

SCHEME OF EXAM

1. Plan of Examination

The Civil Services Examination will consist of two successive stages

- (i) Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination (Objective type) for the selection of candidates for the Main Examination; and
- (ii) Civil Services (Main) Examination (Written and Interview) for the selection of candidates for the various Services and posts

The Candidates who are declared by the Commission to have qualified for admission to the Civil Services (Main) Examination will have to apply online again and submit on-line Detailed Application Form-I [DAF-I] along with scanned documents/certificates in support of date of birth, category {viz. SC/ST/ OBC (without OBC Annexure) /EWS [Economically Weaker Sections] (without EWS Annexure) /PwBD / Ex-Serviceman} and educational qualification with required Examination Fee.

The candidates who are declared to have qualified Civil Services (Main) Examination will be required to mandatorily indicate order of preferences only for those services participating in the Civil Services Examination for the year, for which he is interested to be allocated to, in the on-line Detailed Application Form-II [DAF-II], before the commencement of Personality Tests (Interview) of the examination.

2. Eligibility Conditions:

(I) Nationality

- (1) For the Indian Administrative Service, the Indian Foreign Service and the Indian Police Service, a candidate must be a citizen of India.
- (2) For other services, a candidate must be either:—
 - (a) a citizen of India, or
 - (b) a subject of Nepal, or
 - (c) a subject of Bhutan, or
 - (d) a Tibetan refugee who came over to India before 1st January, 1962 with the intention of permanently settling in India

(II) Age Limits:

- (a) A candidate must have attained the age of 21 years and must not have attained the age of 32 years on the 1st of August, 2020 i.e., he must have been born not earlier than 2nd August, 1988 and not later than 1st August, 1999. Necessary action to make corresponding changes in respective Rules/Regulations pertaining to various services is being taken separately.
- (b) The upper age-limit prescribed above will be relaxable:
 - (i) up to a maximum of five years if a candidate belongs to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe;
 - (ii) up to a maximum of three years in the case of candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes who are eligible to avail of reservation applicable to such candidates;
 - (iii) up to a maximum of three years in the case of Defence Services Personnel, disabled in operations during hostilities with any foreign country or in a disturbed area and released as a consequence thereof;
 - (iv) up to a maximum of five years in the case of ex-servicemen including Commissioned Officers and ECOs/SSCOs who have rendered at least five years Military Service as on 1st August, 2020 and have been released;
 - (a) on completion of assignment (including those whose assignment is due to be completed within one year from 1st August, 2020 otherwise than by way of dismissal or discharge on account of misconduct or inefficiency; or
 - (b) on account of physical disability attributable to Military Service; or
 - (c) on invalidment.
 - (v) up to a maximum of five years in the case of ECOs/SSCOs who have completed an initial period of assignment of five years of Military Service as on 1st August, 2020 and whose

assignment has been extended beyond five years and in whose case the Ministry of Defence issues a certificate that they can apply for civil employment and that they will be released on three months' notice on selection from the date of receipt of offer of appointment.

(vi) up to a maximum of 10 years in the case of (a) blindness and low vision; (b) deaf and hard of hearing; (c) locomotor disability including cerebral palsy, leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attack victims and muscular dystrophy; (d) autism, intellectual disability, specific learning disability and mental illness; and (e) multiple disabilities from amongst persons under clauses (a) to (d) including deaf-blindness.

3. Minimum Educational Qualifications: The candidate must hold a degree of any of Universities incorporated by an Act of the Central or State Legislature in India or other educational institutions established by an Act of Parliament or declared to be deemed as a University Under Section-3 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, or possess an equivalent qualification

4. Number of attempts: Every candidate appearing at the examination, who is otherwise eligible, shall be permitted **six attempts** at the examination:

Provided that this restriction on the number of attempts will not apply in the case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates who are otherwise eligible :

Provided further that the number of attempts permissible to candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes, who are otherwise eligible, shall be **nine**. The relaxation will be available to the candidates who are eligible to avail of reservation applicable to such candidates Provided further that candidates of Persons with Benchmark Disability will get as many attempts as are available to other candidates who do not belong to Persons with Benchmark Disability of his or her community, subject to the condition that a candidate of Persons with Benchmark Disability belonging to the General and EWS Category shall be eligible for nine attempts. Necessary action to make corresponding changes in respective Rules/regulations pertaining to various services is being taken separately. The relaxation will be available to the candidates of Persons with Benchmark Disability who are eligible to avail of reservation applicable Government strives to have a workforce which reflects gender balance and women candidates are encouraged to apply to such candidates.

