

31,500 candidates jostle for 3,500 FUNAAB admission slots

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The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta's Post-Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination began on Wednesday with 31,500 vying for only 3,500 admission slots. The test is expected to end on Friday.

Over 22,000 candidates sat the FUNAAB examinations last year.

FUNAAB Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olusola Oyewole, said the increase in the number of admission seekers could be attributed to the quality of graduates from the school.

Oyewole added that the stable academic calendar of the university could be another factor.

He said, "One other thing that accounts for this is that people now realise that among the universities in this area, FUNAAB is one of the universities you can go to and ensure that you complete your studies within the stipulated time. That is one of the reasons why many prefer FUNAAB."

On the exam, the VC said the authorities had put in place measures aimed at coping with the large numbers of candidates.

Oyewole said, "We are ready for the candidates. And that is why things have been going on smoothly since morning when we started because we've studied the situation and we are prepared for it.

"Last year, we had just 22,000 candidates but right now it has increased from 22,000 to 31,500. Therefore, we have made appropriate plans to accommodate this increase."

He defended the decision to adopt the use of computer for the conduct of the exam, saying it would check malpractice.

"The examination is being done electronically and the candidates will be checked in different places. We have a holden classroom for some students before they go into the actual classrooms," the VC said.

Explaining the rationale behind canopies by the school gate, Oyewole said, "It's unique to our own system. We have a canopy by the gate where we allow parents to sit and we have guidance counselors counseling both the students and their parents about their prospects in this university."

“It’s a unique feature which you may not find in any other university.”

FUNAAB’s Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Chinyere Ofodile, who led the counseling team, told our correspondent that the session with the parents and the candidates was aimed at preparing them psychologically for the admission process.

She said, “This is an interactive session with parents who brought their children for the FUNAAB post-JAMB examination.”