

SSC CHSL Syllabus 2026

Staff Selection Commission — Combined Higher Secondary Level (10+2) Examination

Vacancies	Announced with each year's notification for LDC/JSA, DEO and PA/SA posts
Age Limit	18–27 years (as on the cut-off date; standard SSC relaxation for SC/ST/OBC/PwD/ESM)
Qualification	Passed Class 12 (10+2) or equivalent from a recognised Board; DEO posts in some departments may require Science stream with Maths at 12th level
Application Fee	■100 (General/OBC/EWS male candidates). Women and SC/ST/PwD/ESM candidates are exempted.
Official Website	ssc.gov.in
Last Reviewed	11 Jul 2026

Overview

SSC CHSL recruits 12th-pass candidates for Lower Division Clerk (LDC) / Junior Secretariat Assistant (JSA), Data Entry Operator (DEO), Postal Assistant and Sorting Assistant posts across central government offices. The exam runs in two tiers — Tier I is a qualifying computer-based screening test, and Tier II combines a second, slightly more advanced computer-based test with a mandatory Skill Test or Typing Test depending on the post applied for. Because the written syllabus stays common across all CHSL posts, the real differentiator between applicants is typing/data-entry speed at the final stage, so candidates should start practising on a physical keyboard well before the written stage is even over.

What's New in the 2026 Cycle

- Tier I: 100 questions, 200 marks, 60 minutes, with an expected 15-minute sectional timer per subject (confirmed with the official notification).
- Tier II includes an additional Computer Knowledge module plus a Skill/Typing Test not present in Tier I.
- DEO posts require a data-entry speed test (about 8,000–15,000 key depressions/hour depending on department); LDC/JSA posts require a typing test (English 35 wpm or Hindi 30 wpm).
- Tie-break rule: Tier II total marks decide first, then Tier I marks, then date of birth (older candidate ranked higher), then alphabetical order.

Exam Pattern

Tier I (Computer-Based Test)

Mode: Online, objective MCQ | Duration: 60 minutes (15 minutes per section)

Section	Questions	Marks
General Intelligence	25	50
General Awareness	25	50
Quantitative Aptitude	25	50

English Language	25	50
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Negative marking: 0.50 mark deducted per wrong answer | **Nature:** Qualifying stage — marks used only to shortlist for Tier II, not added to final merit.

Tier II (Computer-Based Test + Skill/Typing Test)

Mode: Online objective (Session I) + Skill/Typing Test (Session II) | Duration: Session I ~2 hours; Session II timing depends on the specific skill/typing test

Section	Questions	Marks
Mathematical Abilities	30	90
Reasoning & General Intelligence	30	90
English Language & Comprehension	40	120
General Awareness	20	60
Computer Knowledge	15	45
Skill Test / Typing Test (qualifying)	—	Qualifying

Negative marking: 1 mark deducted per wrong answer in the objective modules | **Nature:** Merit-determining stage; the Skill/Typing Test is qualifying but mandatory to clear.

SSC CHSL — Detailed Subject-Wise Syllabus

General Intelligence & Reasoning

Largely overlaps with CGL's reasoning syllabus — pattern-based questions that reward regular timed practice.

- Classification, analogy & coding-decoding
- Matrix and word formation
- Venn diagrams
- Direction & distance, blood relations
- Series (number, alphabet, figure)
- Verbal and non-verbal reasoning
- Mirror & water images
- Paper folding, figure completion
- Seating arrangement & puzzles
- Emotional intelligence & logical reasoning

Quantitative Aptitude / Mathematical Abilities

Slightly more foundational than CGL's Tier II maths, but still demands strong basics across arithmetic and algebra.

- Number system — whole numbers, decimals, fractions
- Percentage, ratio & proportion, averages
- Profit, loss & discount
- Simple & compound interest, partnership
- Time, speed & distance, time & work
- Mensuration — triangle, quadrilateral, circle, prism, cone, cylinder, sphere
- Basic algebra & elementary surds
- Graphs of linear equations
- Data interpretation (charts, tables)

English Language

Tests everyday professional English rather than advanced literature — grammar accuracy is the biggest scoring lever.

- Parts of speech, tenses, active-passive, direct-indirect
- Articles, prepositions, subject-verb agreement
- Error detection
- Synonyms, antonyms, one-word substitution
- Idioms & phrases, spellings
- Cloze passage, sentence rearrangement
- Reading comprehension

General Awareness

Broad, current-affairs-heavy section best tackled with short daily revision rather than long study blocks.

