



## **Striking Disparity: Exceptional Test Scores Amidst Financial Hardship**

### Performance on Standardized Tests - NEET Scores:

Out of the fourteen applicants, a remarkable twelve have demonstrated exceptional academic prowess, achieving an average NEET score of 4163, ranging from 1307 to 8824. This outstanding performance places them in the top 1% (99th percentile) among more than 2 million test-takers in the NEET exam, administered by the National Testing Agency under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Scoring below 5000 on the NEET exam opens the doors to prestigious medical schools across the nation.

It's important to highlight that two of the applicants are orphans, facing unique challenges that may have contributed to their lower rankings. However, they will receive additional mentoring and support from the dedicated faculty and Division of Medical Humanities at the medical school.

### Financial Status:

Notably, the income threshold was initially set at a mere \$7150 annually. What is truly remarkable is that a staggering ten out of the fourteen applicants come from families with a combined annual income of less than \$1,150, with the lowest family income being a mere \$350 per year. The average annual family income for these students is an astonishingly low \$811.

Among the fourteen applicants, two are female, underscoring the persistent challenges that women face in Indian society.

Furthermore, two students reside with their families in Mumbai, while others, originating from outside Mumbai and within Maharashtra, grapple with the daunting task of securing hostel accommodations and often resort to seeking shared rental apartments in the expensive city of Mumbai.

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