

Forget CET or COMED K IT'S RS 50 LAKH FOR A MEDICAL SEAT



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A **Bangalore Mirror** sting in four well-known medical colleges in the city reveals that merit is hardly the criterion for admission. Money is what matters

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A seat in a government medical college costs only Rs 16,700 (annual fee). Except that you need to be on top of your game to get an admission. There are reputed private medical colleges, but heretoo the competition is intense and it's difficult to get a seat under the general merit category.

That doesn't mean the not-so-bright, who desperately want to become doctors, have to resign themselves to a life at the wrong end of the CT Scan. There's always the money route. A **Bangalore Mirror** sting exposes how well-known medical colleges are more than willing

to oblige in this respect. Posing as an outstation student and her guardian, we went to four colleges. Here's the lowdown:

Sri Rajarajeshwari Medical College and Hospital, Kengeri

We reached the college in an Opel Astra to give the right impression. We were trying to figure out how best to go about it when an office attendant approached us. When we said we wanted a management seat, he made a call right away to Vijay Anand Kumar, Controller of Admissions. As Kumar was in a meeting, we waited for an hour. When we were summoned by Kumar, the attendant asked us to first deposit our mobiles, wallets and purse in a bag. He said it was the protocol. We

were then let in.

Kumar asked us whether the candidate had taken the Common Entrance Test (CET) or Consortium of Medical, Engineering and Dental Colleges (COMED) exam. When we answered in the negative, he wanted to know the candidate's PU marks. This was the break-up we gave him: Biology - 48, Chemistry - 55 and Physics - 52. Kumar paused for a minute. "There are only five management seats and they are filling up fast," he said. He went on: "There are two options. Either you pay Rs 35 lakh, which is inclusive of annual fees, or you can go for the Rs 20 lakh development fee, exclusive of annual fee."

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Our team went to four medical colleges and everywhere, it was clear that more than marks, it was the money that mattered

QUOTED PRICE

Sri Rajarajeshwari Medical College and Hospital, Kengeri
Quoted price: Rs 35 lakh (inclusive of annual fees) or Rs 25 lakh (exclusive of fees)
Entrance test: Not required
Discount: Rs 1 lakh for Rs 20 lakh payment at one go

M S Ramaiah Medical College, BEL Road
Quoted price: Rs 50 Lakh

Dr B R Ambedkar Medical College, Shampura Main Road
Quoted price: Negotiable, not disclosed
No COMED K or CET? Take the NRI route.

Vydehi Institute of Medical Science and Research Centre, Whitefield
Quoted Price: Rs 25 lakh, exclusive of fees.