



National Testing Agency

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The National Testing Agency (NTA) has announced the results of the National Eligibility Cum Entrance Test (undergraduate medical entrance exam).

National Testing Agency is responsible for **conducting competitive entrance exams** like NEET, JEE, CTET, GATE, GPAT, GMAT, CAT, UGC NET, etc.

- National Testing Agency (NTA) was established as a Society registered under the **Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860**.
- It is an **autonomous** and **self-sustained testing organization** to conduct entrance examinations for admission/fellowship in **higher educational institutions**.

Objectives

To conduct **efficient, transparent** and **international standards tests** in order to assess the competency of candidates for admission and recruitment purposes.

Functions

- To **identify partner institutions** with adequate infrastructure from the existing schools and higher education institutions which would facilitate the **conduct of online examinations** without adversely impacting their academic routine.
- To create a **question bank** for all subjects using modern techniques.
- To establish a **strong R&D culture** as well as a pool of experts in different aspects of testing.
- To provide **training and advisory services** to the institutions in India.
- To **collaborate with international organizations** like ETS (Educational Testing Services).
- To undertake **any other examination** that is **entrusted to it by the Ministries/Departments** of Government of India/State Governments.
- To **undertake the reforms** and training of school boards as well as other bodies where the testing standards should be comparable with the entrance examinations.

Governance

- NTA is chaired by an **eminent educationist** appointed by the **Ministry of Human Resource Development**.
- The **Chief Executive Officer** (CEO) will be the Director-General to be appointed by the Government.
- There will be a **Board of Governors** comprising members from user institutions.

Significance

- Establishment of a specialized testing body like NTA has **relieved the agencies such as CBSE, AICTE** of their responsibilities of conducting Entrance examinations.
- Examinations are conducted by NTA in the **online mode at least twice a year**, in order to give enough opportunities to candidates and to bring out the best in them.
- In order to **increase the accessibility** and meet the requirements of the rural students, it will locate centers at **sub-district and district level**.
- National Testing Agency (NTA) has launched a '**mobile app**' and **Test Practice Centres** (TPC's) through which students can practice or take mock tests on their own computers or smartphones.