

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on UPSC 2017

Since UPSC has updated its 2017's examination calendar, students are rushing with their doubts under our umbrella of experts.

Are you confused as well?

Don't worry, sit back, but don't relax! Not enough that you forget how important these dates are – for you and your years of ambition. Let's settle some of your most frequent questions. But, first, let's update you with the most important notifications coming directly from UPSC.

22nd February 2017 – Notification of UPSC Prelims (Civil Services)

17th March 2017 – Last Date to Submit UPSC Application

18th June 2017 – Date of Preliminary Exam

28th October 2017 – UPSC Civil Services Mains Exam

Here is a link to cross check:

http://www.upsc.gov.in/exams/calendar/2017/Annual_Calendar_2017_Engl.pdf

FAQs

- 1. Has there been any change to the pattern of [Civil Services Examination in 2017](#)?**

Ans. No. Civil Services Examination still has 3 stages:

1. Preliminary Exam (18th June 2017)
2. Main Exam
3. Interview or Personality Test

2. What is the Preliminary Exam?

Ans. It's a good one to start with – Preliminary Exam is the first stage of UPSC exam model. It is an objective exam. It has Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) that holds 400 marks in total. The bad part is, there is a negative marking for every wrong answer. On the brighter side, you can skip those confusing questions if you're not sure enough, and you know when you're not, so save your time to work on the answers you know or have an idea about.

Preliminary Exam is divided into two parts Paper 1 and Paper 2.

Paper 1 – General studies, 2 hours, 200 Marks

Paper 2 – CSAT (Civil Services Aptitude Test), 2 hours, 200 Marks

It's qualifying in nature and requires you to score at least 33% of the total. Easy, right? At least it sounds easy. But, it's not.

Coming to the more challenging part of it – there are Mains and Interview.

3. What is Main Examination?

Ans. As the name suggests, it's a major Exam. The Main Exam is subjective in nature and in total holds 1750 Marks. It consists of 9 papers which are held in the stretch of 5-7

days, usually, and it falls somewhere early in the December month.

Following is the current pattern:

Paper A – 300 Marks – English Language (it's a qualifying paper and its marks are not included in main exams)

Paper B – 300 Marks – Indian Language (It's a qualifying paper as well. You might think – too many qualifiers, we know right!)

Paper 1 – Essay Paper – 250 marks

General Studies

250 Marks – GS Paper 1 (Indian heritage and culture, history and geography of the world and society) – 3 hours

250 Marks – GS Paper 2 (Governance, constitution, polity, social justice, and international relations) – 3 hours

250 Marks – GS Paper 3 (Technology, economic development, biodiversity, environment, security and disaster management) – 3 hours

250 Marks – GS Paper 4 (General Studies-IV (ethics, integrity, and aptitude) – 3 hours

Optional Subject

250 Marks – Paper 1 (3 Hours)

250 Marks – Paper 2 (3 Hours)

4. What is the Personality Test or the Interview?

Ans. Well, it should be understood by the name itself, somebody is going to interview you – and it's not going to be

a cake walk.

Students who qualify for Interviews on the basis of Main Exam are called by the UPSC in March or April, usually two weeks after the Main Results. It goes for around 60 days, and it's a nerve-racking time, brace yourself for it.

5. When does the UPSC declare the Final Result?

Ans. The Final result, the result of all your hard-work, is usually declared in May. The result is computed on the basis of your total marks in Main Exam and your interview, combined. The final ranking is given with combined marks of both the exams and on the basis of your preferences at the time of Main Examination Application form.

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