

Karnataka

PGCET 2026

Exam Day Handbook

Dress Code • OMR Instructions • Bell Timings • Last-Minute Tips

Complete guide to help you succeed on examination day



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Welcome to Your Karnataka PG CET Exam Day Guide

Your preparation is complete. The final step is ensuring that you follow all examination-day instructions correctly. Even a small mistake in filling the OMR sheet or carrying prohibited items can create unnecessary problems.

- ✓ Dress code guidelines
- ✓ Items allowed and prohibited inside the exam hall
- ✓ OMR sheet filling instructions
- ✓ Bell timings and examination schedule
- ✓ Important exam-day strategies
- ✓ Common mistakes to avoid



CHAPTER 1

Before Leaving Home

Documents Checklist

Carry the following documents to the examination centre:

- Karnataka PG CET Admission Ticket (Hall Ticket)
- Original Valid Photo Identity Card
- Passport Size Photograph (if specified in admit card instructions)

Accepted Photo ID Cards

- Aadhaar Card
- PAN Card
- Passport
- Driving Licence
- Voter ID

■ **Important:** Keep all documents in a transparent folder for quick verification at the security checkpoint.



CHAPTER 2

Dress Code & Prohibited Items

Clothing

✓ Allowed

- Simple and comfortable clothes
- Half-sleeve or short-sleeve dresses

✗ Not Allowed

- Long-sleeved garments
- Clothes that cover the face, ears, or head

Footwear

✓ Allowed

- Slippers
- Low-heeled sandals

✗ Not Allowed

- Shoes
- Boots
- Heavy footwear

Jewellery & Accessories

✓ Allowed

- Mangala Sutra (permitted)

✗ Not Allowed

- Rings
- Chains / Necklaces
- Bracelets
- Earrings
- Metallic accessories

Religious Attire

■ **Important:** Candidates wearing religious attire must report exactly TWO HOURS before the examination for separate security screening. Failure to report early may result in delays.

Instructions for Specially-Abled Candidates

Candidates using hearing aids or cochlear implants must report two hours before the examination and carry a valid UDID Card and relevant Medical Certificate.

Prohibited Items

✗ Mobile phones	✗ Books
✗ Smart watches	✗ Geometry boxes
✗ Analog watches	✗ Wallets
✗ Bluetooth devices	✗ Belts
✗ Earphones	✗ Caps
✗ Calculators	✗ Goggles
✗ Written notes	

■ **Important:** The examination centre does NOT provide storage facilities. Any prohibited item brought to the centre remains the candidate's sole responsibility.

Food and Water Restrictions

- ✗ Packed food — NOT permitted
- ✗ Open food items — NOT permitted
- ✗ Water bottles — NOT permitted
- ✗ Beverages — NOT permitted

Plan accordingly before entering the examination centre.



CHAPTER 3

Understanding the OMR Sheet

The OMR (Optical Mark Recognition) sheet is evaluated electronically. A single mistake in candidate details can affect your entire evaluation. Read and follow these instructions with utmost care.

Pen Rules

✓ Use Only

- Blue Ballpoint Pen
- Black Ballpoint Pen

✗ Do NOT Use

- Pencil
- Marker / Sketch Pen
- Gel Correction Pen
- White Fluid

Barcode Areas

■ **Important:** The border areas contain hidden machine-readable barcodes. NEVER write in the margins, draw symbols, or make rough work on borders.

Details You Must Fill Carefully

Before starting the examination, correctly enter all of the following. Both writing and circle shading must match exactly.

- PG CET Number (Roll Number)
- Test Booklet Number
- Version Code

How to Mark Answers

Method	Symbol	Status
Completely darken the circle	●	✓ CORRECT
Tick mark	✓	✗ WRONG
Cross mark	✗	✗ WRONG
Half shading	■	✗ WRONG
Partial filling	■	✗ WRONG

Multiple Responses — Important

■ **Important:** If more than one circle is shaded for a question, the answer will be treated as incorrect and ZERO marks will be awarded.

