

RRB NTPC Syllabus 2026

Railway Recruitment Board — Railway Recruitment Board — Non-Technical Popular Categories

Vacancies	8,868 posts (2025–26 cycle — 5,810 Graduate-level + 3,058 Undergraduate-level, via CEN 06/2025 & 07/2025)
Age Limit	Undergraduate posts: 18–33 years; Graduate posts: 18–36 years (revised upward from 33; relaxation per government norms)
Qualification	Undergraduate posts: Class 12 pass; Graduate posts: Bachelor's degree from a recognised university
Application Fee	■500 (General/OBC/EWS) — ■400 refunded on appearing in CBT 1. SC/ST/PwBD/women/ex-servicemen candidates pay ■250, fully refunded on appearing.
Official Website	rrbapply.gov.in
Last Reviewed	16 Jul 2026

Overview

RRB NTPC recruits candidates for Non-Technical Popular Category posts across Indian Railways' zonal railways and production units, spanning both Undergraduate-level roles (Commercial cum Ticket Clerk, Accounts Clerk cum Typist, Junior Clerk cum Typist, Trains Clerk) and Graduate-level roles (Junior Clerk cum Typist, Accounts Clerk cum Typist, Station Master, and others). The current cycle (CEN 06/2025 and 07/2025) advertised 8,868 vacancies. Selection runs through two computer-based tests — CBT 1 is a normalised screening stage, and CBT 2 (also normalised) forms the actual basis of the merit list — followed by a Computer-Based Aptitude Test or Typing Skill Test for specific posts, and finally document verification and a medical examination.

What's New in the 2026 Cycle

- 8,868 total vacancies for the current cycle — 5,810 Graduate-level and 3,058 Undergraduate-level, announced under separate CENs.
- Graduate-post age limit was revised upward from 18–33 to 18–36 years in the current cycle.
- CBT 1 marks are normalised and used only for shortlisting (20x vacancies) to CBT 2 — they are not counted in the final merit list.
- CBAT applies for Station Master/Traffic Assistant-type posts; Typing Skill Test applies for typist-cadre posts — both are separate from CBT 2 and post-specific.
- Category-wise minimum qualifying percentage in CBT 1 varies: UR 40%, EWS 40%, OBC (non-creamy layer) 30%, SC 30%, ST 25%.

Exam Pattern

1st Stage CBT (CBT 1) — Screening

Mode: Online, objective MCQ | Duration: 90 minutes (120 minutes for eligible PwBD candidates)

Section	Questions	Marks
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General Awareness	40	40
Mathematics	30	30
General Intelligence & Reasoning	30	30

Negative marking: 1/3rd mark deducted per wrong answer | **Nature:** Screening stage only — normalised score used to shortlist 20x vacancies for CBT 2; not counted in final merit.

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

Mode: Online, objective MCQ | Duration: 90 minutes (120 minutes for eligible PwBD candidates)

Section	Questions	Marks
General Awareness	50	50
Mathematics	35	35
General Intelligence & Reasoning	35	35

Negative marking: 1/3rd mark deducted per wrong answer | **Nature:** Forms the basis of the final merit list (normalised score).

CBAT / Typing Skill Test (post-specific)

Mode: Computer-Based Aptitude Test (Station Master/Traffic Assistant) or Typing Skill Test (typist-cadre posts) |

Duration: Varies by test type

Section	Questions	Marks
Aptitude Test / Typing Test (English or Hindi)	—	Qualifying

Negative marking: Not applicable — qualifying | **Nature:** Mandatory for specific posts; shortlisting for CBAT/TST is done up to 8x vacancies based on CBT 2 merit.

RRB NTPC — Detailed Subject-Wise Syllabus

General Awareness

The single largest-weightage section in both CBTs — consistent daily current-affairs habits beat concentrated cramming given its huge, ever-changing scope.

- Current affairs — national & international
- Indian geography — physical, social, economic
- Indian polity, Constitution & public policy, Panchayati Raj
- Indian history & freedom struggle
- Indian economy, government schemes
- General science — physics, chemistry, biology basics
- Sports, art & culture, important days & personalities

Mathematics

Set at a Class 10–12 level — speed and accuracy on fundamentals matter more than advanced topics.

