

Background. The exams were introduced six years ago as a requirement for admission to the Bachelor of Laws at the country's oldest institution.

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KAMPALA. Makerere University has increased fees for law pre-entry examinations, which are due on Saturday.

The university has been charging Shs80,000 per candidate to sit the exams, which were introduced six years ago as a requirement for admission to the Bachelor of Laws at the country's oldest institution.

However, this money has been increased to Shs110,000 this academic year.

Dr Muhammed Kiggundu, the university communications director, yesterday said: "Pre-entry exam fees have been increased to Shs110,000 to take care of materials which the students use."

Critics, however, said this money will lock out financially disadvantaged but bright students.

Dr Yusuf Nsubuga, the director of Peace and Education Centre of Uganda, told *Daily Monitor* that pre-entry examinations, especially in government institutions, are a contradiction and pose a vote of no confidence to the ministry of Education and the Uganda National Examinations Board (Uneb), which administer national examinations that have for years been used as entry points to institutions of higher learning.

"Government universities setting their examinations is absurd. Under Uneb, assessment is done on behalf of gov-

Makerere hikes law pre-entry exam fees



Enthusiasm. Prospective Makerere University students look for their names on the admission lists pinned at the notice board at the Senate Building last year. FILE PHOTO

ernment. The government is creating more obstacles by allowing universities to introduce pre-entry, which is not centrally managed as Uneb. This leaves out many students who cannot access or get information since they are out of school system at the time the tests are set," Dr Nsubuga said.

"It is also becoming expen-

sive for the ordinary parent. I have never supported that idea of government universities starting pre-entry examinations," he added.

Earlier, the Makerere University academic registrar, Mr Alfred Masikye Namoah, invited candidates interested in offering Bachelor of Laws to apply and sit the pre-entry

examinations. "All applicants interested in government sponsorship must have applied for Bachelor of Laws by filling in the government application form. Applicants interested in private sponsorship for day and evening will apply for admission after passing the pre-entry examination," Mr Namoah said in a notice.