

Eligibility of candidates having physical disabilities to be considered for selection to various Group 'A' services and other services for which selections are made through the civil services exams held every year by the Union Public Service Commission, New Delhi

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act - 2016 has become the law of the land, in respect of the objective and purposes stated therein, with effect from 27th December 2016. This Act has replaced the earlier Persons with Disability Act, 1995.

The salient features of the Act are:

- i.) Disability has been defined based on an evolving and dynamic concept.
- ii.) The types of disabilities have been increased from existing 7 to 21 and the central government will have the power to add more types of disabilities. The 21 disabilities are given below:-

1. **Blindness**
2. **Low-vision**
3. **Leprosy Cured persons**
4. **Hearing Impairment (deaf and hard of hearing)**
5. **Locomotor Disability**
6. **Dwarfism**
7. **Intellectual Disability**
8. **Mental Illness**
9. **Autism Spectrum Disorder**
10. **Cerebral Palsy**
11. **Muscular Dystrophy**
12. **Chronic Neurological conditions**
13. **Specific Learning Disabilities**

- 14. Multiple Sclerosis**
- 15. Speech and Language disability**
- 16. Thalassaemia**
- 17. Hemophilia**
- 18. Sickle Cell disease**
- 19. Multiple Disabilities including deaf blindness**
- 20. Acid Attack victim**
- 21. Parkinson's disease**

iii.) Speech and Language Disability and Specific Learning Disability have been added for the first time. Acid Attack Victims have been included. Dwarfism, muscular dystrophy have has been indicated as separate class of specified disability. The New categories of disabilities also included three blood disorders, Thalassaemia, Hemophilia and Sickle Cell disease.

iv.) In addition, the Government has been authorized to notify any other category of specified disability.

v.) Responsibility has been cast upon the appropriate governments to take effective measures to ensure that the persons with disabilities enjoy their rights equally with others.

vi.) Additional benefits such as reservation in higher education, government jobs, reservation in allocation of land, poverty alleviation schemes etc. have been provided for persons with benchmark disabilities and those with high support needs.

vii.) Every child with benchmark disability between the age group of 6 and 18 years shall have the right to free education.

viii.) Government funded educational institutions as well as the government recognized institutions will have to provide inclusive education to the children with disabilities.

- ix.) For strengthening the Prime Minister's Accessible India Campaign, stress has been given to ensure accessibility in public buildings (both Government and private) in a prescribed time-frame.
- x.) Reservation in vacancies in government establishments has been increased from 3% to 4% for certain persons or class of persons with benchmark disability.
- xi.) The Bill provides for grant of guardianship by District Court under which there will be joint decision – making between the guardian and the persons with disabilities.
- xii.) Broad based Central & State Advisory Boards on Disability are to be set up to serve as apex policy making bodies at the Central and State level.
- xiii.) Office of Chief Commissioner of Persons with Disabilities has been strengthened who will now be assisted by 2 Commissioners and an Advisory Committee comprising of not more than 11 members drawn from experts in various disabilities.
- xiv.) Similarly, the office of State Commissioners of Disabilities has been strengthened who will be assisted by an Advisory Committee comprising of not more than 5 members drawn from experts in various disabilities.
- xv.) The Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities and the State Commissioners will act as regulatory bodies and Grievance Redressal agencies And also monitor implementation of the Act.
- xvi.) District level committees will be constituted by the State Governments to address local concerns of Persons with Disabilities. Details of their constitution and the functions of such committees would be prescribed by the State Governments in the rules.
- xvii.) Creation of National and State Fund will be created to provide financial support to the persons with disabilities. The existing National Fund for Persons with Disabilities and the Trust Fund for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities will be subsumed with the National Fund.
- xviii.) The Act provides for penalties for offences committed against persons with

disabilities and also violation of the provisions of the new law.

xix.) Special Courts will be designated in each district to handle cases concerning violation of rights of Persons with Disabilities.

This new Act brings our laws in alignment with the United National Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), to which India is a signatory. This will fulfill the obligations on the part of India in terms of UNCRPD. Further, the new law will not only enhance the rights and entitlements of Persons with Disabilities but also provide effective mechanism for ensuring their empowerment and true inclusion into the Society in a satisfactory manner.

