

The National Defense Academy is the joint services academy of Indian Armed Forces, where cadets for the three services, the Army, the Navy and the Air Force train together before they go on to pre-commissioning training in their respective service academies. This is the world's first Tri-service Academy.

Admissions to the NDA are made through written exam conducted by the UPSC which is followed by extensive interviews covering general aptitude, psychological testing, team-building skills along with physical and social skills and medical tests.

New sessions are held twice a year. On an average about 3, 20,000 applicants enroll for the written exam every year out of which 9000 are invited for the interviews. Candidates who wish to go to Air force have to go through a Pilot Aptitude Battery Test. An average total of about 300-350 students is accepted to the academy each year amongst which 66 candidates are accepted for the Air Force, 39 for the Navy and 195 for the Army.

On successful completion of the program, cadets are sent to their respective training academies for one year of training before granting of commission: cadets for army go to IMA Dehradun, Naval cadets to INA Ezhimala, Kerala and Air Force cadets are sent to Dundigal, Hyderabad.

NDA Eligibility

For Army Wing of NDA:

The candidate must have passed class XII of the 10+2 pattern of school education or equivalent examination conducted by a State Education Board or a university

For Air Force and Naval Wings of NDA:

The candidate must have passed class XII of the 10+2 pattern of School Education or equivalent exam conducted by a State Education Board or a university with physics and mathematics as main subjects.

Age:

The candidate must be of 16-1/2 to 19 years of age as on 1st January of the year the examination.

Exam Pattern for NDA

The subjects of the written examination, the time allowed and the maximum marks allotted to each subject will be as follows:—

Subject	Duration	Maximum Marks
Mathematics	2-½ Hours	300
General Ability Test	2-½ Hours	600
Total		900

Note:

The papers in all the subjects consist of Objective (multiple choice answers) Type questions only. Question Papers of Paper I – Mathematics and Part B of Paper II will be set in English and Hindi. SI units will be used in the papers and Candidates should use only International form of Indian numerals (i.e. 1, 2, 3,4,5,6 etc.) while answering question papers. Commission has the discretion to fix qualifying marks in any or all the subjects of the examination. Candidates are not permitted to use calculators for answering objective type papers (Test Booklets).

Interview

- The Union Public Service Commission declares a list of qualified candidates (based on the written exam).
- The selected candidates appear before a Services Selection Board for Intelligence and Personality Test.
- Candidates for the Army/Navy wings of the NDA and the Executive branch of Naval Academy will be assessed on officer's potentiality.
- Candidates for the Air Force wing, along with officer potentiality assessment, will also undergo a Pilot Aptitude Test.

Syllabus for NDA

PAPER-I Mathematics (Code No. 01)(Maximum Marks - 300)

1-Algebra	5-Differential Calculus
2-Matrices and Determinants equations	6-Integral Calculus and Differential
3-Trigonometry	7-Vector Algebra
4-Analytical Geometry of two and three dimensions	8-Statistics and Probability

PAPER-II General Ability Test (Code No. 02) (Maximum Marks-600)

Part 'A' - English (Maximum Marks 200).

Part 'B' - General Knowledge (Maximum Marks-400)

Section 'A' (Physics)

Section 'B' (Chemistry)

Section 'C' (General Science)

Section 'D' (History, Freedom Movement etc.)

Section 'E' (Geography)

Section 'F' (Current Events)

NOTE : Out of maximum marks assigned to part 'B' of this paper, questions on Sections 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E' and 'F' will carry approximately 25%, 15%, 10%, 20%, 20% and 10% weight age respectively.

Intelligence and Personality Test

In addition to the interview, the candidates will be put to Intelligence Tests both verbal and non-verbal, designed to assess their basic intelligence. They will also be put to Group Tests such as group discussions, group planning, outdoor group tasks, and asked to give brief lectures on specified subjects. All these tests are intended to judge the mental caliber of a candidate. In broad terms, this is really an assessment of not only his intellectual qualities but also his social traits and interests in current affairs.

You could also visit the below links for further details:

<http://www.upscsyllabus.in/nda/nda-national-defence-academy>

You could download sample papers here:

<http://www.upscsyllabus.in/download/download-nda-previous-year-question-papers>