the National Eligibility Cum Entrance Test (NEET) UG – 2025 will be prepared by the NTA.

14.2 The inter-se-merit of candidates for tie-breaking

In case of two or more candidates obtain equal marks/percentile scores in the NEET (UG) - 2025, the inter-se-merit shall be determined as follows:

- a. Candidate obtaining higher marks/percentile score in Biology (Botany & Zoology) in the Test, followed by,
- b. Candidate obtaining higher marks/percentile score in Chemistry in the Test, followed by,
- c. Candidate obtaining higher marks/percentile score in Physics in the Test, followed by,
- d. Candidate with less proportion of the number of attempted incorrect answers and correct answers in all the subjects in the Test,
- e. Candidate with less proportion of a number of attempted incorrect answers and correct answers in Biology (Botany & Zoology) in the Test, followed by
- f. Candidate with less proportion of a number of attempted incorrect answers and correct answers in Chemistry in the Test, followed by
- g. Candidate with less proportion of a number of attempted incorrect answers and correct answers in Physics in the Test, followed by
- h. In case, a-g criteria are exhausted and tie still persists, it will be resolved through a random process with the guidance of an independent expert committee.

14.3 Merit list for counselling under 15% All India Quota

The merit list of the eligible and successful candidates who have opted for 15% of All India quota seats will be prepared by the NTA on the basis of marks obtained in the **NEET (UG) - 2025**. The list of successful candidates shall be forwarded to the **Directorate General of Health Services (Medical Examination Cell), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, and National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM)**

and National Commission for Homeopathy (NCH), Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India for the purpose of allotment of seats by Online Counselling to 15% All India Quota Seats.

14.4 Merit list for seats other than 15% All India Quota

- a. NTA will provide All India Rank and Result will be shared with the **DGHS, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt of India and Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India** along with **National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) and National Commission for Homeopathy (NCH)** to provide the same to the Admitting Authorities.
- b. Admitting Authorities will invite applications for Counselling.
- c. The admitting/counselling authorities will draw a merit list of the candidates based on All India Rank in the respective categories declared by the candidates at the time of applying for admission/counselling as per State applicable rules.