There are millions of young persons in our country with various physical handicaps. The government of India permits deserving and meritorious aspirants to stake their claim for joining any of the 19 Group 'A' services and other Group 'B' services as finding mention in the examination notification issued every year.

The types of quotas available for persons with disabilities are mentioned in the circulars issued by department of personnel and training or by UPSC from time to time will be available on our home page under the nomenclature "Circulars".

Fighting against odds in life brings out the best among those who have the courage of their convictions and also have the requisite self belief. There are many officers already serving with distinction in several services who never allowed their physical handicaps to come in the way of developing expertise and mature judgment without seeking any kind of favours for softer jobs after gaining entry into government service.

The details given below have been extracted from the information given on the website of the Union Public Service Commission. We would request all interested person to have the same independently verified from the UPSC website because of the very complex nature of classifications as finding mention therein. To this extent, the details given in the pages below may please be treated as indicative, requiring fresh verification. There will always be cases in which the definitions given herein may not give sufficient information to the aspirants concerned. In all those cases, the best course of action would be to approach UPSC directly for a clarification.

We wish all the best to persons with disabilities to gain success in these exams.

The following table gives the codes for the functional classifications and the physical requirements for the services.

Code	Physical Requirements	Code	Functional Classification
S	Sitting	OH	Orthopedically Handicapped
ST	Standing	VH	Visually Handicapped
W	Walking	HH	Hearing Handicapped
SE	Seeing	OA	One Arm
RW	Reading and Writing	OL	One Leg
H	Hearing/Speaking	BA	Both Arms
C	Communication	BH	Both Hands
MF	Manipulation by Finger	MW	Muscular Weakness
PP	Pushing and Pulling	OAL	One Arm One Leg
BN	Bending	BLA	Both Legs and Arms
L	Lifting	BLOA	Both Legs One Arm
KC	Kneeling and Crouching	LV	Low Vision
		B	Blind
		PD	Partially Deaf
		FD	Fully Deaf
		BL	Both Legs

The following table lists the services identified suitable for the physically disabled category along with the physical requirements and the functional classifications:

Service	Categories for which identified	Functional Classification	Physical Requirements
Indian Administrative Service	Locomotor disability	BA, OL, OA, BH, MW, BL, OAL, BLA, BLOA	S, ST, W, SE, H, RW, C
	Visual impairment	LV, B	MF, PP, L, KC, BN, ST, W, H, RW, C
	Hearing impairment	PD, FD	MF, PP, L, KC, BN, ST, W, RW, C
Indian Foreign Service	Locomotor disability	OA, OL, OAL	S, ST, W, C, MF, SE, RW
	Visual impairment	LV	RW, SE
	Hearing impairment	HH	H
Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Central Excise, Gr. A)	Locomotor disability	OL, OA	S, ST, BN, L, SE, MF, RW, H, C, W
	Hearing impairment	HH	S, ST, W, BN, SE, MF, RW, H, C, L
Indian P&T Accounts & Finance Service, Gr. A	Locomotor disability	OA, OL, OAL, BL, MW, BA, BH	S, W, SE, RW, C, BN, ST, H, L, KC, MF, PP
	Visual impairment	B, LV (PB)	S,W,RW,C,BN,ST,H,L,KC,MF,PP

	Hearing impairment	PD, FD	S,W,SE,RW,C,BN,ST, KC, MF, PP, L
Indian Audit & Accounts Service, Gr. A	Locomotor disability	OA, OL	S, W,BN,SE,RW,C, ST
	Hearing impairment	PD	S, ST,W,SE,RW, BN, C
Indian Defense Accounts Service, Gr. A	Locomotor disability	OL, OA	S, ST, W, BN, SE, RW, C
Indian Revenue Service (I.T.), Gr. A	Locomotor disability	OA, OL, OAL, BL	S,ST,SE,RW,C, W
	Visual impairment	LV, B	MF, L, KC, BN, ST, W, H, RW, C, PP
	Hearing impairment	PD, FD	MF,PP,L,KC,BN, ST, W,RW,C, H
Indian Ordnance Factories Service, Gr. A	Locomotor disability	OA, OL	S,ST,W,BN,RW, SE,H,C
	Visual impairment	LV (PB)	S, ST, W, RW, SE, H, C, BN
	Hearing impairment	PD	S, ST, W, BN, RW, SE, H(Speaking), C
Indian Postal Service, Gr. A	Locomotor disability	OA, OL	S, ST, W, RW, SE, H, C, BN
	Visual impairment	LV	S, ST, W, BN, SE, H, C, RW

