



# THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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## Can't collect full term fee for higher edu courses, says govt

### NEW RULES

Institutes of higher education can charge fees in advance only for the semester/year in which a student wants to engage in academic activities

**Collecting advance fees for the entire programme of study is strictly prohibited**

The institute will have to refund fees in case a student withdraws from the programme

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THE Human Resource Development Ministry has issued a new set of rules to prevent institutes of higher education from charging advance fee from students for the entire duration of the programme at the time of admission. The new norms also bar institutes from retaining original certificates of candidates.

According to the new guidelines, institutes will have to refund the entire fee amount without any penalty if a student decides to withdraw within 15 days of admission.

The move comes in the wake of rising instances of

students complaining of financial coercion by institutes.

HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar said that the University Grants Commission has already issued a detailed notification to institutes on refund of fees and non-retention of original certificates.

Javadekar added that in the light of the new guidelines, no student will be required to submit any original academic and personal certificates while submitting admission form.

The rules will be applicable to undergraduate, postgraduate and research programmes of universities, colleges and deemed to be universities.