

Introduction

The Common Admission Test (CAT) is India's most prestigious national level entrance examination, which permits aspirants to get into top management institutes. There is no doubt that it is the biggest MBA entrance test in the country. The IIMs (Indian Institute of Management) conduct this Common Admission Test on a rotational basis.

Why CAT?

Giving the CAT exam will put you on the fast track to career advancement by giving you the opportunity to develop a broad base of general business knowledge and technical skills in a relatively short period of time.

Students who want to attend a top business school study for this exam. A high CAT score allows them to gain admission to IIMs or a top business school for an MBA/PGDM programme. This is a national-level examination that is widely accepted throughout India.

Eligibility criteria:

| Academic Qualification for CAT | Affiliation required | Pass percentage required |
|--|---|---|
| Engineering Degree – BTech/ BE | Recognized by MHRD/AICTE * | 50% for General/EWS/NC-OBC & 45% for SC, ST, PwD candidates |
| Bachelor's Degree in any stream from any University | Recognized by UGC | 50% for General/EWS/NC-OBC & 45% for SC, ST, PwD candidates |
| Students in their final year of Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) are also eligible to take CAT exam | Continuing graduation from University Recognized by MHRD/AICTE or UGC | 50% for General/EWS/NC-OBC & 45% for SC, ST, PwD candidates |
| (CA/CS/ICWA/Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries of India (FIAI) | Certification granting organization | 50% for General/EWS/NC-OBC & 45% for SC, ST, PwD candidates |

CAT Syllabus:

| CAT Syllabus Sections | CAT Syllabus topics |
|--|--|
| Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehensions (VARC) | Reading Comprehension, Para Jumbles, Para Summary and Odd Sentence Out |
| Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning (DILR) | Set Theory (Variables), Set Theory + Puzzles, Puzzles with Additional Data, Coding-Decoding and Series |
| Quantitative Aptitude (QA) | Number System, Algebra, Arithmetic, Geometry and Mensuration |

Nothing less than a 97-98 percentile is acceptable for IIMs, but a 90-95 percentile is acceptable for other top MBA programmes. The majority of CAT test takers fall in the 80-90 percentile range, and hundreds of B-schools accept candidates with CAT scores in this range.