

Higher Education Commission, Pakistan



Frequently Asked Questions CENTRALIZED TEST FOR CS & IT GRADUATES LEADING TO APPRENTICESHIP IN TOP IT COMPANIES

Last Date for Registration Extended: 3rd January 2024

Test Date: Sunday 7th January 2024



CENTRALIZED TEST FOR CS & IT GRADUATES LEADING TO APPRENTICESHIP IN TOP IT COMPANIES

| Sr # | Question | Answer |
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| 1 | What is the purpose of Centralized Test for CS & IT Graduates ? | The purpose of Centralized Test is to shortlist the students of 7 th semester (Computing related disciplines) for apprenticeship in top IT companies, to extend hands-on experience in one of the latest technologies / demanding areas as per IT industry requirements. |
| 2 | What benefit will a student have after qualifying the test? | Students qualifying the test will be offered apprenticeship in IT companies including top IT exporters registered with PSEB. The placement will be made through P@SHA for hands-on experience on real-time projects. The qualifying candidates will also be considered for an exemption up to six (6) credit hours in 8 th semester against electives or mandatory field experience. |
| 3 | What is policy regarding six (6) credit hours exemption? | Policy shall be communicated to all universities prior to commencement of Apprenticeship program. |
| 4 | What is P@SHA? | P@SHA stands for “Pakistan Software Houses Association”. This association plays an important role representing thousands of IT-enabled companies and services in Pakistan. |
| 5 | What is offered in IT Apprenticeship? | Apprenticeship provides an opportunity of getting work experience on real-time projects in modern IT companies and exposure to latest technologies. |
| 6 | What is the duration of the apprenticeship? | The apprenticeship shall be equivalent to the number of contact hour against 6 credit hours lab OR equivalent to the duration of field experience as per HEC Policy. |
| 7 | What is the eligibility criteria for this test? | The students enrolled in 7 th semester of the computing related programs offered in recognized public and private sector universities and affiliated/constituent colleges are eligible to apply. |
| 8 | How to apply for Centralized Test for CS & IT Graduates ? | The students may apply on VU portal https://www.vu.edu.pk/GraduateTest/ for registration till January 03, 2024. |
| 9 | Is there any fee for the test? | No, there is no fees for the test, it's free of cost. |
| 10 | What is the Registration process for Centralized Test? | Following is the process for registration 1. Student submitting their application through portal https://www.vu.edu.pk/GraduateTest/ |



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| | | <p>2. Verification of Registration details by the concerned focal person of each university</p> <p>3. Virtual University forwarding Confirmation/Test Details to the eligible candidates</p> |
| 11 | Which discipline students may apply for the Centralized Test? | <p>Students (7th Semester) studying in following programs may apply for the Centralized Test</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS in Computer Science • BS in Software Engineering • BS in Artificial Intelligence • BS in Data Science • BS in Cyber Security • BS in Information Systems • BS in Multimedia and Gaming • BS in Information Technology • BS in Computer Engineering • BS in Bioinformatics • Bachelor of Computer & Information Technology (Hons) • BE (Software Engineering) • BE (Computer Engineering) • BE (Computer Systems Engineering) • BS Information Engineering Technology |
| 12 | Is it mandatory for applicants to be enrolled in computing related discipline to apply for the test? | The enrolled students (7 th Semester) pursuing computing related qualifications are eligible to apply for the test. |
| 13 | Student is enrolled in computing related discipline, but it is not included in the given list, what to do? | If the discipline is computing related and not in the list, the student may apply through ‘other’ option mentioned in portal. Final scrutiny will be done before issuance of Test Slip. |
| 14 | What if the student is enrolled in 8 th Semester or degree holder of CS/IT? | The current test/ co-opt program is for enrolled students of 7 th semester - computing related discipline. Such students qualifying the test shall be offered apprenticeship in their 8 th Semester (last semester) of the program. |
| 15 | How many credit hours will be exempted for the students who qualify the test and successfully complete co-opt program? | The candidates having qualified the test and successfully completed the co-opt program shall be considered for an exemption up to six (6) credit hours in their 8th semesters against electives or mandatory field experience as per HEC policy. |
| 16 | What is the best time to apply for Centralized Test for CS & IT Graduates ? | The applicants are advised not to wait for the last date of registration and apply well before the |



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| | | closing date to avoid any inconvenience in registration process. |
| 17 | What is the deadline to apply for Centralized Test for CS & IT Graduates ? | The last date to apply for the test is January 03, 2024. |
| 18 | When will the Centralized test be held? | The test date is 7 th January 2024. |
| 19 | Do applicants need to select test center? | Yes, the students may provide preferred test center during their registration. |
| 20 | How will applicants know if they are selected for test, their test centers or other important information regarding conduct of test? | Applicants are advised to fill the registration form carefully making sure that they give valid email addresses and mobile numbers. Intimation shall be made on given mobile numbers and e-mail addresses provided by applicants. |
| 21 | What is format of the test? | The test is MCQ (Multiple Choice Questions) based. The students have to attempt 100 questions in CBT (Computer Based Test) mode. |
| 22 | What are passing marks in the test? | The qualifying score is minimum 60% marks in the test. However, the cutoff score for placement (apprenticeship) shall be determined on the basis of overall merit and available number of apprenticeship slots. |
| 23 | What are focused areas in the test? | The test shall comprise of the following focused areas; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating System • Software Engineering • Data Structure • Networking • Programming • Database • Problem Solving / Analytics |
| 24 | Any reading/preparation material for the test? | The number of questions shall be equally distributed amongst the following 07 focused areas, mostly from existing curriculum of CS & IT programs offered in HEIs. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Operating System 2. Software Engineering 3. Data Structure 4. Networking 5. Programming 6. Database 7. Problem Solving / Analytics |
| 25 | What is mode of the test? | The test will be computer based at specified test centers. |



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| 26 | What documents should applicants bring at test day? | Applicants must bring Original CNIC and roll number slip |
| 27 | When will the test result be announced? | The result will be announced shortly after the test. |
| 28 | When will the student be placed for apprenticeship? | After qualifying the test and being shortlisted, the students will be offered placements through P@SHA/PSEB under the auspices of MOITT. Spring 2024 will be the first session for industry placement programme |
| 29 | In case of any issue in registration / portal whom should applicant contact? | In case of any difficulty during the online registration or any complaint regarding portal, the applicant can email at: It_support@vu.edu.pk |