

NTSE

The National Talent Search Examination (NTSE) is a national level scholarship program in India to identify and nurture talented students. The NTSE is open for students of Indian nationality whether they study in India or abroad at class VIII level. As it is organized by an official body NCERT, it is widely regarded as the toughest and most prestigious examination upto high school level in the country.

*For the courses in **Basic Sciences, Social Sciences and Commerce, this scholarship is provided up to Ph.D. level. For professional courses like Engineering, Medicine, Management and Law this scholarship is given only up to Post Graduation.***

The NTSE consists of two stages

Stage-1 (STSE) State Talent Search Examination:

Each state/UT conducts its own examination. This examination is primarily used to recommend a fixed number of candidates for the second level test to be conducted by the NCERT. **The state level screening examination in all states/UTs is on the second Sunday of November, but this time it is on third Sunday i.e. 20th November 2011 except in Nagaland, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Meghalaya and Mizoram where it will be conducted on third Saturday of November (So it is on 19th November 2011 i.e. One day before other states & UTs) every year.**

All students of class VIII in any type of recognized school including Kendriya Vidyalaya, Navodaya Vidyalaya, Sainik school etc are eligible. There is no domicile restriction.

Stage I comprises of two parts

(a) Mental Ability Test (MAT): This test is given to the candidates to judge their power of reasoning, ability to think, ability to judge. A variety of questions e.g. analogies, classification, series etc. are used for this purpose.

(b) Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT): covering mathematics, Science and Social Sciences.

STSE 2011 Pattern

Test	Duration	Question Details	Max marks	Cutoff (general)	Cutoff (SC/ST)
MAT	90 min	90 MCQs	90	40	32
SAT	90 min	90 MCQs	90	40	32

****There is no negative marking.**

Stage-2 (NTSE) National Talent Search Examination:

Candidates acquiring more than the required percentage in the STSE (stage-I) and standing within a specified number of top ranks (state quota) are eligible to appear for NTSE stage-II (about top 3000 students from the entire country). NCERT conducts this second stage every year on **2nd Sunday of May i.e. 13th May 2012.**

Students studying abroad: can appear directly for Stage II NTSE under conditions prescribed in the brochure for class VIII which is available on the NCERT website.

This paper comprises of two parts

(a): Mental Ability Test (MAT).

(b): Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) (History, Civics, Geography, Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology in addition to Economics (In stage-II only))

NTSE 2012 Pattern

Test	Duration	Question Details	Max marks	Cutoff (general)	Cutoff (SC/ST)
MAT	90 min	100 ques (90 MCQs 10 free response questions)	100	40	32
SAT	90 min	100 ques (90 MCQs 10 free response questions)	100	40	32

**Source: Online NTSE Information*

Examinee will get around 54 seconds to answer a question and **there will be no negative marking** and will get break between both exams.

However, there will be no interview in NTSE 2011 (as it was earlier till 2010).