General Information

The Graduate Admission Test (GAT) is a general aptitude test designed to assess verbal, quantitative, and analytical reasoning abilities as predictors of success in graduate studies. GAT results help to screen and identify candidate that are eligible to apply for admission to a graduate program in any public and private university in the country. The test is divided into three sections, each targeting a specific aspect of reasoning. The first section is dedicated to verbal reasoning. It assesses candidates' ability to understand and analyze written passages, comprehend complex ideas, draw inferences, and evaluate arguments. The second section focuses on quantitative reasoning, which measures the test takers' proficiency in understanding and interpreting numerical data, solving mathematical problems, and applying quantitative concepts. The third section focuses on analytical reasoning. It gauges the candidates' capacity to analyze and evaluate logical relationships, recognize patterns, and draw conclusions based on given information.

The verbal, quantitative, and analytical reasoning sections of the test consist of 60, 40, and 25 questions, respectively, totaling 125 questions.

Adminstration of GAT

The administration of the GAT is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Education (MoE), the Addis Ababa University (AAU), the Institute of Educational Research (IER) - Testing Center, Ethio-telecom, and public universities. The test is conducted digitally through AAU's testing portal at gat.aau.edu.et, utilizing the private network infrastructure of MoE. The digital format of the GAT offers several advantages, including enhanced efficiency, streamlined test administration, and automated scoring processes.

Test takers are required to take the test in designated computer labs at public universities, ensuring standardized conditions for all participants.

Duration of the Test

A total of three hours will be provided to complete the entire test, with each section allocated 60 minutes. It is important to adhere to the time limits as each section will automatically close after the 60-minute duration, prompting test takers to proceed to the next section. It is strictly prohibited to attempt to move from the current section to the next or previous section before the allocated 60 minutes have elapsed.

Responsibilities of GAT Test Takers

Test takers have certain responsibilities to ensure a smooth and fair testing process. These responsibilities include:

- ***Familiarize themselves with the test format***: Take the time to review sample questions or practice tests or mock exam to become acquainted with the types of questions they may encounter.
- ***Adhere to test instructions***: Follow all instructions provided by the test administrators.
- ***Maintain test integrity***: Maintain the highest level of integrity during the test by not engaging in any form of cheating, or unauthorized assistance.
- ***Use authorized materials only***: Only use materials, resources, or aids that are explicitly permitted by the test administrators.
- ***Present a valid identification document***: Produce a valid identification document and GAT Admission Ticket as required by the test administration.
- ***Come with materials for testing***: Come prepared for the test with the necessary materials, including an acceptable calculator (such as a four-function calculator), as well as writing implements (pen or pencil) for rough works. Test takers will be provided with a blank sheet of paper for rough work. The rough work paper will be collected at the end of the test.
- ***Arrive in Time***: Candidates scheduled for **morning** session testing, are required to arrive at their respective testing site at **8:00 a.m.** or earlier, whereas candidates scheduled for the **afternoon** session testing are required to arrive at their respective testing site at **1:00 p.m**. or earlier.

Items Prohibited in the Testing Room

Test security is our priority! In the testing hall, it is important to be aware of the materials that are prohibited to maintain a fair and standardized testing environment. The following materials are typically prohibited:

- ⊗ ***Electronic devices***: This includes cell phones, smartphones, tablets, smartwatches, laptops, and any other electronic devices that can store or access information.
- ⊗ ***Internet access***: Devices or tools that provide internet access, such as Wi-Fi routers or portable hotspots, are generally not allowed.
- ⊗ ***Communication devices***: Any device capable of communication, including but not limited to, headphones, earphones, Bluetooth devices, or any other device that can transmit or receive information.
- ⊗ ***Books, notes, or study materials***: Bringing books, notes, textbooks, handouts, pamphlets, scratch papers or any unauthorized study materials into the testing hall is prohibited.
- ⊗ ***Unauthorized calculators***: Test taker are not allowed to use scientific and programmable calculators.
- ⊗ ***Unauthorized aids***: Any additional aids, such as rulers, protractors, compasses, or formula sheets should not be brought into the testing hall.

We are committed to maintain a test environment that is standardized, fair and equitable!

Test Takers with disabilities

Test takers with disabilities have the right to reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to the testing process. To receive appropriate accommodations, it is the responsibility of the test taker with a disability to disclose their disability type during the application process. By disclosing their disability, they can initiate the process of requesting and arranging necessary accommodations. In addition to disclosing their disability, test takers should be proactive in communicating their specific requirements and needs to the respective testing center coordinator.

Pleas note that visually impaired applicants will take the GAT with the help of a screen reader, JAWS; individual readers are not allowed for the GAT. Test takers with other forms of disabilities will be scheduled to rooms that are convenient for their conditions.

Exam Schedule

The exam schedules will be released on AAU's website (http://www.aau.edu.et/) and the Telegram channel of IER-Testing Center (https://t.me/aauGAT). Applicants are advised to check the website and telegram channel regularly for updates regarding their assigned test center, date, and time for taking the GAT.

Scoring

To provide transparency and enable test takers to understand their performance, the assessment results will include multiple equivalent metrics. Test takers will have access to their raw score, T-score, and percentile rank at the end of the test. These metrics will provide a comprehensive view of their performance relative to the normative group, allowing test takers to gauge their standing and make informed decisions based on their results.

However, test takers are required to wait for the cut-off score for passing the GAT test. The determination of the cut-off score will be a collaborative effort between the MoE and AAU. The two entities will work together to establish a fair and appropriate cut-off score that aligns with the admission requirements and objectives. Cut - off score for passing the national GAT will be notified by the AAU's website and telegram channel of the Testing Center.

Reporting

Test takers can access the certificate of their GAT results digitally. Moreover, to enhance the authenticity and verification of the certificate, a QR code and a URL link of the IER-Testing Center will be included. By scanning the QR code or visiting the provided URL link, test takers or relevant parties can easily validate the authenticity of the certificate. This ensures that the certificate is genuine and issued by the authorized testing center. Additionally, the QR code or URL link will provide further information and details if needed, offering a comprehensive and transparent verification process.



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