

PRESS STATEMENT

CONDUCT OF 2007 MONOTECHNICS, POLYTECHNICS AND COLLEGES OF EDUCATION MATRICULATION EXAMINATION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board has concluded all arrangements for the smooth conduct of the 2007 Monotechnics, Polytechnics and Colleges of Education Matriculation Examination scheduled for **Saturday, 4th August, 2007**.

The Examination will take place simultaneously in **Ninety-six (96)** towns across the country. **A total of Five hundred and fifty-two (552) Centres** will be used for the examination.

About One hundred and sixty-seven thousand, nine hundred and seventeen (167,917) candidates are expected to sit for the examination as against **One hundred and seventy-four thousand, and sixty-nine (174,069)** candidates that sat for the Examination in 2006. This indicates a decrease of 6,152 or **three point seven percent (3.7%)** when compared with this year's figure.

It is regrettable that inspite of the emphasis on technical and teacher education, Nigerian Youths are systematically shunning Technical and Teacher Education courses, judging from the pattern of application for higher education programmes. For instance, the Board received over **900,000** applications for the Universities Matriculation Examination (UME) in the last couple of years. This

development is negatively affecting the Nation's quest for technological development and middle level manpower requirement.

2.0 EXAMINATION NOTICES

With the introduction of on-line registration for the Board's Matriculation Examination two years ago, candidate's now obtain immediately their examination details as soon as registration is completed. Such details as contained in the registration slip include candidates' Registration number and seat number, examination town, examination number, centre name, candidate's name, MPCE subjects and Institutions' first and second choices. Consequently, checking centres have been cancelled since candidates can verify their information about the examination through our on-line facilities. Candidates are required to bring the slip to the examination centre and submit it to the Invigilator after the examination. **Candidates are also warned not to bring into the examination halls mobile phones or any electronic devices or communication gadgets.**

CANCELLATION OF STAND-BY CENTRES

The Board wishes to reaffirm its decision to do away with both Special and Stand-by Centres in all its Examinations. Thus, all candidates sitting for this examination have been assigned to Regular Centres to ensure adequate supervision.

NO CANDIDATE IS ALLOWED TO SIT FOR THE EXAMINATION OUTSIDE THE CENTRE ASSIGNED TO HIM/HER. Equally, changing of subjects combination in examination hall is not allowed.

3.0 VISUALLY IMPAIRED CANDIDATES

This year **thirty-six (36)** visually impaired candidates registered for the MPCE. Candidates in this category are to report at their respective Examination Centres

on the day of the examination where adequate arrangement would be made for them to write the examination.

4.0 APPEAL TO SUPERVISORS AND INVIGILATORS

The Board wishes to specially appeal to Supervisors and Invigilators to be more vigilant during the conduct of the examination to achieve malpractice-free examination and ensure sanctity of the Board's examinations.

The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board advises them to pay attention to each and every detail and carry out all last minutes changes and instructions regarding the conduct of this year's examination effectively.

5.0 MONITORING OF THE EXAMINATION

The Board will as usual engage the services of the **Examination Watch Group** made up of prominent Nigerians comprising **professionals** and other **stakeholders** to monitor the conduct of the examinations across the country.

6.0 EXAMINATION IRREGULARITIES/MALPRACTICE

With its zero-tolerance for examination malpractice, the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board wishes to remind the public that the **Examination Malpractice Act Number 33 of 1999**, which prescribes stiff penalty for perpetrators of examination malpractice is still in force.

The Board would therefore not hesitate to invoke the penalties on person(s) found guilty of offences under this Act.

To ensure maximum security during the examination, the Board has employed the services of some Independent Security outfits to help provide extra security at the various Examination Centres. The security personnel have been adequately briefed to work in collaboration with the Police in their respective states of assignment and get any perpetrator of any irregularity arrested for possible prosecution.

The Board is hereby continuing its appeal to all patriotic Nigerians especially Candidates, Supervisors and Invigilators, Parents, Guardians, Law Enforcement Agencies, the Judiciary, Religious and Opinion Leaders as well as School Authorities to join the Board in its continued fight against the menace of Examination Malpractice and Irregularities.

It is hoped that all candidates will conduct themselves properly and peacefully during the examination.

7.0 CONCLUSION

It is the belief of the Board, that the increased goodwill and cooperation of stakeholders, and all categories of officials involved in the conduct of the examination, would help it uphold the ethics of good conduct of examination.

The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board wishes all candidates writing the 2007 Monotechnics, Polytechnics and Colleges of Education Matriculation Examination a successful and hitch-free examination.

PROF. 'DIBU OJERINDE
Registrar/Chief Executive