UPSC 2027: Exam Date, Vacancy, Eligibility, Pattern, Syllabus

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UPSC 2027 notification releases on 13 January 2027. Check exam date, vacancy, eligibility, age limit, syllabus, exam pattern and how to apply online.

UPSC 2027, Exam Date, Vacancy, Eligibility, Exam Pattern

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) will release the notification for the Civil Services Examination 2027 on 13 January 2027, and the Preliminary Examination is scheduled for 23 May 2027 (Sunday). The Civil Services Examination is the gateway to the IAS, IPS, IFS, IRS and several other Group A and Group B services of the Government of India. Every year lakhs of graduates apply, and only a small fraction reach the final merit list.

This guide covers everything an aspirant needs to know about UPSC 2027: the exam calendar, expected vacancies, eligibility, age limit and attempts, the application process, fee, exam pattern, selection process and a short preparation plan. The dates below are taken from the UPSC Programme of Examinations 2027 (as on 20 May 2026). UPSC states that dates are liable to change, so always confirm them on the official website, upsc.gov.in.

UPSC 2027 Overview	
Particulars	**Details**

Exam name	Civil Services Examination (CSE) 2027
Conducting body	Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)
Notification date	13 January 2027
Last date to apply	2 February 2027
Prelims exam date	23 May 2027 (Sunday)
Mains exam date	From 20 August 2027 (Friday), 5 days
Stages	Prelims, Mains and Interview (Personality Test)
Mode of application	Online
Official websites	upsc.gov.in and upsconline.nic.in

UPSC Notification 2027

The UPSC notification is the single most important document for an aspirant. It is published as a PDF on upsc.gov.in and contains the number of vacancies, the list of services, eligibility conditions, age and attempt limits, the scheme of the examination, the syllabus, fee details and the rules for filling the form. Many rejections every year happen because candidates skip the instructions, so read the full notification before opening the application form.

For 2027, the notification is expected on 13 January 2027, and the online application window is planned to close on 2 February 2027, roughly three weeks later. The same notification covers the Indian Forest Service (Preliminary) Examination, because UPSC holds the first stage of the IFS through the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination.

UPSC Exam Date 2027

UPSC publishes its annual calendar in advance, which lets aspirants plan their revision around fixed dates. The key dates for the Civil Services and Forest Service examinations are given below.

Event	Date	Day / Duration
Notification release	13 January 2027	Wednesday
Last date to apply	2 February 2027	Online
Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination	23 May 2027	Sunday, 1 day
Civil Services (Main) Examination	20 August 2027	Friday, 5 days
Indian Forest Service (Main) Examination	21 November 2027	Sunday, 7 days

The Interview (Personality Test) dates and the final result are announced later by UPSC, usually a few months after the Mains. Admit cards are normally released about three weeks before each stage and can be downloaded from the official website.

UPSC Vacancy 2027

The exact number of vacancies for UPSC 2027 will be declared in the notification on 13 January 2027. Until then, the vacancies of previous years give a useful idea of what to expect. The number is decided by the government after assessing requirements across services and can also change after the notification, since UPSC may add vacancies later.

UPSC Vacancy 2027	
Year	**Vacancies**
2019	829
2020	796
2021	712
2022	1022
2023	1105
2024	1056
2025	979
2026	933

Over the last eight years the vacancy count has stayed between roughly 700 and 1,100. Aspirants should treat the figure as a rough guide only, because the number of seats in each service and each category (General, EWS, OBC, SC, ST and PwBD) is published only with the official notification.

UPSC Eligibility Criteria 2027

To apply for UPSC CSE 2027, a candidate must satisfy all the conditions on nationality, age, education and number of attempts. The age and attempt conditions are counted as on 1 August 2027.

Nationality

For the IAS, IPS and IFS, the candidate must be a citizen of India. For other services, certain other categories, such as some subjects of Nepal or Bhutan and persons of Indian origin who migrated from specified countries, may be eligible as laid down in the notification.

Educational Qualification

A candidate must hold a bachelor's degree from a recognised university or an equivalent qualification. Final-year students can apply and appear in the Prelims, but they must produce proof of passing the degree when they apply for the Mains stage, as per the notification.

Age Limit

The minimum age is 21 years and the maximum age for the General category is 32 years as on 1 August 2027. Relaxation is available to reserved categories as per the rules.

Category	Maximum age	Maximum attempts
General / EWS	32 years	6
OBC	35 years	9
SC / ST	37 years	Unlimited (within age limit)
PwBD (General / EWS)	42 years	9
PwBD (OBC)	45 years	9
PwBD (SC / ST)	47 years	Unlimited (within age limit)

Defence services personnel, ex-servicemen and some other groups also get age relaxation, and the exact rules are written in the notification. An attempt is counted when a candidate appears in even one paper of the Prelims, so filling the form and skipping the exam does not count as an attempt, while appearing in a single paper does.

How to Apply for UPSC 2027

The application is completely online at upsconline.nic.in. The process has four steps.

1. Create an account. Register on the UPSC online portal with an active email ID and mobile number. All communication, including admit cards and result updates, is sent to these details, so do not use temporary contacts.

2. Generate the URN. Complete the Universal Registration module to receive a permanent Universal Registration Number. It is valid for all future UPSC examinations, and it stores your name, date of birth, identity proof, contact and category details. Check every entry carefully before finalising.

3. Fill the Common Application Form (CAF). Enter your education details, upload a recent passport-size photograph, capture the mandatory live photo and upload your signature, signed clearly on white paper with a black pen. Unclear images are a common reason for rejection.

