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## Colleges can't charge excess fees as KEA posts details on site

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**Mysuru:** In a big relief to thousands of post-graduate medical, dental and diploma candidates, colleges in the state from this year cannot demand excess fees, including skill, mess, hostel (attached, sharing), transport and miscellaneous charges.

In a bid to ensure candidates get a clear picture about the entire course fees even before admission, the state me-

### MEDICAL & DENTAL

dical education department has published fee details on the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) website. KEA is the nodal agency to fill up all PG medical, dental and diploma seats available at government/private colleges.

This is perhaps the first time in the history of PGET seat allocation that the state medical education department has published college-wise and course-wise fee details, including charges that remained

hidden all these years. Colleges used to collect hefty amounts from students in the name of extra fees at the time of admission and most were not even issuing receipts. However, to put an end to this menace, the medical education department ensured candidates have access to all details through KEA.

### Candidates happy

According to candidates in private colleges located in and around Bengaluru, their annual hostel fee is between Rs 1.3 lakh and Rs 1.65 lakh. "The department ensured colleges will publish all categories, including skill (Rs 30,000 per year) and mess fees, which is separate for vegetarian and non-vegetarian food. This means all of us can get a clear picture on the total expense per year per course in a college," says Dr Radha Sukumaran, a candidate from Kerala.

V Manjula, additional chief secretary, department of medical education, said this decision has been taken as per the Centre's directions.