

## **CDS Selection Process 2025**

The CDS Selection Process 2025 is designed by the exam conducting authorities to test candidates' capabilities in multiple stages. The first round in CDS is of Written Test. Candidates get multiple-choice questions from the English, GK, and Mathematics sections. The paper is conducted through the offline mode. Candidates who qualify for the CDS Written Test go for the SSB round and then, Medical Test. These stages test the problem-solving, thinking skills, and medical fitness of the candidates. In the medical test, the officials test the medical fitness of the candidates. A candidate is declared medically FIT or UNFIT after the result declaration. Finally, the candidates who qualify for all the selection rounds go for the training.

## **CDS Selection Process 2025 Overview**

The Union Public Service Commission conducts the CDS (Combined Defence Service) exam twice a year. Candidates with a graduate degree to participate in the exam. There are three selection stages in the recruitment process: Written Test, SSB, and Medical. A table is provided with details of CDS Selection Process 2025.

<b>CDS Selection Process 2025 Overview</b>	
Organization	Union Public Service Commission
Exam Name	Combined Defence Services (CDS)
Vacancies	To Be Notified
CDS 2 2025 Notification	28th May 2025
CDS 2 2025 Exam Date	14th September 2025
Mode of Application	Online
Selection Process	Written Test- Interview- Medical Examination
Language of Written Exam	Bilingual
Mode of Examination	Offline
Type of Questions	MCQ

CDS 2 Exam Duration	2 hours (Each Paper)
Marking Scheme	1/3 for Each Incorrect Answer
Job Location	All Over India
Official Website	<a href="https://upsc.gov.in">upsc.gov.in</a>

### **CDS Selection Process 2025**

The eligible candidates are required to participate in a three-stage process as part of the CDS Recruitment 2025. The CDS Selection Process includes a written examination, SSB Interview, Medical Examination, and final merit list conducted by the UPSC. The final selection will be based on the performance in these stages. Now, let's examine the selection process for this recruitment drive. The CDS follows a three-stage recruitment process, which comprises:

- Written Test
- SSB Interview
- Medical Examination

At last, the Merit List is prepared by the authorities after the successful completion of the CDS Selection Process 2024.

## **CDS IMA, INA, and AFA Selection Process 2025**

The CDS Selection Process begins with the CDS Offline Examination. The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) compiles a list of candidates who achieve the minimum qualifying marks in the written examination, as determined by the Commission at its discretion. After this, they are called for the next phase, SSB. Let us understand every phase individually to understand the CDS Selection Process thoroughly.

## **CDS 2 2025 Written Test Paper Pattern**

First Phase of CDS Selection Process is CDS Written Exam. In the written exam, candidates will be awarded one mark for each correct answer; for each incorrect answer, a penalty of 0.33 marks will be deducted as a negative mark. Regarding the CDS Examination Pattern for admission to the Indian Military Academy (IMA), Indian Naval Academy (INA), Air Force Academy (AFA), and Officers' Training Academy (OTA), the following subjects are taken into consideration.

**A) For Admission to the Indian Military Academy, Indian Naval Academy, and Air Force Academy, the following exam pattern is to be followed:**

Subject	Duration	Maximum Marks
English	2 Hours	100
General Knowledge	2 Hours	100
Mathematics	2 Hours	100
SSB Test/Interview	5 Days	300

**B) For Admission to the Officers' Training Academy, the following exam pattern is to be followed:**

The written examination for the Officers' Training Academy (OTA) consists of two papers totalling 200 marks. Candidates who pass this examination by attaining the minimum qualifying marks will progress to the next stage, the interview round.

Subject	Duration	Maximum Marks
English	2 Hours	100
General Knowledge	2 Hours	100
SSB Test/Interview	5 Days	300

**CDS Selection Process 2025 SSB Interview**

Candidates who pass the written examination are then called for the Service Selection Board (SSB) for the intelligence and personality test. The allocation of candidates to the SSB will be based on their preferences and determined by the respective service headquarters. **The SSB Interview for CDS 2 2025 comprises two stages, as follows:** SSB Interview is an extensive process that takes place over five days and involves two distinct stages: Stage I and Stage II. These interviews are conducted at specifically designated SSB Centres.

