

ISRO Scientist/Engineer Syllabus 2026

Indian Space Research Organisation — Indian Space Research Organisation — Scientist/Engineer 'SC'

Vacancies	Announced periodically for Scientist/Engineer 'SC' posts across Mechanical, Electronics and Computer Science disciplines
Age Limit	Up to 35 years typically (relaxation per government norms for SC/ST/OBC/PwBD/ex-servicemen)
Qualification	BE/B.Tech (or equivalent) in the relevant discipline (Mechanical, Electronics & Communication, or Computer Science) with a minimum 65% aggregate or 6.84 CGPA (on a 10-point scale) from a recognised university
Application Fee	■250 (General/OBC/EWS candidates). Women and SC/ST/PwBD/ex-servicemen candidates are exempted.
Official Website	isro.gov.in
Last Reviewed	11 May 2026

Overview

ISRO Scientist/Engineer 'SC' recruits engineering graduates directly into India's space research programme, working on satellite systems, launch vehicles, and space applications. Unlike most other engineering PSUs, ISRO conducts its own dedicated written examination rather than relying primarily on GATE scores, testing core engineering subject knowledge at a degree level. Candidates who clear the written test proceed to a Personal Interview, and final selection is based on combined written and interview performance — reflecting the specialised, research-oriented nature of the roles being filled.

What's New in the 2026 Cycle

- ISRO conducts its own written examination rather than relying on GATE scores, unlike most other engineering PSUs covered on this hub.
- Recruitment is limited to three core disciplines — Mechanical, Electronics & Communication, and Computer Science — reflecting ISRO's engineering needs.
- Minimum aggregate requirement (65% or 6.84 CGPA) is stricter than many other PSU recruitments, reflecting the competitive and research-intensive nature of the roles.
- Selected Scientists/Engineers work across ISRO's various centres nationwide (VSSC, SAC, URSC, and others) on space-mission-critical systems.

Exam Pattern

Written Test

Mode: Online, objective MCQ | Duration: As specified in the current notification (typically around 1.5–2 hours)

Section	Questions	Marks
Discipline-specific core engineering subjects (Mechanical/Electronics & Communication/Computer Science)	40	100

Negative marking: As per the current notification (verify against the official notice) | **Nature:** Merit-determining for shortlisting to Interview.

Interview

Mode: Board interview | Duration: —

Section	Questions	Marks
Interview	—	Qualifying

Negative marking: Not applicable | Nature: Counted for final merit alongside the written test.

ISRO Scientist/Engineer — Detailed Subject-Wise Syllabus

Mechanical Engineering (discipline-specific)

Prepare at GATE-equivalent depth — ISRO's written test difficulty is broadly comparable to core GATE subject papers.

- Engineering mechanics & strength of materials
- Thermodynamics & heat transfer
- Fluid mechanics
- Machine design
- Manufacturing science
- Theory of machines

Electronics & Communication Engineering (discipline-specific)

Communication systems and embedded systems carry particular relevance given ISRO's satellite and mission-control work.

- Analog & digital circuits
- Signals & systems
- Communication systems
- Control systems
- Electromagnetic theory
- Microprocessors & embedded systems

Computer Science Engineering (discipline-specific)

Core CS fundamentals matter more than niche or trending topics — ISRO's written test rewards genuine conceptual depth.

- Data structures & algorithms
- Operating systems
- Database management systems
- Computer networks
- Theory of computation
- Software engineering fundamentals

Selection Process

- 1 Written Test — discipline-specific core engineering subjects.
- 2 Interview.
- 3 Final merit based on combined written test and Interview scores.

Salary & Job Profile

ISRO Scientist/Engineer 'SC' posts start at Pay Level 10 (■56,100 basic) of the 7th CPC matrix, plus Dearness Allowance, HRA, Transport Allowance and ISRO-specific research/technical allowances.

Best Books for Preparation

- GATE-level discipline-specific standard textbooks (Mechanical/ECE/CS, as applicable) — ISRO's written test difficulty is broadly comparable
- ISRO Scientist/Engineer Previous Year Solved Papers — various publishers
- Core degree-level textbooks for your specific discipline

Previous Cut-off Trends (Approximate)

ISRO's written test cut-offs vary by discipline and recruitment cycle, given the very high applicant volume relative to a comparatively small number of specialised vacancies each year. Always check ISRO's official cut-off/result release for the specific discipline and cycle.

Preparation Tips

- Prepare at a GATE-equivalent depth for your discipline, since ISRO's written test difficulty is broadly comparable to core GATE subject papers.
- Given the high competition and specialised nature of ISRO roles, prioritise genuine conceptual clarity over rote memorisation.
- Follow ISRO's recent missions and technical achievements closely — interview panels often probe genuine interest and awareness of the organisation's work.
- Practise previous years' ISRO written test papers specifically, since question style can differ from generic GATE-preparation material.

Exam Day Guidelines

- Carry the Admit Card and a valid original photo ID to the exam centre.
- No electronic devices, including calculators, are allowed inside the exam hall unless explicitly permitted in the notification.
- Prepare to discuss your academic projects and any relevant research experience for the Interview stage.
- Research ISRO's recent missions and your discipline's relevance to space engineering before the interview.

Frequently Asked Questions

Does ISRO use GATE scores for recruitment?

No, ISRO Scientist/Engineer 'SC' recruitment uses ISRO's own dedicated written examination rather than relying on GATE scores, unlike most other engineering PSUs.

Which disciplines does ISRO recruit for Scientist/Engineer 'SC' posts?

Primarily Mechanical, Electronics & Communication, and Computer Science Engineering, reflecting ISRO's core engineering needs.

What is the minimum academic requirement for ISRO Scientist/Engineer?

A minimum of 65% aggregate marks or 6.84 CGPA (on a 10-point scale) in the relevant BE/B.Tech discipline from a recognised university.

Is there an Interview after the ISRO written test?

Yes, candidates who clear the written test are called for a Personal Interview, and final selection is based on combined written and interview performance.