

Ranking for reality

The percentage-percentile conundrum in NEET

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nations in Medical Sciences reduced the eligibility cut-off in the percentile ranking in NEET-PG for SC, ST, and OBC categories to zero (equivalent to minus 40 raw marks). The repeated relaxation of admission standards may be detrimental to the importance of the NEET-PG exam. Several academic experts have

argued that a negative final score in the raw marks should be considered a disqualification, as it may indicate a lack of minimum level of competence required.

One solution could be to conduct NEET-PG at least twice a year for a higher number of eligible candidates, which in turn could allow a higher cut-off in the percentile list. Another way is to remove negative marking for wrong answers. A third option is to make candidates with negative final scores ineligible

for admission and debar them from appearing for the exam for a year or two.

The Inter-se-merit of Candidates in the Information Bulletin NEET (UG)-2026 lists Physics as a tie-breaker for the same marks in Biology and Chemistry. This is redundant because the tie occurs due to the same total marks in the three subjects. Clause 'h' also states that the final stage will be resolved by a random process with the guidance of an independent expert committee. In fairness to students, information on this process should be part of the bulletin.

Views are personal

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