

REPORT ON 2007 UNIVERSITIES MATRICULATION EXAMINATION

INTRODUCTION

The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) conducted the 2007 Universities Matriculation Examination on Saturday, May 5, 2007 in **one hundred and sixty-nine (169) examination towns** throughout the Federation and **five (5)** other countries. These are Ghana (**Accra**), Cameroon (**Buea**), the United Kingdom (**London**), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (**Jeddah**) and Republic of Benin (**Cotonou**).

ANALYSIS OF APPLICATION

A total of **nine hundred and eleven thousand, six hundred and seventy – nine (911,679)** candidates completed and returned application forms for the 2007 Universities Matriculation Examination. This number shows an increase of **One hundred and four thousand, five hundred and ninety (104,590) candidates** compared with figures of **eight hundred and six thousand and eighty – nine (806,089)** last year.

Out of this number **eight hundred and fifty four thousand, four hundred and thirty-nine (854,439)** candidates sat for the examination.

A total of **fifty – three thousand two hundred and forty-three (53,243)** candidates were absent from the examination.

VISUALLY IMPAIRED CANDIDATES

During the 2007 Universities Matriculation Examination, a total of **fifty-four (54)** visually impaired candidates sat for the examination.

Since it is the policy of the Board that equal opportunities should be given to all applicants, regardless of their status, we appeal to stakeholders to show more interest in the acquisition of higher education by this category of citizens.

APPLICATION BY STATES

The following **six (6) states** had the highest number of applications:

S/N	STATE	NO. OF APPLICATION	PERCENTAGE
1.	IMO	93,065	10.21%
2.	ANAMBRA	64,689	7.10%
3.	DELTA	61,580	6.75%
4.	EDO	57,754	6.33%
5.	AKWA IBOM	47,928	5.26%
6.	OGUN	47,227	5.18%

Conversely, the following **six (6) states** recorded the lowest number of applications:

S/N	STATE	NO. OF APPLICATION	PERCENTAGE
1.	KEBBI	4,682	0.51%
2.	SOKOTO	3,925	0.43%
3.	TARABA	3,832	0.42%
4.	ZAMFARA	2,904	0.32%
5.	JIGAWA	2,541	0.28%
6.	YOBE	2,516	0.28%

APPLICATION BY FACULTY

Application by **Faculty** , according to the highest recorded this year, is as follows:

S/N	FACULTY	NO. OF APPLICATION	PERCENTAGE
1.	Social Sciences	216,331	23.73%
2.	Medical Sciences	165,693	18.17%
3.	Administration	142,344	15.61%
4.	Engineering/ Environmental Technology	140,802	15.44%
5.	Sciences	90,671	9.95%

6.	Law	56,939	6.25%
7.	Arts	56,874	6,24%
8.	Education	32,222	3.53%
9.	Agriculture	9,777	1.07%

APPLICATION BY GENDER

A total of **five hundred and twenty thousand, seven hundred and seventy-seven (520,777)** male applicants subscribed to various courses in the Degree -Awarding Institutions, while **three hundred and ninety thousand, eight hundred and seventy-six (390,876)** females applied to the institutions

The figure above shows that female applicants constituted **forty-two point eight seven percent (42.87%)** while male applicants, seeking admission to pursue first-degree programmes in the Nation's Tertiary Institutions had **fifty – nine point one –two percent (59.12%)**.

Further analysis shows that **Imo State** had the highest number of **female applicants** with **forty-eight thousand, eight hundred and twenty - three (48,823)** followed by **Anambra State** with **thirty-four thousand, nine hundred and Ninety-six (34,996)** applicants, while **Delta State** had **twenty-six thousand, four hundred and sixty-eight (26,468)** female applicants.

PROCESSING OF EXAMINATION MATERIALS

After the conduct of the examination, the post examination activities began in earnest. Following the retrieval of examination documents, including reports from staff, supervisors, invigilators and other stakeholders on the conduct of the examination, the Board immediately commenced the processing of the materials.

The Board carried out thorough investigations by screening and further screening reported cases of examination irregularities brought to it by examination officials and other stakeholders involved in the monitoring of the examination. This was to ascertain the level of complicity of individual candidates, officials and others allegedly indicted in the cases brought to the Board.

PERFORMANCE OF CANDIDATES

The overall performance of candidates who sat for the 2007 Universities Matriculation Examination shows a decline when compared with the 2006 results. For instance, the score of 330 aggregate marks was recorded last year while the highest score for this year is 325.

