

NDA - National Defence Academy Exam

What is NDA?

NDA (National Defence Academy) exam is a national-level entrance test conducted by Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) for candidates who aspire to join the Indian Army, Navy, or Air Force as officers after Class 12.

It is conducted twice a year as NDA I and NDA II.

Eligibility Criteria

- Nationality: Indian or subject of Nepal/Bhutan
- Age Limit: 16.5 to 19.5 years
- Education:
 - Army Wing: 12th pass or appearing (any stream)
 - Navy & Air Force: 12th pass with Physics and Math
- Gender: Both males and females are eligible

Exam Pattern

- Mode: Offline (Pen and Paper-based)
- Subjects: Mathematics, General Ability Test (GAT)
- Total Marks: 900 (300 + 600)
- Marking Scheme: Negative marking applies
- SSB Interview: 900 Marks (Stage II for selected candidates)

Important Dates (Tentative)

- NDA I: Notification in December, Exam in April
- NDA II: Notification in May, Exam in September
- SSB Interviews: After result declaration

Career Opportunities

- Permanent Commission as Officer in Indian Army, Navy, or Air Force
- Training at NDA Pune and later at respective academies (IMA, INA, AFA)
- Leadership roles and prestigious service to the nation
- Path to post-retirement opportunities and public service

Useful Resources

- UPSC NDA Website: <https://upsc.gov.in>
- Join Indian Army: <https://joinindianarmy.nic.in>
- Join Indian Navy: <https://joinindiannavy.gov.in>
- Join Indian Air Force: <https://careerairforce.nic.in>