Note :—

(I) An attempt at a Preliminary Examination shall be deemed to be an attempt at the Civil Services Examination.

(II) If a candidate actually appears in any one paper in the Preliminary Examination, he/she shall be deemed to have made an attempt at the Examination.

(III) Notwithstanding the disqualification/cancellation of candidature, the fact of appearance of the candidate at the examination will count as an attempt.

5. FEE:

Candidates (excepting Female/SC/ST/Persons with Benchmark Disability Candidates who are exempted from payment of fee) are required to pay fee of Rs. 100/- (Rupees One Hundred only)

6. How to Apply:

(a) Candidates are required to apply online using the website <http://www.upsconline.nic.in> Detailed instructions for filling up online applications are available on the above mentioned website. The applicants are advised to submit only single application; however, if due to any unavoidable situation, if he/she submits another/multiple applications, then he/she must ensure that application with the higher RID is complete in all respects like applicants' details, examination centre, photograph, signature, photo ID, fee etc.

Name of the exam	Civil Services Exam- IAS
Conducting authority	Union Public Service Commission
Mode of Exam	Offline
Number of Stages	Prelims exam Mains exam Interview
Number of papers	Prelims: 2 Mains: 9
Prelims marking scheme	Paper 1: Each question carries 2 marks Paper 2: Each question carries 2.5 marks Negative marking: for each wrongly answered question one-third of mark (In paper 1 out of 2 marks for a question 0.66marks will be cut. In paper 2, out of 2.5marks for a question 0.83marks will be cut.)
Duration	Prelims: 2 hours (Each paper)
	Mains: 3 hours (Each paper)
Type of questions	Prelims: Objective type
	Mains: Subjective type

Note: In paper 2, the qualifying marks will be 33%. (66marks out of 200)

Although the cut of marks for getting into mains exam, changes every year it can be safely concluded that on an average, a minimum of 55% is needed for general category students.

- We are providing the cut- off marks for the last 5 years, as per UPSC reports.

Cut-Off Marks

S.NO	YEAR	LINK
1	Cut-Off Marks 2019	
2	Cut-Off Marks 2018	
3	Cut-Off Marks 2017	
4	Cut-Off Marks 2016	
5	Cut-Off Marks 2015	
6	Cut-Off Marks 2014	

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION:

The Examination shall comprise of two compulsory Papers of 200 marks each.

Note :

- (i) Both the question papers will be of the objective type (multiple choice questions) and each will be of two hours duration.
- (ii) The General Studies Paper-II of the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination will be a qualifying paper with minimum qualifying marks fixed at 33%.

MAIN EXAMINATION:

The main examination will have the **2 qualifying papers** and **7 papers to be counted for merit**. All the 9 papers will have **essay-type** questions.

Qualifying papers

Paper A (300 marks) - One of the **Indian Language** to be selected by the candidate from the languages included in the 8th Schedule to the Constitution

Paper B (300 marks) - English

The papers on Indian Languages and English (Paper A and Paper B) will be of matriculation or equivalent standard and will be of qualifying nature. The marks obtained in these papers will not be counted for ranking.

However, paper A on Indian Language will not be compulsory for candidates hailing from the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim.

Papers to be counted for merit:

Paper - I	
Essay	250 Marks
Paper - II	
General Studies – I (Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World & Society)	250 Marks
Paper - III	
General Studies – II (Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations)	250 Marks
Paper - IV	
General Studies – III (Technology, Economic Development, Bio-diversity, Environment, Security & Disaster Management)	250 Marks
Paper - V	
General Studies – IV (Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude)	250 Marks
Paper - VI	
Optional Subject – Paper 1	250 Marks
Paper - VII	
Optional Subject – Paper 2	250 Marks
Sub Total (Written test)	1750 Marks
Personality Test	275 Marks
Grand Total	2025 Marks

Note: Marks obtained in Paper 1 to Paper 7 will be counted for merit ranking.