



CAT 2025 EXAM DAY GUIDE: TIMINGS, DOS AND DON'TS, DRESS CODE

CAT 2025 will be held in three slots across test centres nationwide, and candidates must follow strict reporting timelines, ID rules, and dress code guidelines on exam day. This guide gives you a clear checklist of the dos and don'ts, what to carry, and how to avoid last-minute mistakes to ensure a smooth CAT test-day experience.

CAT 2025 SLOT TIMINGS FOR SHIFT 1, 2 & 3

Slot Name	Exam Timing	Reporting Time
CAT Slot 1 or CAT Shift 1 (Morning Slot)	8:30 AM- 10:30 AM	7.00 AM
CAT Slot 2 or CAT Shift 2 (Afternoon Slot)	12:30 PM- 2:30 PM	11.00 AM
CAT Slot 3 or CAT Shift 3 (Evening Slot)	4:30 PM- 6:30 PM	3.00 PM

CAT 2025 EXAM DAY DOS AND DON'TS

CAT 2025 Exam Day Dos and Don'ts are important guidelines and instructions that are issued by IIMs for candidates to ensure smooth conduct of the exam. Read important CAT exam day Dos & Don'ts and CAT Exam Day Guidelines.

1. CAT 2025 Exam Day Dos

Read and follow the important CAT 2025 Exam Day Dos & Dons.

1.1 Recheck Admit Card details

You should recheck your Name, CAT Application Number, PwD status, Date and Day of Test, Test Times and Session, Reporting/ Entry time at Centre, Gate Closing Time at Centre, Test City, Test Centre address. Ensure that all your details are correct.

1.2 Print and Carry CAT Admit Card Hard Copy

You will require hard copy of your admit card with your passport size photo affixed on it. If not done till now, download your CAT Admit Card from CAT Website, take print on A4 size



paper, fix your identical photograph in the given space on it. Keep your Admit Card ready for the exam day.

1.3 Keep your Photo ID Ready

One of the important dos among CAT 2025 Exam day Dos & Dents is that you need one original Photo Id to show at the Exam Gate. Following photo IDs are acceptable for CAT Exam:

- Aadhar card,
- Voter Id card,
- Passport
- PAN Card
- Driving Licence
- Identification Affidavit
- Any other original photo ID document acceptable at Exam centre.

1.4 Visit your CAT Exam Centre a Day Before Exam

It is very much necessary. Use the Google map link embedded on the electronic version of the Admit card to locate the Test Centre. You should check the distance, mode of conveyance, time taken to reach at the testing venue by visiting the CAT exam centre a day before the exam day. This will help you avoid any delay and glitch during your commutation from your residence/place of stay to the testing venue.

It will be better to make prior necessary arrangements for travel, food, accommodation and any other expenses. Identify mode of transport and commuting time at least a day before the CAT Exam Day in order to reach the Test Centre on time on the day of the Exam.

1.5 Choose Correct Dress for CAT Day

Choose a dress that you wish to wear on CAT exam day. The dress should keep you comfortable throughout the CAT exam day and should allow to sit for two hours while taking the exam. However, make sure that your dress does not violate the CAT day dress code which does not allow garments with large buttons or footwear with thick soles. Read complete details on [CAT 2025 Dress Code](#).

1.6 Arrive at CAT Centre in Time

You must reach the CAT test center as per the reporting time for your allotted exam slot. IIM Calcutta has suggested to reach exam centre 90 minutes before the start time of the exam. If you are late, you may not be allowed to enter the CAT 2025 test center. Check CAT Slot wise Activity wise timings below.



1.7 Locate Your Testing Room & Seat

You will not find Display of Seating Arrangement outside CAT Exam Centre. IIMs have stopped displaying the Mapping of 'Candidate Application Number and the Lab Number' outside the test venue. However, the help is provided to the candidates individually at the

time of the entry to the test venue. So go inside the test center first and the security staff will guide you which testing room you should go to.

1.8 Items You Can Carry Inside CAT Test Centre

You can wear and carry following inside the CAT center:

- What to wear for CAT Exam? You can wear Socks, plain Pullovers/Sweaters/Cardigans (without any pockets) inside the Exam lab.
- Metal Implants and Pacemakers: Candidates with metal implant, pacemaker, etc. in their body should bring a supporting medical certificate of the same at the Test Centre.

