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Home > MACC goes to UiTM on recruiting spree

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UiTM Shah Alam Faculty of Accountancy dean Dr Roszainun (2-L) Muhammad Salim, MACC Forensic Division Datuk IG Chandra at the pre-screening interview





SHAH ALAM (March 31): Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) for the first time,

has walked into an university to screen potential accounting final semester students and graduates to be shortlisted as MACC investigation officers.

By taking the initiatives, MACC hoped to select the students who are best in quality and versatility to serve the country.

"It was an opportunity not to be missed," said director of Monitoring and Coordination Division of MACC Muhammad Salim Sundar Abdullah, adding that the commission was looking for accounting experts and professionals at the moment as cases relating to false accounting are on the rise.

He said the minimum basic salary for a honorary degree holder stood at RM2,300 per month, excluding their RM1,200 monthly allowances which includes RM250 (housing allowance), RM300 (public service allowance) and RM650 (anti corruption allowance).

"The remuneration package we offer are slightly higher than private sectors," Muhammad Salim told reporters after briefing participants on the career path in the commission this morning.

He said about 100 UiTM's students and graduates from the Faculty of Accountancy participated in the MACC Chartered Accountant trainee pre-screening interview.

"However, only twenty out of 100 participants will be the shortlisted and we will offer them the post of investigating officers (P41, executive level) through the Public Service Department Malaysia (SPA)."

He added that the programme serves as a platform for university students to understand the job scope and job function of the anti-corruption body.

"We go to the ground to meet degree students to give them a general picture of what MACC is doing." he said, adding that the public was still confused with MACC's job ambit.

UiTM produces high quality accounting graduates

"UiTM graduates are widely known in the market for producing high quality accounting students," said Shareefa Syed Haniff, head of Strategic Human Capital for MACC during the trainee pre-screening interview.

According to Shareefa, this program is designed with the aim to actually "grab" onto top accountancy students who have the capabilities to work for MACC's Forensic Accounting division.

"This (forensic accounting) area has quiet a big gap. There are officers who are trained but that is not enough for the next five to ten years. We want students who have the qualifications to join this unit," said Shareefa.

Shareefa also explained to the reporters that the criteria for potential applicants were pre-determined earlier in the process and they have been notified through emails.

"We discussed with Dr Roszainun Abdul Aziz, dean of Faculty of Accountancy UiTM, and

informed her that we want students who obtained a minimum of 3.5 CGPA for them to be preselected. There are approximately 100 applicants and only 20 will be selected to this program," added Shareefa as the competition is tight.

She also stated that this is just a pre-screening which means it is just an approach to first identifying the candidates potential since MACC do not conduct their own recruitment. The proper interviews and final verdict will be announced by Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Awam (SPA).

"In terms of our own process, we are going to wrap things up very fast, today is the interview, by this week we will know the chosen 20. It might take a month or two for the final decision as SPA will look into a much bigger group for formal interviews," said Shareefa.

Applicants that had been notified about this interview also showed positive response to work in the government sector.

"It is very interesting and when I received their invitation to go for this interview, my family was more than happy," said Hazimah Salihah Sarudin, 25, who previously studied in UiTM Malacca.

According to Hazimah, her parents told her that this will be a good opportunity to work with a government firm as MACC is also offering good allowance schemes to their staffs.

Another applicant, Ku Syazwani Ku Azmi, 24, from Alor Setar who graduated from UiTM Merbok, passionately tells fz.com that this program will give her great exposure by becoming a forensic accountant.

"Not everyone is fortunate enough to have this kind of opportunity to be with MACC. The allowances and salary are alligned with the current economic status," said Ku Syazwani who used to work with a private company.

Muhamad Rafshan Mohd Rodzi, 22, said that with his parents' blessings, he will put in his 100% to solve corruption cases.

All of the applicants chosen for the MACC pre-screening interview are on the UiTM dean's list and are products of the Faculty of Accountancy.

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