- Number system & simplification
- Percentage, ratio & proportion, averages
- Profit, loss & discount, simple & compound interest
- Time, speed & distance, time & work
- Mensuration, algebra, geometry & trigonometry basics
- Data interpretation & sufficiency

General Intelligence & Reasoning

Pattern-based and highly practisable — regular timed drills yield fast, reliable improvement.

- Analogies, coding-decoding
- Series completion, classification
- Puzzle & seating arrangement
- Statement-conclusion, syllogism
- Direction sense, blood relations
- Mathematical operations, similarities & differences

CBAT (Station Master / Traffic Assistant posts)

Can't be crammed like academic content — practise genuine psychometric-style tests to build familiarity.

- Psychometric-style aptitude test
- Decision-making & situational judgement
- Concentration & reaction-time based tasks

Typing Skill Test (typist-cadre posts)

Practise without auto-correct or spell-check tools specifically, since the real test disables them.

- Typing speed and accuracy on a computer, without auto-correct/spell-check tools, in the candidate's chosen language (English/Hindi)

Selection Process

- 1 1st Stage CBT (CBT 1) — normalised screening stage.
- 2 2nd Stage CBT (CBT 2) — normalised, forms the basis of the merit list.
- 3 CBAT or Typing Skill Test, as applicable to the specific post applied for.
- 4 Document Verification.
- 5 Medical Examination.

Salary & Job Profile

RRB NTPC pay levels vary by post — from Pay Level 2 (■19,900 basic) for Undergraduate-level posts like Commercial cum Ticket Clerk, up to Pay Level 6 (■35,400 basic) for Station Master, plus Dearness Allowance, HRA, Transport Allowance and railway-specific perks like travel passes.

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 NTPC Previous Year Papers — various publishers

Previous Cut-off Trends (Approximate)

RRB NTPC CBT 1 minimum qualifying percentages are fixed by category (UR 40%, EWS 40%, OBC 30%, SC 30%, ST 25%), but the actual normalised cut-off score to reach the 20x shortlist varies by zone, post and year given the very high applicant volume. CBT 2 cut-offs for final merit vary even more sharply by post preference — always check the zone-wise and post-wise official cut-off release.

Preparation Tips

- Since CBT 1 is only a screening stage, don't over-invest revision time there once comfortably past the expected normalised cut-off — shift focus to CBT 2's higher question count early.
- General Awareness carries the single largest section weight in both CBTs — build a consistent daily current-affairs habit rather than last-minute cramming.
- Practise previous years' papers under strict timing, since negative marking makes accuracy more valuable than attempting every question.
- If targeting Station Master or typist-cadre posts, start CBAT/typing practice early rather than waiting for the CBT 2 result.

Exam Day Guidelines

- Carry the Admit Card and a valid original photo ID matching your application details exactly.
- Arrive well before the reporting time printed on your city intimation slip/admit card — RRB centres process very high candidate volumes per shift.
- No electronic devices, calculators or written material are permitted inside the exam hall.
- For the Typing Skill Test, practise specifically without auto-correct or spell-check tools, since the actual test disables them.

Frequently Asked Questions

How many vacancies were announced in the current RRB NTPC cycle?

8,868 vacancies were announced — 5,810 for Graduate-level posts and 3,058 for Undergraduate-level posts, under CEN 06/2025 and CEN 07/2025 respectively.

Are CBT 1 marks counted in the final RRB NTPC merit list?

No, CBT 1 is a normalised screening stage only, used to shortlist 20 times the vacancies for CBT 2 — the final merit list is based on CBT 2 (plus CBAT/TST where applicable).

What is the age limit for RRB NTPC Graduate-level posts?

18 to 36 years, revised upward from the earlier 18–33 range in the current cycle, with standard relaxation for reserved categories.

Is there negative marking in RRB NTPC?

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

Which posts require the Typing Skill Test?

Typist-cadre posts such as Junior Clerk cum Typist and Accounts Clerk cum Typist require a computer-based Typing Skill Test in the candidate's chosen language (English or Hindi).

Compiled and reviewed by Syllabus Hub against the official Railway Recruitment Board notification as of 16 Jul 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.