

4.0 CGPA no guarantee into university, says minister
The Malaysian Insider
August 19, 2015

A cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 4.0 in the Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia (STPM) examination does not guarantee a place in a public university especially for medical courses, said Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh.

Citing limited seats and stiff competition, the higher education minister said these were why universities like Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and Universiti Malaya conducted interviews during intakes.

"Universities also look at extracurricular activities and volunteerism, not only academic performance. Which is why we have an integrated CGPA (from now on).

"If CGPA is everything, probably they (the universities) will not have interviews," he said when commenting on students who attained 4.0 in STPM yet failed to be accepted into medical courses, but were offered courses in biotechnology.

He said this after a meeting in Putrajaya with 45 volunteers of Yayasan Sukarelawan Siswa who returned to Malaysia after serving in a month-long volunteer programme in two districts in Vietnam.

Idris said appeals for places in public universities could only be made through Unit Pusat Universiti until August 21.

"If they are not successful, they can also appeal to the universities," he said. – Bernama, August 19, 2015.

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