	Hearing impairment	HH	S, ST, W, BN, RW, SE, H, C
Indian Civil Accounts Service, Gr. A	Locomotor disability	OA, OL, OAL, BL	S,ST,W,RW,H,C, SE
	Visual impairment	LV	S,ST,W,SE, RW,H,C
	Hearing impairment	HH	S,ST,W,SE, RW,H,C
Indian Railway Accounts Service, Gr. A	Locomotor disability	OA, OL, OAL, BL	S,ST,W,RW,C,H, SE
	Visual impairment	LV	S, ST, W, RW, SE, C, H
	Hearing impairment	PD	S, ST, W, RW, SE, C, H
Indian Railway Personnel Service, Gr. A	Locomotor disability	OA, OL	S,ST,BN,SE,C,W,H,RW
	Visual impairment	LV	S, ST, BN, SE, C, W, H, RW
	Hearing impairment	PD	S, ST, BN, SE, C, W, H, RW
Indian Railway Traffic Service, Gr. A	Locomotor disability	OA, OL	S,ST, W, SE, RW, H, C
Indian Defense Estates Services, Gr. A	Locomotor disability	OA, OL, BL	S,ST,W,BN,MF,PP,KC, SE,RW,H,C
	Visual impairment	LV	S, ST, W, BN, MF, PP, KC, SE, RW, H, C

	Hearing impairment	HH	S, ST, W, BN, MF, PP, KC, SE, RW, H, C
Indian Information Service, Gr. A	Locomotor disability	BA, OL, OA, BH, MW, BL, OAL, BLA, BLOA	S,ST,W,RW,SE,H,C
	Visual impairment	LV, B	MF,PP,L,KC,BN, ST,W,H,RW,C
	Hearing impairment	PD, FD	MF, PP, L, KC, BN, ST, W, H, RW, C
Indian Trade Service, Gr. A (Gr. III)	Locomotor disability	BA, OL, OA, BH, MW, BL, OAL, BLOA, BLA	S,ST,W,SE, H, RW,C
	Visual impairment	LV, B	MF, PP, L, KC,BN, ST, W, H, RW, C
	Hearing impairment	PD, FD	MF, PP, L, KC, BN, ST, W, H, RW, C
Indian Corporate Law Service	Locomotor disability	OA, OL, OAL, BL	ST, RW, SE, S,BN,H
	Visual impairment	LV	ST, RW, SE, S, BN, H
	Hearing impairment	HH	ST, RW, SE, S, BN, H
Armed Forces Headquarters	Locomotor disability	OA, OL, BL	S,ST,W,BN,MF,SE, RW,H, C

Civil Service, Gr. B (Section Officers' Grade)	Visual impairment	LV, B	S,ST,W,BN,MF,RW,H,C
	Hearing impairment	HH	S,ST,W,BN,MF,SE,RW,C
Delhi, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Civil Service, Gr. B	Locomotor disability	BA, OL, OA, BH, MW, BL, OAL, BLA, BLOA	S,ST,W,H,SE,RW,C
	Visual impairment	LV, B	MF,PP,L,KC,BN, ST,W,H,RW,C
	Hearing impairment	PD, FD	MF, PP, L, KC, BN, ST, W, H, RW, C
	Locomotor disability	OA, OL, BL, OAL	S,ST,W,SE, S, ST, W, SE, RW,HC
Pondicherry Civil Service, Gr. B	Visual impairment	LV	S, ST, W, SE, RW, HC
	Hearing impairment	HH	S, ST, W, SE, RW, HC