

No Phones at Exams

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The State Duma will ban students and exam organizers from carrying cell phones and any other communication gadgets during the Single State Exam that students need to pass to graduate from high school, the Moskovsky Komsomolets daily reported Monday.

The ban will also cover entrance exams to colleges and universities, as well as academic olympiads that entitle winners to enroll in a higher education institute.

Also, leaking information about the exam will be punishable with fines of 3,000 to 5,000 rubles (\$100 to \$160) for students and their parents, 20,000 to 40,000 rubles for officials and 50,000 to 200,000 rubles for colleges.

The new rules are part of revised legislation on the Single State Exam that is to be passed by the State Duma in a second reading within days.

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