



State Common Entrance Test Cell, Maharashtra, Mumbai

Rules and Regulations Governing Malpractices, Misconduct and Unfair Means During CET Examination

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सीईटी परीक्षेदरम्यान गैरप्रकार, शिस्तभंग व अनुचित साधनांच्या
वापरासंबंधीचे नियम व नियमावली

COMMON ENTRANCE TEST (CET) Examination

Regulations Governing Malpractice, Misconduct, and Unfair Means During CET Examination

1. Preamble

Whereas the Common Entrance Test (CET) is conducted for the purpose of ensuring **fair, merit-based, and transparent admissions** to various professional and academic programmes, and whereas the integrity of the examination process is paramount, any act of malpractice, misconduct, or use of unfair means by candidates, examination personnel, or institutions shall be considered a serious violation.

Accordingly, these Regulations are hereby framed to **define malpractice, prescribe penalties, establish uniform procedures** for detection and inquiry, and **ensure accountability** of all stakeholders involved in the CET process.

2. Objectives

The objectives of these Regulations are as follows:

- To provide a comprehensive definition of malpractice, misconduct, and use of unfair means during CET.
- To prescribe uniform and transparent penalties for each category of malpractice.
- To establish a structured and fair procedure for detection, reporting, inquiry, and adjudication.
- To ensure deterrence against examination-related offences while upholding principles of natural justice.
- To fix accountability of candidates, examination personnel, and participating institutions.

3. Classification of Malpractices and Penal Provisions

The nature of malpractice and the corresponding penalties are specified below. Each offence shall be subject to **immediate reporting and inquiry by the committee constituted by the competent authority**.

Sr. No.	Nature of Malpractice	Description	Quantum of Punishment
1	Communication between candidates	Talking, signalling, exchanging gestures, or attempting communication during the examination.	Cancellation of candidature for the ongoing CET / action as per law

Sr. No.	Nature of Malpractice	Description	Quantum of Punishment
2	Unauthorized written/printed material	Possession of notes, books, formula sheets, or any written/printed support material.	Cancellation of candidature for the ongoing CET and or any other CET conducted during current academic year / action as per law
3	Possession of electronic gadgets	Possession or use of mobile phones, smartwatches, calculators (where prohibited), Bluetooth devices, earphones, or similar gadgets, irrespective of power status.	Cancellation of candidature for the ongoing CET and or any other CET conducted during current academic year / action as per law Seizure of Malpractice material
4	Copying or aiding in copying	Copying from another candidate or permitting another candidate to copy, physically or electronically.	Cancellation of candidature for the ongoing CET and or any other CET conducted during current academic year / action as per law
5	Impersonation	A person appearing in place of another candidate or allowing another person to appear in one's place.	Cancellation of candidature of both individuals for the ongoing CET and or any other CET conducted during current academic year. Initiation of legal proceedings if required / action as per law
6	Transmission of question paper/content	Sending, transmitting, or attempting to transmit questions or answers outside the examination hall through notes, devices, social media, or electronic means.	Cancellation of candidature for the ongoing CET and or any other CET conducted during current academic year / action as per law
7	Possession of weapons or narcotics	Carrying weapons, explosives, sharp objects, or entering the premises under the influence of alcohol or narcotics.	Immediate expulsion and cancellation of candidature; referral to law enforcement if required / action as per law
8	Misconduct with staff	Verbal abuse, intimidation, threats, or physical assault against invigilators or staff.	Cancellation of candidature for the ongoing CET and or legal action where warranted / action as per law
9	Mass copying/organized cheating	Instances involving multiple candidates, collusion, or centre-level misconduct or negligence.	Comprehensive inquiry; cancellation of results of all involved; penalties on centre if implicated / action as per law

Sr. No.	Nature of Malpractice	Description	Quantum of Punishment
10	Influencing officials	Attempts to influence CET authorities or staff through bribery, recommendations, or coercion.	Cancellation of candidature for the ongoing CET and or possible legal action / action as per law
11	Tampering with admit card/Identity Card	Forging or altering admit cards, identity documents, or biometric data.	Cancellation of candidature for the ongoing CET and or possible legal action, if necessary, found by the CET committee on malpractice / action as per law
12	Use of AI/digital cheating tools	Use of AI tools, hidden cameras, screen mirroring, remote-access software, or digital collaboration during CBT exams.	Cancellation of candidature for the ongoing CET and or any other CET conducted during current academic year; possible legal action under IT act / action as per law
13	Miscellaneous misconduct	Any act not specifically listed but deemed prejudicial to exam integrity or discipline.	Penalty as determined by the CET Malpractice Committee based on severity / action as per law

4. Procedure for Handling Malpractice Cases

The following due process shall be followed to ensure fairness and transparency:

Step a: Detection and Seizure

- The invigilator shall immediately seize any unauthorized material or device in presence of Venue officer.
- The candidate shall be directed to cooperate; non-cooperation shall constitute independent misconduct.

Step b: Reporting

- The invigilator shall prepare a written incident report detailing the nature of malpractice.
- All seized materials and evidence (chits, gadgets, photographs, CCTV footage etc.) shall be sealed and submitted to the Centre In- charge.

Step c: Candidate's Statement

- The candidate shall be required to submit a written statement accepting or denying the allegation.

- The statement shall be countersigned by the Invigilator, the Centre In-Charge, and two candidates seated in close proximity—identified by their seat numbers—who will serve as witnesses.

Step d: Submission to CET Cell

- All documents, reports, and evidence shall be submitted to the CET Cell via authorized person designated at the center.

Step e: Inquiry by the Malpractice Committee

- The CET Malpractice Committee constituted by the CET Cell shall examine all evidence.
- The candidate may be asked to appear in person, online or file a written defence.
- Principles of natural justice shall be followed.

Step f: Final Decision and Communication

- The Committee shall recommend an appropriate penalty based on evidence and precedents.
- The competent authority of CET shall approve the final decision. The decision shall be binding.
- The candidate shall be notified in writing of the decision.

5. Debarment and Reappearance Guidelines

- A candidate who is debarred shall not be permitted to register for or appear in CET during the period of debarment.
- After expiry of the penalty period, the candidate may reapply, subject to fulfilment of eligibility conditions.
- No refund of examination or application fees shall be granted in cases of disqualification or debarment.
- During the period of debarment, the candidate shall be ineligible for counselling or admission based on CET scores.

6. Responsibilities of Institutions and Examination Centres

1. Examination centres shall maintain adequate CCTV surveillance, biometric verification, and strict invigilation at all times.
2. Where negligence, misconduct, or complicity is established against an institution or centre, the CET Cell may:
 - Derecognize the centre temporarily or permanently;
 - Suspend or terminate staff involved;
 - Impose financial or administrative penalties.
3. Institutions shall ensure that all candidates are adequately informed of these rules prior to the examination.

7. Review and Amendment

This SOP shall be reviewed **annually** or after completion of any major CET cycle, whichever is earlier. Suggestions for amendments may be submitted to the Commissioner, State CET Cell, for consideration and approval.

Note :-

STATE CET CELL reserves the rights to take appropriate action as per the procedure, norms & law and punishment or punitive actions will be taken based on the facts, nature and relevant material in relation to the offence.