

Indian Forest Service (IFoS)



IFS Exam

The **Indian Forest Service (IFS)** is one of the Civil Services Examination conducted by Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) for the recruitment officers at the All India level by the Government of India for the scientific management of its forests.

It is one of the three All India Services of the Union Government, the other two being the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and the Indian Police Service (IPS).

It was constituted in the present form in **1966**, although the service dates back to **1864** when it was established

as the Imperial Forest Service under the British Raj. In this article, you can read all about the Indian Forest Service Exam – pattern, syllabus, how to apply, salary, etc.

Indian Forest Service is usually mentioned as IFoS. UPSC IFS is mentioned for Indian Foreign Service.

UPSC IFS is also a part of the Civil Services Exam. Therefore, candidates should be aware of the difference between the UPSC IFS and IFOS.

Indian Forest Service Exam Pattern

The Indian Forest Service Exam is conducted in three rounds. A candidate has to clear one stage to qualify for the subsequent stage. They are explained below:

Stage 1: Prelims Exam

- The prelims exam for IFoS is the same as the UPSC IAS Prelims exam. There are two papers, GS I and CSAT, both objective in nature.
- The cut off for the IFoS exam is higher than for the IAS exam since the number of vacancies is markedly less.

Stage 2: Mains Exam

- There are 6 papers in the IFoS mains exam.

- All are descriptive in nature. Each paper is for a duration of 3 hours.
- There are two optional subjects candidates that have to choose.

Stage 3: Interview

- The interview will be for a total of 300 marks.
- The candidate will be assessed on general awareness, communication skills, intellectual curiosity, critical powers of observation and assimilation, balance of judgment and alertness of mind, initiative, tact, capacity for leadership, etc.
- Here, the candidate will be interviewed by a Board.
- A physical test will follow the interview. Here, male candidates have to complete a 25 km walk or run in under 4 hours, and female candidates have to complete a 14 km walk or run in less than 4 hours.

Indian Forest Service Salary

Grade	Designation in state govt.	Designation in GOI	Basic Monthly Salary
Junior Time Scale	Assistant Conservator of Forests/Asst. Dy. Conservator of Forests	Assistant Inspector General of Forests	₹56,100
Senior Time Scale	Deputy Conservator of Forests	Assistant Inspector General of Forests	₹67,700
Junior Administrative Grade	Deputy Conservator of Forests	Assistant Inspector General of Forests	₹78,800

Selection Grade	Deputy Conservator of Forests (Selection Grade)	Assistant Inspector General of Forests	₹1,18,500
Super Time Scale	Conservator of Forests / Chief Wildlife Warden	Deputy Inspector General of Forests	₹1,50,000
Senior Administrative Grade	Chief Conservator of Forests	Inspector General of Forests	₹1,75,000
HAG scale	Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests	–	₹2,00,000
HAG+ Scale	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests	Additional Director General of Forests	₹2,05,400
Apex Scale	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force)	Director General of Forests	₹2,25,000

How to Apply for Indian Forest Service Exam?

The mode of application for the Indian Forest Service Exam is the same as for the civil services examination. At the time of applying for the exam online, candidates should mention the exam for which they are applying for. They can apply for both the exams as well.