

Pay More for Express Medical Fitness Certificate

17 December 2008

DUBAI - The Department of Health and Medical Services (Dohms) in Dubai has introduced an express service to issue medical fitness certificate within 24 hours.

Maisa Al Bustani, Head of the Medical Fitness Centre at Department of Health and Medical Services, has said express medical fitness certificate facility has been available from early this month.

People applying for visas can get the medical fitness certificates within 24 hours on paying an additional fee of Dh200.

If one wants the certificate only in 48 hours, he/she has to pay only Dh100.

At present, anyone applying for a residence or labour visa in the UAE has to furnish a medical fitness test report which is issued by Department of Health and Medical Services centres in Dubai for Dh250.

"For those who can wait for another day, the certificate can also be made available within 48 hours on the payment of Dh100," she added. "Normally, a fitness certificate from a Department of Health and Medical Services centre is available within five to seven working days.

Al Bustani said the department is keen on providing urgent services to the public despite the huge work pressure at the Dohms centres which deal with more than 3,000 applications per day.

"The express certificate can be obtained from Al Maktoum, Al Twar, Al Satwa, Mankhool, Khawaneej, Leseily and Al Bade'a centres. It's a service similar to the one currently being offered at Al Safa clinic for VIPs," she said.

Earlier this month, Dohms also implemented the rule requiring people to hold a valid health card, the fee for which is Dh300, or an approved health insurance policy before acquiring the fitness certificate.

In a recent report, *Khaleej Times* had highlighted that people were being forced to pay for a health card despite holding valid insurance policies.

Clarifying, Al Bustani said, "If anyone is holding an insurance policy, the department charges Dh200 for the attestation. There is no need to pay for a health card," she pointed out.

{ Khaleej Times }