



West Bengal Civil Service (WBCS) Exam - Pattern

Introduction

The West Bengal Public Service Commission (WBPS) is responsible for conducting recruitment to various subordinate services, **including posts related to state-specific administration.**

The WBPS conducted the West Bengal Civil Service (WBCS) Exam for recruitment to state government, semi-government, judicial, state forest services, and **other subordinate services within West Bengal.**

- The examination is divided into **four groups—A, B, C, and D**—each catering to different services.

WBCS Exam Pattern Overview

- The WBCS examination comprises three distinct stages: **Prelims, Mains, and Interview.** Each stage is **designed with a unique pattern to test the candidates' aptitude, knowledge, and personality** comprehensively.
- Below is the detailed structure of the WBCS exam:

Stage	Key Features	Number of Papers	Marks	Details
Prelims	Objective in Nature	1	200	Assesses general awareness, reasoning ability, and analytical skills
Mains	Descriptive examination for candidates qualifying for the Prelims	8	1600	Evaluates in-depth knowledge across various subjects, including general studies, essay writing, and optional subjects
Interview	Final stage to assess candidates' suitability for public service	-	Group A & B: 200 Marks	Evaluates personality, communication skills, confidence, and understanding of administrative roles
			Group C: 150 Marks	
			Group D: 100 Marks	

- **Selection and Recruitment:**
 - Candidates who qualify in the Prelims and Mains are shortlisted for the Interview.
 - Those **who clear the Interview round are eligible for recruitment** to the posts they have applied for.

Prelims Exam Pattern

Subject	Total Questions	Total Marks	Exam Duration	Negative Marking
General Studies	200	200	2.5 Hours	1/4th marks of the correct answer (0.25 Marks)

- **Qualification Criteria:** Candidates will qualify the WBCS Prelims and proceed to the Mains exam **only if they pass GS paper** and meet the cutoff scores set by the WBPSB.
 - The marks obtained in Prelims are **not added in the final score which takes into account the marks of the Main (written) exam and interview.**
- **Language:** The WBCS Prelims question paper will be available in both Bengali and English languages.

Mains Exam Pattern

- As per the WBCS Mains marks division, there are six Compulsory papers and one optional subject consisting of two papers (Only for candidates applying for group A and group B).

Paper Type	Paper Name	Marks	Duration	Format of Paper
Compulsory	1. Paper - I (Language)	200	3 Hours	Descriptive
	2. Paper - II (English)	200	3 Hours	Descriptive
	3. General Studies - I	200	3 Hours	Objective
	4. General Studies - II	200	3 Hours	Objective
	5. The Constitution of India and Indian Economy (Including RBI)	200	3 Hours	Objective
	6. Arithmetic and Test of Reasoning	200	3 Hours	Objective
Optional Subject	1. Paper I	200	3 Hours	Objective
	2. Paper II	200	3 Hours	Objective

- Objective type papers will need to be answered on OMR answer sheets.
- Candidates **who qualify the WBCS Mains Exam by meeting the specified cut-off** will be eligible to appear for the interview.

Interview

- WBCS interview is the last stage for candidates appearing in the examination. Only those candidates who **qualify WBCS prelims and mains will be eligible to appear for the interview round.**

Note: No separate Personality Test will be held for different groups viz. Group-'A', Group-'B', Group-'C' and Group-'D' in respect of a candidate. Marks will be awarded according to different services against allotted full marks for Personality Test.