

RRB ALP Syllabus 2026

Railway Recruitment Board — Railway Recruitment Board — Assistant Loco Pilot

Vacancies	Announced periodically for Assistant Loco Pilot posts across zonal railways
Age Limit	18–30 years (relaxation per government norms for SC/ST/OBC/PwBD/ex-servicemen)
Qualification	Class 10 pass plus ITI in a notified trade, or a Diploma/Degree in Engineering from a recognised institute
Application Fee	■500 (General/OBC/EWS) — ■400 refunded on appearing in CBT 1. SC/ST/PwBD/women/ex-servicemen candidates pay ■250, fully refunded.
Official Website	rrbapply.gov.in
Last Reviewed	27 Feb 2026

Overview

RRB ALP recruits Assistant Loco Pilots — the entry point into train-operating roles responsible for assisting in the safe running of goods and passenger trains, with a defined promotion path to Loco Pilot over time. Selection runs through two computer-based tests — CBT 1 as a screening stage and CBT 2 including both a general section and a trade-specific technical section — followed by a Computer-Based Aptitude Test (CBAT) that assesses psychomotor and cognitive skills specifically relevant to safely operating locomotives, and finally document verification and a medical examination with railway-specific visual and hearing standards.

What's New in the 2026 Cycle

- CBAT is a unique, mandatory qualifying stage for ALP specifically — it tests reaction time, spatial ability and psychomotor coordination, not academic knowledge.
- CBT 2's Part B (trade-specific) is qualifying only — candidates just need to clear a minimum percentage; Part A marks alone decide merit within CBT 2.
- Medical standards for ALP are notably stricter on vision and hearing given the safety-critical nature of the role.
- ITI qualification in a notified trade is a common eligibility route alongside engineering diplomas/degrees.

Exam Pattern

1st Stage CBT (CBT 1) — Screening

Mode: Online, objective MCQ | Duration: 60 minutes

Section	Questions	Marks
Mathematics	20	20
General Intelligence & Reasoning	25	25
General Science	20	20
General Awareness on Current Affairs	10	10

Negative marking: 1/3rd mark deducted per wrong answer | **Nature:** Screening stage — normalised score used for shortlisting to CBT 2.

2nd Stage CBT (CBT 2) — Part A (Merit-Deciding)

Mode: Online, objective MCQ | Duration: 90 minutes

Section	Questions	Marks
Mathematics	25	25
General Intelligence & Reasoning	25	25
Basic Science & Engineering	40	40
General Awareness on Current Affairs	10	10

Negative marking: 1/3rd mark deducted per wrong answer | **Nature:** Merit-determining within CBT 2.

2nd Stage CBT (CBT 2) — Part B (Trade-Specific)

Mode: Online, objective MCQ | Duration: 60 minutes

Section	Questions	Marks
Relevant Trade (as per ITI/qualification)	75	75

Negative marking: 1/3rd mark deducted per wrong answer | **Nature:** Qualifying only — minimum 35% required; not counted for merit ranking within CBT 2.

Computer-Based Aptitude Test (CBAT)

Mode: Psychometric/aptitude test on computer | Duration: Conducted on scheduled test dates

Section	Questions	Marks
Aptitude battery — reaction time, spatial ability, coordination	—	Qualifying

Negative marking: Not applicable — qualifying, minimum score required (higher for certain categories) | **Nature:** Mandatory qualifying stage assessing psychomotor and cognitive skills relevant to loco-piloting.

RRB ALP — Detailed Subject-Wise Syllabus

Mathematics (CBT 1 & CBT 2 Part A)

Foundational-level questions — consistent practice on fundamentals is the fastest route to improvement.

- Number system
- BODMAS, decimals & fractions
- LCM/HCF
- Ratio & proportion, percentage
- Mensuration, time & work, time & distance
- SI/CI, profit & loss
- Algebra, geometry & trigonometry basics

General Intelligence & Reasoning (CBT 1 & CBT 2 Part A)

Standard pattern-based reasoning — quick to improve with regular drills.

- Analogies
- Alphabetical & number series
- Coding-decoding
- Mathematical operations
- Relationships, syllogism
- Data sufficiency
- Puzzle

General Science / Basic Science & Engineering

The single largest-weightage section in CBT 2 Part A — revise broadly across physics, engineering basics and safety topics.

