

COMMON ENTRANCE TEST (CET) FOR ADMISSION INTO THE POST GRADUATE
COURSES IN GENERAL EDUCATION OFFERED BY THE UNIVERSITIES (STATE-AIDED)
AND COLLEGES (CONDUCTING PG COURSES) IN WEST BENGAL

I. Why CET?

Until last year (i.e., 2012) the mechanism for admission into post-graduate classes of a University under the Government of West Bengal used to give preference to an aspiring graduate of his/her affiliating university. As a result there was discrimination regarding admission for graduates coming from colleges under different affiliating universities -this by all standards was a grossly unfair and inequitable system. Since within a short span of time it was not possible to change the entire admission procedure, a "60% - 40%" formula was introduced for this purpose from the last session (i.e., 2012-13). At the initiative of the Hon'ble MIC, Department of Higher Education, Government of West Bengal and the Hon'ble Chairman of the West Bengal State Council of Higher Education a Committee was formed to look into the possibilities of reforming such a system. The Committee consisting of the following experts has met several times and come up with several observations to introduce CET from the academic year 2013-14.

II. Committee Members

A] For Science:

1. Prof. Abhijit Chakrabarti, Vice-Chairman, WBSCH (Chairman of the Committee)
2. Prof. Siddhartha Majumdar, Chairman, West Bengal College Service Commission (Member)
3. Prof. Chittaranjan Mandal, Chairman, West Bengal School Service Commission (Member)
4. Prof. Bhaskar Gupta, Chairman, West Bengal Joint Entrance Examinations Board (Member)
5. Prof. Samir Saha, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Jadavpur University (Member)
6. Prof. Sudip K. Roy, Department of Civil Engineering, BESU (Member)
7. Prof. Sumit Homechaudhuri, Department of Zoology, University of Calcutta (Member)
8. Prof. Sajal Chakraborty, Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics, University of Kalyani (Member)
9. Dr. Phalguni Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, WBSCH, (Convener of the Committee)

B] For Non-Science:

1. Prof. Abhijit Chakrabarti, Vice-Chairman, WBSCH (Chairman of the Committee)
2. Prof. Siddhartha Majumdar, Chairman, West Bengal College Service Commission (Member)
3. Prof. Suranjan Das, Vice Chancellor, University of Calcutta (Member)
4. Prof. Swapan Chakravorty, Director-General, the National Library, Kolkata (Member)

5. Prof. Bhaskar Gupta, Chairman, West Bengal Joint Examinations Entrance Board (Member)
6. Prof. Rajat Acharyya, Department of Economics, Jadavpur University (Member)
7. Prof. Subal Chandra Biswas, Department of Library & Information Science, University of Burdwan (Member)
8. Dr. Phalguni Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, WBSCHE, (Convener of the Committee).

III. Extract of the deliberations:

The Committee feels that as a principle admission in post graduate classes should not be based on the "Quota" specified for the graduates from the affiliating colleges. This system is bound to promote inequality and discrimination. Therefore, competitive mechanisms must be designed to accommodate deserving candidates from other universities of the State. Such mechanisms, in the form of university-specific admission tests and / or common entrance tests have been discussed. The following are the extract of the deliberations of the meetings for conducting CET.

- i. This year the CET is to be held within 15th June, 2013.
- ii. Team of experts to be formed for framing of syllabus and questions in each feeder subject.
- iii. Students only from the State-aided Universities in West Bengal with Hons./ Major in a subject will be eligible to appear at CET as a feeder subject corresponding to a PG course.
- iv. Besides statutory reservations, all other seats will remain open to all the students as defined in (iii) above.
- v. It is needless to mention that marks awarding procedure varies widely from university to university, so to minimize this kind of discrepancy it is suggested to calculate the final score for admission to PG classes by taking a combination of

- A: Performance of "Common Entrance Test"
- B: Performance in the University Examination
- C: Oral or written examination conducted by the concerned department of the admitting University.

While preparing the merit list for admission to the PG courses weightage of A,B and C should be at least 50% of the marks obtained in CET, at least 40% of the marks obtained in University examination and at most 10% of the marks obtained in Oral or Written Examination conducted by the concerned department respectively.

[For example, if A= 50%, B= 40% and C= 10% and if a student scores 70% in CET, 60% in University examination and 80% in Oral/Written Examination, then the final score (S) of the student will be

$$\begin{aligned} S &= 50\% \text{ of } 70\% + 40\% \text{ of } 60\% + 10\% \text{ of } 80\% \\ &= 3500/10000 + 2400/10000 + 800/10000 \\ &= (35+24+8)/100 = 67/100 = 67\% \end{aligned}$$

- vi. Examination will be based on MCQ; and OMR sheets will be used to check the answers.
- vii. 2 hours will be allotted for 100 questions.
- viii. Marks for each question to be awarded as follows:
-1 for wrong answer; 0 if not answered and 4 for correct answer.
- ix. Tentative date of publication of result for CET is 25 June, 2013.
- x. On-line system will be followed for receiving Application for CET.
- xi. Introduction of Common Academic Calendar (CAC) for UG courses and commencement of PG courses for the State-aided universities of West Bengal has been discussed. Sample CAC has been sent to the Universities to get their feedbacks.
- xii. It is recommended that all admissions in PG courses are to be completed between July 15 and July 30 of every year.

This matter is uploaded in the website of the Council to inform all concerned about the development of conducting CET. All are requested to give constructive suggestions through email (or by post) within 25 January, 2013 to:

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& (Convener, Advisory Committee for CET)
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