

# Higher Education Commission, Pakistan



## **Frequently Asked Questions CENTRALIZED TEST FOR CS & IT GRADUATES LEADING TO APPRENTICESHIP IN TOP IT COMPANIES**

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*Last Date for Registration: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023*

*Test Date: Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024*



## CENTRALIZED TEST FOR CS & IT GRADUATES LEADING TO APPRENTICESHIP IN TOP IT COMPANIES

Sr #	Question	Answer
1	What is the purpose of <b>Centralized Test for CS &amp; IT Graduates</b> ?	The purpose of Centralized Test is to shortlist the students of 7 <sup>th</sup> semester (Computing related disciplines) for apprenticeship in top IT companies, to extend hands-on experience in one of the latest technologies / demanding areas as per IT industry requirements.
2	What benefit will a student have after qualifying the test?	Students qualifying the test will be offered apprenticeship in IT companies including top IT exporters registered with PSEB. The placement will be made through P@SHA for hands-on experience on real-time projects. The qualifying candidates will also be considered for an exemption up to six (6) credit hours in 8 <sup>th</sup> semester against electives or mandatory field experience.
3	What is policy regarding six (6) credit hours exemption?	Policy shall be communicated to all universities prior to commencement of Apprenticeship program.
4	What is P@SHA?	P@SHA stands for “Pakistan Software Houses Association”. This association plays an important role representing thousands of IT-enabled companies and services in Pakistan.
5	What is offered in IT Apprenticeship?	Apprenticeship provides an opportunity of getting work experience on real-time projects in modern IT companies and exposure to latest technologies.
6	What is the duration of the apprenticeship?	The apprenticeship shall be equivalent to the number of contact hour against 6 credit hours lab <b>OR</b> equivalent to the duration of field experience as per HEC Policy.
7	What is the eligibility criteria for this test?	The students enrolled in 7 <sup>th</sup> semester of the computing related programs offered in recognized public and private sector universities and affiliated/constituent colleges are eligible to apply.
8	How to apply for <b>Centralized Test for CS &amp; IT Graduates</b> ?	The students may apply on VU portal <a href="https://www.vu.edu.pk/GraduateTest/">https://www.vu.edu.pk/GraduateTest/</a> for registration till December 31, 2023.
9	Is there any fee for the test?	No, there is no fees for the test, it's free of cost.
10	What is the Registration process for Centralized Test?	Following is the process for registration  1. Student submitting their application through portal  <a href="https://www.vu.edu.pk/GraduateTest/">https://www.vu.edu.pk/GraduateTest/</a>



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		<p>2. Verification of Registration details by the concerned focal person of each university</p> <p>3. Virtual University forwarding Confirmation/Test Details to the eligible candidates</p>
11	Which discipline students may apply for the Centralized Test?	<p>Students (7<sup>th</sup> Semester) studying in following programs may apply for the Centralized Test</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BS in Computer Science</li> <li>• BS in Software Engineering</li> <li>• BS in Artificial Intelligence</li> <li>• BS in Data Science</li> <li>• BS in Cyber Security</li> <li>• BS in Information Systems</li> <li>• BS in Multimedia and Gaming</li> <li>• BS in Information Technology</li> <li>• BS in Computer Engineering</li> <li>• BS in Bioinformatics</li> <li>• Bachelor of Computer &amp; Information Technology (Hons)</li> <li>• BE (Software Engineering)</li> <li>• BE (Computer Engineering)</li> <li>• BE (Computer Systems Engineering)</li> <li>• BS Information Engineering Technology</li> </ul>
12	Is it mandatory for applicants to be enrolled in computing related discipline to apply for the test?	The enrolled students (7 <sup>th</sup> Semester) pursuing computing related qualifications are eligible to apply for the test.
13	Student is enrolled in computing related discipline, but it is not included in the given list, what to do?	If the discipline is computing related and not in the list, the student may apply through 'other' option mentioned in portal. Final scrutiny will be done before issuance of Test Slip.
14	What if the student is enrolled in 8 <sup>th</sup> Semester or degree holder of CS/IT?	The current test/ co-opt program is for enrolled students of 7 <sup>th</sup> semester - computing related discipline. Such students qualifying the test shall be offered apprenticeship in their 8 <sup>th</sup> Semester (last semester) of the program.
15	How many credit hours will be exempted for the students who qualify the test and successfully complete co-opt program?	The candidates having qualified the test and successfully completed the co-opt program shall be considered for an exemption up to six (6) credit hours in their 8th semesters against electives or mandatory field experience as per HEC policy.
16	What is the best time to apply for <b>Centralized Test for CS &amp; IT Graduates</b> ?	The applicants are advised not to wait for the last date of registration and apply well before the



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		closing date to avoid any inconvenience in registration process.
17	What is the deadline to apply for <b>Centralized Test for CS &amp; IT Graduates</b> ?	The last date to apply for the test is December 31, 2023.
18	When will the Centralized test be held?	The test date is 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2024.
19	Do applicants need to select test center?	Yes, the students may provide preferred test center during their registration.
20	How will applicants know if they are selected for test, their test centers or other important information regarding conduct of test?	Applicants are advised to fill the registration form carefully making sure that they give valid email addresses and mobile numbers. Intimation shall be made on given mobile numbers and e-mail addresses provided by applicants.
21	What is format of the test?	The test is MCQ (Multiple Choice Questions) based. The students have to attempt 100 questions in CBT (Computer Based Test) mode.
22	What are passing marks in the test?	The qualifying score is minimum 60% marks in the test. However, the cutoff score for placement (apprenticeship) shall be determined on the basis of overall merit and available number of apprenticeship slots.
23	What are focused areas in the test?	The test shall comprise of the following focused areas; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operating System</li> <li>• Software Engineering</li> <li>• Data Structure</li> <li>• Networking</li> <li>• Programming</li> <li>• Database</li> <li>• Problem Solving / Analytics</li> </ul>
24	Any reading/preparation material for the test?	The number of questions shall be equally distributed amongst the following 07 focused areas, mostly from existing curriculum of CS & IT programs offered in HEIs. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Operating System</li> <li>2. Software Engineering</li> <li>3. Data Structure</li> <li>4. Networking</li> <li>5. Programming</li> <li>6. Database</li> <li>7. Problem Solving / Analytics</li> </ol>
25	What is mode of the test?	The test will be computer based at specified test centers.



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26	What documents should applicants bring at test day?	Applicants must bring Original CNIC and roll number slip
27	When will the test result be announced?	The result will be announced shortly after the test.
28	When will the student be placed for apprenticeship?	After qualifying the test and being shortlisted, the students will be offered placements through P@SHA/PSEB under the auspices of MOITT. Spring 2024 will be the first session for industry placement programme
29	In case of any issue in registration / portal whom should applicant contact?	In case of any difficulty during the online registration or any complaint regarding portal, the applicant can email at: <a href="mailto:It_support@vu.edu.pk">It_support@vu.edu.pk</a>