CIRCULAR

CCIM GUIDELINES ON EXAMINATIONS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC & LOCKDOWN

The entire nation is facing an unprecedented crisis due to outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. Social distancing, one of the key components in the fight against this infection, is creating a challenging situation for students studying in UG and PG courses of ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Sowa Rigpa Institutions. Most of these ASU colleges have been closed due to lockdown from mid-March and in lieu of the current situation and to ensure quality education for all ASU students, the Central Council of Indian Medicine has already issued an advisory to all institutions to continue online academic activities in their colleges so as not to compromise on education, while also maintaining the principles of hygiene, social distancing and restricted movements at all times to ensure the health, safety and security of the students, faculty, and staff. The response from the Institutes has also been very positive. Many Institutes are providing online education to their students exceptionally well.

Now as the time to conduct examination of ASU students studying in different Institutions has arrived and different Universities are approaching to the Central Council of Indian Medicine for guidance in the matter. The Board of Governors in its meeting held on 22.05.2020 considered the issue and decided to circulate the following broad guidelines on examination of current academic session (2019-20) during Covid-19 so that the current academic session does not get affected -

Guidelines for Examination

It is must to conduct proper examination of all UG and PG students of Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Sowa Rigpa including failed students.
I. UG Examination:

i) Universities shall inform to all students about the schedule of examination and related activities well in advance (at least 2-4 weeks before) so as to enable student to obtain e-pass etc if required.

ii) The examining bodies are given relaxation to appoint external practical examiners from local Deemed Universities or local Colleges from the same city/town/zone, if out of State examiners are unable to travel due to COVID restrictions.

iii) If the College hospital has been taken over by local administration/State Govt for Covid-19 purpose, the clinical examination of such college may be conducted in some other nearby ASU College Hospital respectively.

iv) Pre-clinical subject’s examination (practical) may be taken online.

v) In any case, it is mandatory on the part of Universities to issue proper marksheets to each student mentioning marks secured in each subject by him/her.

vi) Final year students

The examining authority may as soon as possible conduct the theory and practical examinations of the Final year of the said program and announce the results in a time bound manner so that students are able to complete their one year Internship on time and pursue their careers without disruption as well as able to sit in All India PG Entrance Exam if they so desire.

II. PG Examination:

i) All PG examinations are to be conducted in the same manner as of UG exams.

ii) Submission of thesis for final PG students:

The post graduate students and their guides will ensure that the work done for the thesis is in compliance with regulatory requirements and ready for submission in time. The universities may adopt appropriate strategies like online submission of dissertation to facilitate the PG students in view of the prevailing circumstances.
III. General guidelines

i) Student may be allowed to select nearby college under same University as examination centre.

ii) Owing to the extraordinary conditions, the norm of mandatory attendance for a candidate as per regulation is relaxed to the justifiable level on the discretion of Universities/examination body. The period of lockdown may be treated as 'deemed to be attended' by all the students while calculating the requirement of minimum percentage of attendance.

iii) The Institutions will be responsible to maintain the details of classes taken subject wise, percentage of attendance, assignments given and submitted by students etc. The State Examining Boards/ Universities as Examining Authorities should accept these records as being eligible for internal assessment and are to take these records towards fulfilment of academic requirements for calculating attendance for appearing for examination.

iv) There should be no additional costs to students as a result of the disruption occurred in the teaching, learning and evaluation process.

v). Based on the broad guidelines, each University/ Examining Authority may chart out its own plan of action taking into consideration the issues pertaining to COVID-19 pandemic. Notwithstanding the above Guidelines regarding the resumption of session, conduct of examinations and commencement of next academic session, every university college has to ensure that it is prepared in all respects to carry out the academic activities following necessary advisories/ guidelines/ directions issued by the Centre/State Government, MHRD or UGC from time to time to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

vi. These guidelines are only applicable as one-time measure during this academic year due to COVID-19.