

Letter to editor

The unjustified act of Pakistan health department in FCPS Part II training - The real struggle

Objective:

- To highlight the unjust act by Pakistan health department in FCPS II training
- To increase the number of seats for FCPS II training
- To increase the validity of FCPS part I from 3 years to 5 years

The College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan offers Fellowship training in 75 specialties and Membership in 22 disciplines. The duration of the FCPS training varies from 4-5 years depending upon the specialties chosen. Competency based curricula have been developed for each discipline by the relevant faculties. More than 29,000 training slots have been awarded in 263 CPSP accredited medical institutions throughout the country. The College critically evaluates the standards and facilities available in these institutions to ensure quality training for its trainees. But even after the allocation of seats and availability of supervisors why is getting induction in the training program of FCPS part II is the toughest thing in this very era?

Its not only the competition, but the unfair means of selection criteria, merit has lost its weightage. The other problem is the shortage of supervisors required under the criteria of the College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan (CPSP) has diminished over the years due to which all applicants cannot be accommodated.

Another study reported that the petitioner also mentioned the “unlawful” act of the health department while giving weightage to the FCPS candidates by violating the seat distribution criteria. However not even the allotted number of seats were given to the FCPS candidates.

Conclusion:

CPSP needs to make sure that every individual who clears FCPS part I gets the opportunity to continue their part II training in their desired discipline by increasing the number of seats per speciality and also by increasing the number of supervisors for the candidates each supervisor must have 8 candidates under them without any biaseness considering merit as sole criteria.

CPSP must increase the validity for FCPS part I from three years to 5 years and increase the slots for part II training in the periphery respectively.

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