

# ENTRANCE EXAMS AFTER CLASS 12

A stream-wise guide to national & state-level entrance tests, and how to prepare for them

Completing Class 12 marks the beginning of an exciting new phase in every student's life. While board exam results matter, the next big decision is choosing the right entrance exam that aligns with your career aspirations.

India offers a wide range of national, state, and university-level entrance examinations for admission to undergraduate programmes in Engineering, Medicine, Law, Management, Design, Commerce, Hospitality, and many other fields. Selecting the appropriate exam is the first step towards securing admission to a reputed college and building a successful career.

Whether you belong to the Science, Commerce, or Arts stream, this guide will help you understand the major entrance exams available after Class 12 and how to prepare for them effectively.

## Why Should You Appear for an Entrance Exam?

Entrance examinations assess your academic knowledge, aptitude, reasoning ability, and problem-solving skills. Performing well can significantly improve your chances of gaining admission to prestigious institutions.

Key benefits include:

- Admission to top universities and colleges
- Better career opportunities and placement prospects
- Access to scholarships and merit-based admissions
- Opportunity to pursue specialised professional courses
- A competitive edge in your chosen career path

## Entrance Exams for Science Students

*Engineering • Medicine • Pharmacy • Architecture • Agriculture • Data Science • Pure Sciences*

PCM students can pursue engineering and technology programmes, while PCB students can opt for medical and healthcare careers.

### JEE Main

One of India's largest engineering entrance exams; gateway to NITs, IITs, and other centrally funded technical institutions, and the qualifier for JEE Advanced.

### JEE Advanced

Open to top rankers of JEE Main; clearing it enables admission to the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).

### BITSAT

Conducted by BITS Pilani for admission to engineering and science programmes at the Pilani, Goa, and Hyderabad campuses.

### **VITEEE**

The VIT Engineering Entrance Examination for admission to undergraduate engineering programmes across VIT campuses.

### **NEET UG**

The national medical entrance exam for aspiring doctors, dentists, veterinarians, and AYUSH/healthcare courses.

### **CUET UG**

Enables Science students to secure admission to undergraduate programmes at central and participating universities.

## **Entrance Exams for Arts Students**

*Law • Design • Journalism • Literature • Psychology • Public Administration • Fine Arts • Social Sciences*

### **CLAT**

The Common Law Admission Test for undergraduate law programmes at National Law Universities and other law institutions.

### **CUET UG**

Lets Arts students seek admission to BA, Psychology, Political Science, English, Economics, Sociology, and more.

### **NIFT Entrance Examination**

For students interested in Fashion Design, Fashion Technology, and Fashion Communication.

### **NID DAT**

The National Institute of Design's Design Aptitude Test for programmes in Product, Industrial, Animation, and Communication Design.

## **Entrance Exams for Commerce Students**

*Accounting • Finance • Banking • Business Management • Economics • Entrepreneurship • Hospitality • Law*

### **CA Foundation**

The first level of the Chartered Accountancy programme for aspiring Chartered Accountants.

### **CUET UG**

Enables Commerce students to seek admission to B.Com, BBA, Economics, Finance, and other undergraduate programmes.

### **IPMAT**

The Integrated Programme in Management Aptitude Test, conducted by select IIMs for five-year integrated management programmes.

## **NCHMCT JEE**

The National Council for Hotel Management Joint Entrance Examination for Hotel Management, Tourism, and Hospitality.

### **Tips to Prepare for Entrance Exams**

A systematic preparation strategy can significantly improve your chances of success:

- Understand the latest exam pattern and syllabus before you begin.
- Prepare a realistic study timetable and follow it consistently.
- Strengthen conceptual understanding instead of relying on rote learning.
- Solve previous years' question papers to gauge the difficulty level.
- Attempt mock tests regularly to build speed, accuracy, and confidence.
- Analyse performance after every mock test and target weak areas.
- Revise important concepts frequently to improve retention.
- Maintain a healthy routine — proper sleep, exercise, and nutrition.

Instead of following popular trends, evaluate your interests, abilities, and long-term career goals before selecting an exam. With proper planning, consistent preparation, and the right guidance, you can secure admission to your dream college and build a successful career. Stay focused, remain confident, and remember that every successful professional once started exactly where you are today.