- Current affairs — national & international
- Static GK — history, culture, geography
- Indian polity & constitution basics
- Economic scene & government schemes
- General science
- Sports, books & authors, awards & honours
- People in the news, important schemes & portfolios

Computer Knowledge (Tier II)

Covers office-computing basics; most candidates with regular computer use will find this section quick to clear.

- Computer basics & organisation
- Software, operating systems, MS Office
- Internet, email, networking
- Communication & web browsing basics

Skill Test / Typing Test

The true differentiator in CHSL selection — dedicate consistent practice time on an actual keyboard well before the written result.

- DEO posts: data entry speed test — approx. 8,000–15,000 key depressions per hour (post-dependent)
- LDC/JSA posts: typing test — English 35 words per minute OR Hindi 30 words per minute

Selection Process

- 1 Tier I — Computer-Based Test (qualifying/screening).
- 2 Tier II — Computer-Based Test (merit-deciding) plus Skill Test/Typing Test (qualifying, mandatory).
- 3 Document Verification.
- 4 Final merit list and post allotment based on Tier II marks.

Salary & Job Profile

LDC/JSA posts fall under Pay Level 2 (₹19,900–₹63,200), while DEO posts are placed in Pay Level 4 (₹25,500–₹81,100) in most departments, with Dearness Allowance, HRA and Transport Allowance added on top of the basic pay depending on posting location.

Best Books for Preparation

- Quantitative Aptitude for Competitive Examinations — R.S. Aggarwal
- A Modern Approach to Verbal & Non-Verbal Reasoning — R.S. Aggarwal
- Objective General English — S.P. Bakshi (Arihant)
- Lucent's General Knowledge

Previous Cut-off Trends (Approximate)

SSC CHSL Tier I cut-offs have generally fallen in the 130–155 range (out of 200) for unreserved candidates in recent years, with lower cut-offs for reserved categories. Because Tier II now decides final merit and the skill/typing test is a hard qualifying gate, treat Tier I cut-off trends only as a rough screening benchmark — always verify against the official cut-off notification for your category.

Preparation Tips

- Since Tier I marks don't count toward final merit, treat it strictly as a clearance hurdle and shift focus to Tier II once you're safely past the expected cut-off.
- Start typing practice on a physical keyboard from week one — typing speed is qualifying but non-negotiable and is the most commonly underestimated part of CHSL prep.
- English and Reasoning are typically the fastest-scoring sections; build early momentum there before tackling GA's broad syllabus.
- Revise current affairs weekly using short daily notes rather than long revision sessions right before the exam.

Exam Day Guidelines

- Carry the Admit Card and a valid original photo ID — SSC accepts Aadhaar, PAN, passport, driving licence or voter ID.
- Arrive at least an hour before reporting time; biometric and document checks take longer during peak entry hours.
- No electronic gadgets, smartwatches or written material are allowed inside the exam hall.
- For the Skill/Typing Test stage, familiarise yourself with the specific keyboard layout used at test centres beforehand if possible.

Frequently Asked Questions

Are Tier I marks counted in the SSC CHSL final merit list?

No. Tier I marks are only used to qualify for Tier II — your final selection depends solely on Tier II performance plus clearing the qualifying skill/typing test.

Is the CHSL syllabus different for LDC, JSA and DEO posts?

The written exam syllabus is identical for all posts; only the final skill/typing test requirement differs — DEO posts need a data-entry speed test, while LDC/JSA posts need a typing test.

What typing speed is required for SSC CHSL?

LDC/JSA candidates need 35 words per minute in English or 30 wpm in Hindi; DEO posts require a data-entry speed of roughly 8,000–15,000 key depressions per hour, depending on the recruiting department.

Is there negative marking in SSC CHSL?

Yes — 0.50 marks are deducted per wrong answer in Tier I, and 1 mark is deducted per wrong answer in the objective modules of Tier II.

How are ties in the SSC CHSL merit list resolved?

First by total Tier II marks, then by total Tier I marks, then by date of birth (older candidates ranked higher), and finally by alphabetical order of first name.

Compiled and reviewed by Syllabus Hub against the official Staff Selection Commission notification as of 11 Jul 2026. Exam patterns, vacancies and dates are subject to change — always cross-check with the official notification at ssc.gov.in before applying. © 2026 Syllabus Hub.