**Stage 1:** This stage involves an officer's intelligence rating, picture perception, and description test.

**Stage 2:** In this stage, candidates undergo a psychology test, interview, group testing officer task, and a conference.

For candidates who have chosen the Army (IMA/OTA) as their first choice and have qualified in the written examination, they must register on the recruiting directorate website [www.joinindianarmy.nic.in](http://www.joinindianarmy.nic.in). This registration will ensure that they receive the necessary call-up information for the SSB Interview. Candidates who have already registered on the recruiting directorate

website are advised not to register again. In this context, Physics Wallah has provided updated information regarding the complete details of the [SSB Interview](#), including updates on the SSB exam and the online procedure.

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## **SSB Interview Day 1 Screening Test**

SSB Screening test consists of:

- The Officer Intelligence Rating (OIR) and the Picture Perception and Description Test (PP & DT) are two components of the selection process.
- The OIR evaluates the intelligence rating of the officer, while the PP & DT assesses the candidate's ability to perceive and describe images.

## **SSB Interview Day 2 Psychology Tests**

The psychological test conducted during the SSB Interview is considered challenging to pass, as it is evaluated using scientific methods by the SSB assessors. The psychological test in the SSB Interview comprises the following series:

- Thematic Apperception Test (TAT): Candidates are required to interpret and narrate stories based on given pictures.
- Word Association Test (WAT): Candidates have to respond with the first word that comes to their mind upon seeing a stimulus word.
- Situation Reaction Test (SRT): Candidates are presented with various situations and asked to provide their responses or reactions.
- Self-Description Test (SDT): Candidates are asked to describe themselves in various aspects, such as strengths, weaknesses, aspirations, and achievements.

### **SSB Interview, Day 3 & 4 Group Testing (GTO Tasks)**

The SSB Interview includes various activities and tasks designed to assess candidates' abilities and qualities.

These activities include:

- Group Discussion
- Group Planning Exercise
- Progressive Group Tasks (PGT)
- Half Group Tasks
- Individual Obstacles



- Group Obstacles: Race or Snake Race
- Command Task
- Lecturette
- Final Group Task

These tasks aim to evaluate candidates' teamwork, problem-solving skills, leadership potential, communication abilities, and overall performance in group settings.

### **SSB Interview Day 5 Conference**

Once all the tasks and assessments in the SSB Interview are completed, the results are announced on the final day of the interview process. The selected candidates then proceed to undergo a medical examination. After a few months, a final merit list of the recommended candidates is published.

### **CDS Medical Examination**

To be considered "Medically fit," a candidate must possess both good physical and mental health and should not have any diseases, syndromes, or disabilities that could hinder their effective performance of military duties. This applies to all types of environments, including various terrains, climates, and seasons, as well

as sea and air operations, remote areas, and austere conditions where medical assistance may be limited or unavailable. Additionally, the candidate should be free from any medical conditions that would require frequent visits to medical facilities or dependence on aids or drugs.

### **CDS Selection Process 2025 Final Merit List**

The UPSC CDS Final Merit List is prepared by considering the total scores achieved by candidates in both the written examination and their performance in subsequent evaluation phases, which consist of the Service Selection Board (SSB) Interview and Medical Examination. Individuals who succeed in securing a position on the Merit List become eligible for further selection and training, making their way to becoming an officer in the Indian Army, Navy, or Air Force, depending on their preferences and meeting the required criteria.

### **CDS Selection Process 2025 Disqualification Criteria**

CDS Disqualification Criteria are decided based on the given points:

- Candidates who have previously gained admission to prestigious institutions such as the AFA, IMA, NDA, INA, and Officers' Training Academy in Chennai but

were terminated due to unacceptable behavior will not be permitted or considered for admission to the CDS Selection Process 2025.

- Furthermore, candidates who have been terminated from the Indian Military Academy for lacking officer-like qualities (OLQ) will not be allowed to reapply.
- Similarly, the National Defence Academy or Naval Training Establishments will not admit candidates who previously had the opportunity to join as Special Entry Naval Cadets but left due to a lack of officer-like skills.
- Candidates who withdrew from the NCC, Officer Training Academy, Indian Military Academy, or graduate program due to a lack of officer-like skills will not be given another chance for an Army short service commission.