



AIIMS NURSING OFFICER EXAM

NORCET Exam Pattern

Stage I + Stage II | 2026 pattern

STAGE I

100 MCQs

90 min | 80 Nursing + 20 GK/Aptitude

STAGE II

160 MCQs

180 min | Nursing case scenarios

Clear Concept, Score Up

Exam pattern at a glance

The two stages have different purposes: Stage I screens candidates; Stage II determines merit.

Feature	Stage I - Preliminary	Stage II - Main
Purpose	Screening / qualifying	Final merit
Mode	Computer Based Test	Computer Based Test
Questions / marks	100 / 100	160 / 160
Time	90 minutes	180 minutes
Subject split	80 Nursing + 20 GK & Aptitude	Nursing only
Section plan	5 sections x 20 Q x 18 min	4 sections x 40 Q x 45 min
Question focus	Knowledge + aptitude	Case/scenario-based nursing competency
Negative marking	-1/3 per wrong answer	-1/3 per wrong answer

Selection flow

1

Stage I

Qualify the category benchmark

2

Shortlist

Normally up to 5x seats per category

3

Stage II

Attempt the nursing competency test

4

Merit

Stage II marks decide rank

5

Allocation

Institute choice and eligibility apply

Stage I: Preliminary

A qualifying screening test. Stage I marks are not added to the final merit score.

100

MCQs / marks

90 min

Total duration

-1/3

Per wrong answer

Question composition

80 Nursing questions

20 GK + Aptitude

Locked sectional timing

Section 1

20 Q | 18 min

Section 2

20 Q | 18 min

Section 3

20 Q | 18 min

Section 4

20 Q | 18 min

Section 5

20 Q | 18 min

Each section appears only once. After its 18-minute window closes, you cannot return to it.

Qualifying percentile

UR / EWS

50 percentile

OBC

45 percentile

SC / ST

40 percentile

PwBD

5-percentile relaxation

Shortlisting: Candidates are called for Stage II according to the qualifying rules and category-wise shortlist, generally up to five times the number of seats. Qualified PwBD candidates and applicable tie cases are included as provided in the notice.

Stage II: Main

The merit-deciding examination, focused on nursing skills and clinical competency.

160

Nursing MCQs / marks

180 min

Total duration

-1/3

Per wrong answer

Four locked sections

Section 1

40 Q | 45 min

Section 2

40 Q | 45 min

Section 3

40 Q | 45 min

Section 4

40 Q | 45 min

Question style

- The entire paper is based on nursing subjects at the essential-qualification level.
- Questions focus on case scenarios, clinical judgement, nursing priorities, safe care and competency.
- Expect 'first action', assessment, monitoring, complication, procedure and patient-education decisions.

Scoring, qualifying marks and merit

Category	Minimum Stage II mark
UR / EWS	50%
OBC	45%
SC / ST	40%
PwBD	Additional 5 percentage-point relaxation within category

Final merit: Prepared from Stage II performance among candidates who meet the qualifying standard. For equal marks, the applicable tie-break starts with the older candidate, followed by fewer wrong answers / lower negative marks if still tied.

Source: AIIMS Examinations, NORCET-11, Notice No. 103/2026 dated 24 July 2026. Official portal:

<https://aiimsexams.ac.in/advertisement/6a6350f7e5a81c4267f4ff04>

Verified: 10 September 2026. Recheck the official notice for any later NORCET cycle.