- Physics, chemistry fundamentals
- Engineering drawing basics
- Units & measurements
- Levers & simple machines
- IC engines basics
- Electrical & electronics fundamentals
- Occupational safety & health

General Awareness on Current Affairs

Smaller weightage than other RRB exams — a light-touch, consistent revision approach is sufficient.

- Current affairs — national & international
- Sports, culture, science & technology in the news

Trade-Specific (CBT 2 Part B)

Only needs 35% to qualify — don't over-invest time here at the expense of Part A, which actually decides your rank.

- Syllabus corresponds to the candidate's specific ITI trade or engineering discipline, as notified by RRB

CBAT — Psychometric Aptitude

Genuinely different from academic prep — practise real psychometric test formats to build comfort with the style.

- Reaction time & alertness tasks
- Spatial and visual perception
- Hand-eye coordination
- Concentration & sustained attention tasks

Selection Process

- 1 1st Stage CBT (CBT 1) — screening stage.
- 2 2nd Stage CBT (CBT 2) — Part A (merit) and Part B (qualifying, trade-specific).

- 3 Computer-Based Aptitude Test (CBAT) — qualifying psychometric assessment.
- 4 Document Verification.
- 5 Medical Examination — including railway-specific vision and hearing standards.

Salary & Job Profile

RRB ALP posts are placed in Pay Level 2 (₹19,900 basic) of the 7th CPC matrix, with periodic promotion to Loco Pilot (higher pay level) over a defined service period, plus Dearness Allowance, HRA, Transport Allowance, running allowance and railway-specific perks.

Best Books for Preparation

- Lucent's General Knowledge
- Fast Track Objective Arithmetic — Rajesh Verma (Arihant)
- A Modern Approach to Verbal & Non-Verbal Reasoning — R.S. Aggarwal
- RRB ALP/Technician Trade-wise question banks — various publishers

Previous Cut-off Trends (Approximate)

RRB ALP CBT 1 and CBT 2 (Part A) cut-offs vary by zone, category and trade-eligibility pool each cycle, and CBAT qualifying scores can differ slightly for certain categories. Always check the zone-wise official cut-off release rather than assuming a fixed national figure.

Preparation Tips

- Since CBT 2 Part B is only qualifying (35%), don't over-invest revision time there at the expense of Part A, which actually decides your merit rank.
- CBAT can't be crammed like a written exam — practise with genuine psychometric/aptitude test formats to build familiarity with the test style.
- Basic Science & Engineering carries the largest single weight in CBT 2 Part A — revise fundamentals broadly rather than going deep into any one trade.
- Track your reaction-time and coordination-based practice consistently in the weeks before CBAT, since this skill improves with repetition.

Exam Day Guidelines

- Carry the Admit Card and a valid original photo ID for all stages, including CBAT.
- Practise psychometric-style aptitude tests (reaction time, spatial reasoning) before CBAT — it's unlike typical academic exams and benefits from targeted practice.
- No electronic devices are allowed inside the exam hall at any stage.
- Get a preliminary vision and hearing check done early, given ALP's strict medical standards.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is CBAT in RRB ALP recruitment?

The Computer-Based Aptitude Test is a mandatory qualifying stage after CBT 2 that assesses psychomotor and cognitive skills — reaction time, spatial ability and coordination — specifically relevant to safely operating a locomotive.

Is CBT 2 Part B counted in the RRB ALP merit list?

No, Part B (trade-specific) is qualifying only, requiring a minimum 35% — only Part A marks are used for merit ranking within CBT 2.

What qualification is needed for RRB ALP?

Class 10 pass plus an ITI certificate in a notified trade, or a Diploma/Degree in Engineering from a recognised institute.

Is there negative marking in RRB ALP?

Yes, 1/3rd of the marks allotted to a question is deducted for every wrong answer, across CBT 1 and both parts of CBT 2.

Are RRB ALP medical standards different from other railway posts?

Yes, ALP has notably stricter vision and hearing requirements given the safety-critical nature of train operation.

Compiled and reviewed by Syllabus Hub against the official Railway Recruitment Board notification as of 27 Feb 2026. Exam patterns, vacancies and dates are subject to change — always cross-check with the official notification at rrbapply.gov.in before applying. © 2026 Syllabus Hub.