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**About Civil Service Exam**

The **Civil Services Examination** (CSE) is a nationwide [competitive examination](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Competitive_examination) in [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India) conducted by the [Union Public Service Commission](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union_Public_Service_Commission) for recruitment to various [Civil Services of the Government of India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_Services_of_India), including the [Indian Administrative Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Administrative_Service) (IAS), Indian Foreign Service (IFS), Indian Police Service (IPS) among others.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_Services_Examination_(India)#cite_note-note-1)It is conducted in two phases - a preliminary examination consisting of two objective-type papers (General Studies Paper I and General Studies Paper II also popularly known as Civil Service Aptitute Test or CSAT), and a main examination consisting of nine papers of conventional (essay) type, followed by a personality test (interview)

**Eligibility criteria**

Eligibility for the examination is as follows:[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_Services_Examination_(India)#cite_note-note-1)

**Nationality**[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Civil_Services_Examination_(India)&action=edit&section=3)]

* For the Indian Administrative Service and the Indian Police Service, the candidate must be a citizen of [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India).
* For other services, the candidate must be one of the following:
  + A citizen of India
  + A citizen of [Nepal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nepal) or a subject of [Bhutan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhutan)
  + A person of Indian origin who has migrated from [Pakistan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pakistan), [Myanmar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myanmar), [Sri Lanka](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sri_Lanka), [Kenya](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kenya), [Uganda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uganda), [Tanzania](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tanzania), [Zambia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zambia), [Malawi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malawi), [Zaire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zaire), [Ethiopia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethiopia) or [Vietnam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vietnam) with the intention of permanently settling in India

**Education**[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Civil_Services_Examination_(India)&action=edit&section=4)]

All candidates must have as a minimum one of the following educational qualifications:

* A degree from a Central, State or a Deemed university[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_Services_Examination_(India)#cite_note-note-1)
* A degree received through correspondence or distance education
* A degree from an open university[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_Services_Examination_(India)#cite_note-faq-3)
* A qualification recognized by the Government of India as being equivalent to one of the above[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_Services_Examination_(India)#cite_note-note-1)

The following candidates are also eligible, but must submit proof of their eligibility from a competent authority at their institute/university at the time of the main examination, failing which they will not be allowed to attend the exam.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_Services_Examination_(India)#cite_note-note-1)

* Candidates who have appeared in an examination, the passing of which would render them educationally qualified enough to satisfy one of the above points[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_Services_Examination_(India)#cite_note-over-4)
* Candidates who have passed the final exam of the [MBBS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MBBS) degree but have not yet completed an internship.
* Candidates who have passed the final exam of ICAI, ICSI and ICWAI.
* A degree from a private university.
* A degree from any foreign university recognized by the [Association of Indian Universities](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Association_of_Indian_Universities).

**Age**[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Civil_Services_Examination_(India)&action=edit&section=5)]

The candidate must have attained the age of 21 years and must not have attained the age of 32 years (for the General category candidate) on August 1 of the year of examination. Prescribed age limits vary with respect to caste reservations.

* For [Other Backward Castes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Other_Backward_Castes) (OBC) the upper age limit is 35
* For [Scheduled Castes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scheduled_Castes) (SC) and [Scheduled Tribes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scheduled_Tribes) (ST), the limit is 37 years.
* The upper age limit is relaxed for certain candidates who are backward with respect to other factors and physically handicapped (PH) people.

**Services**

Following are the services which one gets on qualifying the Civil Service Examination.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_Services_Examination_(India)#cite_note-9)

**All India Services (Group A)**

* [Indian Administrative Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Administrative_Service) (**IAS**)
* [Indian Police Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Police_Service) (**IPS**)
* [Indian Forest Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Forest_Service) (**IFoS**)

**Central Services (Group A)**

* [Indian Audit and Accounts Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Audit_and_Accounts_Service) (**IA&AS**)
* [Indian Civil Accounts Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Civil_Accounts_Service) (**ICAS**)
* [Indian Corporate Law Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Corporate_Law_Service) (**ICLS**)
* [Indian Defence Accounts Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Defence_Accounts_Service) (**IDAS**)
* [Indian Defence Estates Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Defence_Estates_Service) (**IDES**)
* [Indian Foreign Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Foreign_Service) (**IFS**)
* [Indian Information Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Information_Service) (**IIS**)
* [Indian Ordnance Factories Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Ordnance_Factories_Service) (**IOFS**)
* [Indian Post & Telecommunication Accounts and Finance Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Post_%26_Telecommunication_Accounts_and_Finance_Service) (**IP&TAFS**)
* [Indian Postal Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Postal_Service) (**IPoS**)
* [Indian Railway Accounts Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Railway_Accounts_Service) (**IRAS**)
* [Indian Railway Personnel Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Railway_Personnel_Service) (**IRPS**)
* [Indian Railway Traffic Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Railway_Traffic_Service) (**IRTS**)
* [Indian Revenue Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Revenue_Service) (**IRS-IT**)
* [Indian Revenue Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Revenue_Service) (**IRS-C&CE**)
* [Indian Trade Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Trade_Service) (**ITrS**)
* [Railway Protection Force](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Railway_Protection_Force) (**RPF**)

**Group B Services**

* [Armed Forces Headquarters Civil Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Armed_Forces_Headquarters_Civil_Service&action=edit&redlink=1) (**AFHCS**)
* [Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands Civil Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delhi,_Andaman_and_Nicobar_Islands_Civil_Service) (**DANICS**)
* [Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands Police Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delhi,_Andaman_and_Nicobar_Islands_Police_Service) (**DANIPS**)
* [Pondicherry Civil Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Pondicherry_Civil_Service&action=edit&redlink=1) (**PCS**)
* [Pondicherry Police Service](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Pondicherry_Police_Service&action=edit&redlink=1) (**PPS**)