The highest scores in order of performance in the examination were recorded by the best three candidates listed below:

S/N	CENTRE NO.	CENTRE NAME	REG. NO.	NAME	SEX	STATE	UNIV	COURSE
1.	9155517	COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCI.	73048238BE	EGBE GLORY ODAFE	F	DELTA	DSU	H.ECON
2.	016606	COMM.S EC.SCH. AGUDA MA-EPIE	72886960BC	OPARAJI KALIN CLIFF	M	BAYELSA	OWE	COMP/M
3,	008525	COMMA ND DAY SEC. SCH. SABON-TASHA, KAD.S	72932040IH	ACHINBEE EMMANUEL PETER	M	BENUE	ABU	PHY/HE

Performance by State - Males and Females who scored above 200 are listed below.

STATE	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
ABIA	9884	10630	20514
ADAMAWA	351	884	1235
AKWA IBOM	11997	13919	25916
ANAMBRA	14383	13664	28047
BAUCHI	171	595	766
BAYELSA	4785	6962	11747
BENUE	3130	6810	9940
BORNO	228	469	697
CROSS RIVER	2506	3708	6214
DELTA	11361	16324	27685
EBONYI	2386	4227	6613
EDO	8705	13257	21962
EKITI	3907	6678	10585
ENUGU	7394	9591	16985
FCT	53	143	196
GOMBE	193	497	690
IMO	19602	19999	39601
JIGAWA	95	372	467
KADUNA	1092	2612	3704
KANO	941	2770	3711
KATSINA	208	714	922
KEBBI	135	385	520
KOGI	4514	8988	13502
KWARA	3937	6903	10840
LAGOS	5253	6826	12079
NASARAWA	380	1131	1511
NIGER	312	830	1142
OGUN	9464	13065	22529
ONDO	5870	9937	15807
OSUN	6641	10938	17579
OYO	5291	9187	14478
PLATEAU	628	1232	1860
RIVERS	11084	14051	25135
SOKOTO	122	446	568

TARABA	194	595	789
YOBE	76	260	336
ZAMFARA	53	379	432

RELEASE OF RESULT

Candidates who complied with the Board's examination guidelines and instructions had their results released on May 31, 2007.

EXAMINATION IRREGULARITIES/MALPRACTICE

It is quite disturbing to note that some examiners and external agents compromised their positions and actively colluded with candidates to perpetrate examination irregularities.

For instance, a total of **two hundred and ninety – nine (299)** of such cases were recorded during the examination.

Some examination towns were reported to have recorded various cases of examination irregularities/malpractice in the last examination as shown below.

S/N	EXAMINATION TOWN	TOTAL NO. OF CASES
001	ABA	156
002	ABAKALIKI	175
003	ABEOKUTA	343
004	AGBOR	279
005	AGEGE	318
006	ANYIGBA	268
007	BENIN CITY	767
008	IBADAN	1,818
009	EBUTE METTA	280
010	EDE	670
012	EFON-ALAYE	312
013	IWO	686
014	GBOKO	151

015	LAGOS ISLAND	125
016	IKIRUN	1,022
017	IKEJA	218
018	IKORODU	288
019	IKOT-EKPENE	115
020	ILA-ORANGUN	224

Further analysis shows that a total of **twenty one thousand, four hundred and sixty – six (21,466)** cases were pending, following irregularities observed in their scripts. However, after further screening and investigation of those pending cases, only **fifteen thousand seven hundred and sixty -three (15,763)** cases of malpractice were recorded. The actual number of candidates involved in examination malpractice therefore, is **fifteen thousand seven hundred and sixty three (15,763)**.

Further analysis of irregularity cases shows that a total of **eleven thousand seven hundred and fifty – five (11,755)** candidates came late to examination hall without valid reasons. Also **two thousand seven hundred and fifty- seven (2,757)** candidates were caught spying/copYing from prepared answers while **two thousand one hundred and seventeen (2,117)** candidates did not have e-Registration slips.

It is regrettable that inspite of warnings and appeal to candidates not to come to examination centres with handsets or any communication gadgets, many candidates still went to examination halls with handsets.

A total of **one thousand, nine hundred and forty -eight (1,948)** candidates were caught with mobile phones during the examination.

In some centres, many candidates reported for the examinations centres more than forty-five minutes into the examination. However, those with genuine reasons, such as problems of transportation, were allowed to sit for the examination.