4. Fill the exam-specific form. During the application window, select Civil Services Examination 2027, choose your centre preferences, optional subject, medium and compulsory Indian language, and pay the fee if applicable. After submission you receive an application number that is different from your URN. Save both.

Corrections are possible only in the window UPSC announces for it, and withdrawal rules are strict, so review all details before the final submission.

UPSC Application Fee 2027

The fee is expected to remain the same as in recent years, but confirm it in the notification.

Category	Application fee
General / OBC / EWS (male)	Rs 100
Female candidates	Exempted
SC / ST	Exempted
PwBD	Exempted

UPSC Exam Pattern 2027

The Civil Services Examination has three stages: the Preliminary Examination, the Main Examination and the Personality Test. The Prelims is a screening test, the Mains is a descriptive written examination, and the Interview assesses the candidate's suitability for public service.

Stage 1: Prelims

Paper	Questions	Marks	Details
Paper I: General Studies	100	200	Objective type, 2 hours, counted for the cut off
Paper II: CSAT	80	200	Objective type, 2 hours, qualifying only (minimum 33%)

Each wrong answer in the Prelims carries a negative mark of one-third of the marks for that question. The marks of the Prelims are used only to decide who qualifies for the Mains and are not added to the final merit.

Stage 2: Mains

The Mains consists of nine papers. Two are language papers that are only qualifying in nature, and the remaining seven papers are counted for merit. Each paper is of three hours, and the total marks counted are 1,750.

Paper	Marks	Nature
Paper A: Compulsory Indian Language	300	Qualifying (minimum 25%)
Paper B: English	300	Qualifying (minimum 25%)
Paper I: Essay	250	Counted for merit
Paper II to V: General Studies I to IV	250 each (1,000)	Counted for merit

Paper VI and VII: Optional Subject	250 each (500)	Counted for merit
Total counted marks	1,750	

Stage 3: Interview

The Personality Test carries 275 marks. A board of experienced members assesses mental alertness, clarity of thought, balanced judgement, communication, leadership and integrity. It is a conversation about your background, opinions and awareness of public issues rather than a test of facts.

UPSC Selection Process 2027

A candidate must clear all three stages. First, the candidate qualifies the Prelims by scoring above the cut off in General Studies Paper I and at least 33% in CSAT. UPSC then declares the list of those eligible for the Mains. Next, the Mains marks (1,750) and the Interview marks (275) are added to give a total of 2,025 marks, and the final merit list is prepared on this total. Finally, services and cadres are allotted according to merit rank, the candidate's preferences, and the vacancies and reservation in each service.

UPSC Exam Centres and Admit Card

While applying, a candidate chooses centre preferences from the cities listed by UPSC, ranging from metros like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai to cities like Bhopal, Raipur and Dehradun. Allotment depends on preference and seat availability. The admit card shows the final centre, reporting time and instructions, and it must be carried to the exam along with a valid photo identity.

Services You Can Get Through UPSC CSE

The Civil Services Examination fills posts in the All India Services, namely the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), the Indian Police Service (IPS) and the Indian Forest Service (IFS), along with Central Services Group A and Group B such as the Indian Foreign Service, the Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax and Customs), the Indian Audit and Accounts Service, the Indian Railway services and the Indian Postal Service. Rank decides the service, so many candidates attempt again to improve their rank.

How to Start Preparing for UPSC 2027

With the Prelims on 23 May 2027, aspirants have a limited but workable window. A simple, steady plan works better than a long list of resources.

• Read the syllabus first. Print the Prelims and Mains syllabus and tick topics as you finish them.

• Build the base with NCERTs. History, Geography, Polity, Economy and Science basics come from NCERT books before standard references.



- Follow current affairs daily. Read one newspaper and one monthly magazine, and make short notes.
- Solve previous year papers. They show the pattern of questions and the level of difficulty.
- Practise answer writing. Start early, since the Mains rewards structure, clarity and time management.
- Take mock tests. Test series help in finding weak areas before the real exam.
- Revise often. Plan at least two full revisions before the Prelims.

Conclusion

UPSC 2027 begins with the notification on 13 January 2027 and the Prelims on 23 May 2027. Keep a close watch on the official website for the final dates, vacancies and rules, check your age and attempts early, keep your documents ready and start your preparation from the syllabus. Consistent effort over the coming months matters far more than last-minute rushing.

Frequently Asked Questions

When will the UPSC notification 2027 be released?

UPSC is expected to release the notification on 13 January 2027 at upsc.gov.in and upsconline.nic.in.

What is the last date to apply for UPSC CSE 2027?

As per the programme, the last date to apply is 2 February 2027.

When is UPSC Prelims 2027?

The Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination 2027 will be held on 23 May 2027, a Sunday.

When will the UPSC Mains 2027 begin?

The Civil Services (Main) Examination is scheduled to begin on 20 August 2027 and runs for five days.

What is the age limit for UPSC 2027?

The age limit is 21 to 32 years for the General category as on 1 August 2027, with relaxation for reserved categories

How many attempts are allowed?

General and EWS candidates get 6 attempts, OBC candidates get 9, and SC/ST candidates have unlimited attempts within the age limit.

What is the qualification required?

A bachelor's degree from a recognised university. Final-year students can apply, subject to the notification.

Is there negative marking in the Prelims?

Yes. One-third of the marks of a question is deducted for every wrong answer.

How many vacancies are there in UPSC 2027?

The number will be known only in the notification. In 2026 the number was 933.

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