✓ **No Negative Marking!**
Karnataka PG CET does NOT have negative marking. Attempt all 100 questions. An educated guess is always better than a blank answer.



CHAPTER 4

Smart OMR Filling Strategy

Many students lose marks because of OMR mistakes rather than lack of knowledge. Follow these five practical strategies to avoid errors.

1

Fill After Every Four Questions

Solve four questions, transfer answers to OMR, then repeat. This minimises mismatches between your answer booklet and the OMR sheet.

2

Section-Wise Filling

Complete an entire section first, then transfer all answers immediately. Avoid waiting until the very end of the exam.

3

Review Bubble Alignment

Every 15–20 questions, check the question number alignment and ensure no answer has accidentally shifted by one row — this prevents chain errors.

4

Keep the OMR Clean

Avoid folding, scratching, excessive erasing attempts, or ink smudges. A clean sheet ensures accurate machine readability.

5

Reserve Final Five Minutes for Verification

Use the last few minutes to check your roll number, verify the booklet number, review unanswered questions, and confirm all intended answers are marked.

CHAPTER 5

Bell Timings & Examination Schedule

The examination follows a strict seven-bell system. Understanding these bells helps you manage time effectively.

Bell 1 10:00 AM / 2:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry into examination hall • Identity verification • Distribution of OMR Answer Sheets • Write your name and PG CET Number on OMR
Bell 2 10:15 AM / 2:15 PM (Booklets at 10:25 / 2:25)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question paper packets arrive at the hall • Booklets distributed at 10:25 AM / 2:25 PM • Enter Version Code and Booklet Serial Number • Do NOT open the booklet yet
Bell 3 10:30 AM / 2:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examination begins officially • You may open the question booklet • You may start answering questions • No candidate can enter or leave after this bell
Bell 4 11:30 AM / 3:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First caution bell • Exactly one hour has passed
Bell 5 12:00 Noon / 4:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second caution bell • Only 30 minutes remain — pace yourself
Bell 6 12:25 PM / 4:25 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final caution bell — only 5 minutes remain • Complete all pending OMR entries immediately • Verify candidate details on OMR
Bell 7 12:30 PM / 4:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examination ends — stop writing immediately • Remain seated and wait for invigilator • Top OMR sheet will be collected

CHAPTER 6

Candidate Copy Instructions

The OMR sheet consists of multiple layers.

After the exam...	
Invigilator collects	The TOP (original) OMR sheet
You retain	The replica / carbon copy

■ **Important:** Store your candidate copy safely for at least ONE YEAR. It may be required during answer key verification, result-related queries, or future reference.



CHAPTER 7

Last-Minute Success Tips

Before Entering the Hall

- ✓ Reach the centre early
- ✓ Locate your room in advance
- ✓ Complete security checks calmly
- ✓ Stay hydrated before reporting

During the Exam

- ✓ Read instructions carefully
- ✓ Start with familiar questions
- ✓ Avoid spending too much time on one question
- ✓ Attempt ALL questions — no negative marking
- ✓ Monitor time after every 25 questions

During the Last 10 Minutes

- ✓ Verify all OMR entries
- ✓ Check roll number on OMR
- ✓ Review unanswered questions
- ✓ Ensure no accidental double markings

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- ✗ Bringing mobile phones or smart/analog watches
- ✗ Wearing prohibited jewellery or accessories
- ✗ Opening the booklet before the Third Bell
- ✗ Forgetting to enter the booklet number on OMR

- ✗ Marking multiple circles for one question
- ✗ Waiting until the last five minutes to fill OMR
- ✗ Leaving questions unattempted despite no negative marking



Karnataka PG CET is not only a test of knowledge but also a test of discipline and attention to instructions. Follow the dress code, fill the OMR carefully, understand the bell schedule, and manage your time wisely.

**Stay calm, remain focused, and attempt all questions.
Best wishes for your Karnataka PG CET 2026 examination!**

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