ABSENTEE CANDIDATES

Candidates who were absent on the examination day did not have results. A total of **forty nine thousand, eight hundred and ninety- three (49,893)** candidates were absent, while a total of **thirty thousand, one hundred and fifty- seven (30,157)** candidates had incomplete results

CANCELLATION OF RESULTS

Our investigations revealed that large – scale irregularities were perpetrated in some centres by candidates, officials and their agents. Further analysis shows that **eleven thousand, seven hundred and fifty – five (11,755)** candidates came late to examination hall, without valid or cogent reasons. Also **two thousand, seven hundred and fifty seven (2,757)** candidates were caught spying/copying from prepared answers while **two thousand one hundred and seventeen (2,117)** candidates did not have e-Registration slips. A total of **one thousand nine hundred and forty -eight (1,948)** candidates were caught with mobile phones during the examination.

The Board is worried about the alarming rate of examination malpractice and the direct involvement of examiners and agents.

OTHER FORMS OF EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE

It should be noted that the results were cancelled for various forms of malpractice which include:

- i. **Copying or spying from prepared answers/swapping of examination document**
- ii. **Violent/unruly behaviour to examiners**
- iii. **Lateness to examination hall without valid reasons**
- iv. **Smuggling out question papers/answer sheets from the hall**
- v. **Collusion with other candidates/examiners/external agents**
- vi. **Widespread/mass cheating**
- vii. **Impersonation.**

MEASURES AGAINST EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE AND PROSECUTION OF

CULPRITS

It is quite unfortunate that the Board had no other choice but to cancel many results due to large-scale irregularities and malpractice discovered during the processing of the results.

The Board noted that despite its efforts to curb examination malpractice, the act, unfortunately is still being perpetrated by candidates, examiners and agents. However, the Board will continue to de-recognize examination towns and centres where massive cheating occurs. This measure has become imperative in the Board's quest to achieve zero-tolerance for examination malpractice.

For the avoidance of doubt, provisions of the examination malpractice **Act 33 of 1999** empower the Board to withhold or cancel results of candidates with serious cases of examination irregularities and malpractice.

Section 16 (1) of the Act, which is always reproduced in the **JAMB Brochure**, states:

“Notwithstanding the provisions of this act, an examination body shall have the power to:

- a) “Withhold, suspend or cancel the result of a candidate or ban or blacklist a candidate from taking its examinations, if it is satisfied that the candidate has engaged in any form of examination malpractice;
- b) “Withdraw recognition, suspend, ban or blacklist or place on probation, a school or an examination centre, if it is satisfied that the school or examination centre is involved in any form of examination malpractice.
- c) Remove the name of or withhold payment to a supervisor or an invigilator or any other official employed in the conduct of an examination, if it is satisfied that the supervisor or invigilator or official has contributed to an examination malpractice”.

An examination body may, in the exercise of its powers under this section, circulate the name of an offending candidate, supervisor, invigilator, school official or

examination centre to other examination bodies who may impose similar punishment.

The Board has received detailed reports of the misconduct of candidates, invigilators, examiners, supervisors and other stakeholders who were involved in these various forms of examination irregularities and these have been reported to the appropriate authorities with the aim of prosecuting offenders.

APPRECIATION

I wish to place on record the support and collaborative efforts of sister examination body, the National Examinations Council (NECO) occasioned by the common platform initiated by the Federal Ministry of Education. Let me note with appreciation that this collaborative efforts led to the early processing and releasing of results of 2007 Universities Matriculation Examination. It is to our credit that results of the 2007 Universities Matriculation Examination were released within one month of conducting the examination.

APPEAL

The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board is therefore, appealing to all patriotic Nigerians especially candidates, supervisors and invigilators in the Board's examination, 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.

In its efforts to ensure transparency and openness in service delivery to the public and readiness to accept criticisms, the Board's SERVICOM and Consultancy Unit has been strengthened to entertain complaints from candidates parents and the general public, with a view to enhancing the quality of the operation of the Board.

CONCLUSION

The Board wishes to reiterate that everyone has a right to report any case of examination malpractice before, during or after such examination.

Innocent and hardworking candidates in particular are urged to be vigilant and monitor the activities around them, especially at examination centres, with the aim of reporting to the authorities any form of malpractice that may be noticed by them. This is to avoid being punished as an accomplice or accessories to acts of examination malpractice, as the penalty is the same as for those who are neck deep in the gregarious activities.

Every candidate should consider himself or herself as part of the Board's monitoring team for the examination and therefore has responsibilities to defend and protect the sanctity of our examinations.

We assure you of our resolve to continue to serve you and the entire nation better.

Prof. 'Dibu Ojerinde
Registrar/Chief Executive