1.9 Use Wash Room Before the Exam

You will not be allowed to use wash room during the exam, so use it before the exam begins. Besides, you are required to maintain silence and remain in Queue keeping social distancing norms during - entry to the Test Centre; security frisking process; document verification & biometric verification. Same process will follow while exiting the Test Centre after the exam

1.10 Ensure to Mark Attendance

Mark your attendance in the Form with signature when asked for, in the CAT testing room after completion of biometrics. If you fail to mark attendance, you may be treated absent from the exam.

1.11 Answer CAT question by Using Mouse

At the Console, use the Mouse to select the right Answer for an MCQ. Use the on-screen Keyboard to answer a Non-MCQ as you need to type in the answer. You should not use Computer key board as it will lock your computer.

2. CAT 2025 Exam Day Don'ts

After going through the CAT exam day dos, it is also very much necessary to know what is prohibited at CAT exam centre. Check these CAT Exam Day Donts.

2.1 Don't carry Prohibited Articles in CAT Exam Centre

While going to take CAT exam, you should not carry and wear the following:

- Do Not Wear Jackets, Jewellery, Shoes with Thick Soles
- Do Not Wear Garments with large Buttons



- Do Not Carry Electronic Watch, mobile phone, bag, wallets at the CAT test centre.
- No Stationery items like Pen, Pencil, Eraser etc. are allowed in the testing hall

2.2 Don't Apply Mehndi (Henna) on Palm Side

Do not apply Henna (Mehndi) on the palm side. It is a very important CAT exam day don't for the girl candidates who apply Mehndi regularly on their palms. On the day of the test,

your digital finger print scan will be captured and applying Henna (Mehndi) on palm side may be a hindrance in getting your biometrics captured. If your finger prints cannot be digitally scanned due to reasons like applying Mehndi / henna / any cosmetic colours etc., you will not be permitted to take the test.

2.3 Don't Request Bio Break during Exam

Set your Bio Clock as per the CAT exam timing. Do not request for a bio-break while inside the Exam Lab unless it is a Medical emergency. No bio breaks are allowed during the 2 hours of the CAT exam.

2.4 Only PwD candidates can have companion at CAT Centre

Unless you are a PwD candidates and have asked for scribe, none of your friends and relatives accompanying you are allowed to enter beyond the Test Centre gate. Don't ask them to come with you. Even if they come, they will have to go back from the test centre gate. So, do not involve yourself in any arguments with the security staff or test center staff for forceful entry.

2.5 Don't Resort to Unfair Means

Do not disturb other Candidates or attempt to copy answers from others during the Exam. If you do, you will run the risk of getting debarred. Each question is placed at different serial number for each test taker. Avoid attempting to appear for CAT 2025 Exam more than once. Candidature will be cancelled if a candidate is found to appear for the test multiple times

THINGS TO CARRY OR NOT CARRY IN CAT EXAM

What to Carry for CAT Exam is an important question that you must keep in mind while planning for the exam day.

Things to Carry for CAT Exam

Check the list of things to carry in CAT exam:

1. CAT 2025 Admit Card
2. Photo Identity Proof
3. Medical Certificate(s) if required



4. Scribe Affidavit if required

Candidates will be provided with one pen and one scribble pad. They will have to drop the one copy of admit card, pen and scribble pad (with all pages intact) in the boxes at the exam hall before exiting.

While only above documents will be permitted after the frisking point at the CAT exam centre, candidates should carry food items, water bottle and other personal essentials to the exam centre. Remember, there are no arrangement for depositing bags or valuables inside the

test centre premises. If you are thinking of where to keep phone during CAT Exam, then be ready to keep it in your car/vehicle or handover to someone you trust.

So only take things to carry for CAT exam as listed above.

Things not to carry to the CAT exam centre

Check the list of items and important document not to carry to the exam centre:

1. Watches, mobile phones, calculators, cameras, wireless/bluetooth devices and other electronic gadgets
2. Wallet, Purse or other expensive items
3. Pencil/Pen/Paper/Notepad and other stationary items are also not allowed

Any candidate found with any of these items inside the exam hall will be disqualified and debarred from the exam. We hope this section has answered the question: what to carry for CAT Exam.

CAT 2025 Dress Code for Male and Female Candidates

1. Girls appearing in CAT 2025 should Not wear Jewellery or Metal Accessories
2. Girls should Not apply Hena (Mehndi) on Palm side
3. No Shoes are allowed with thick soles inside the test centre
4. Only Socks, plain pullovers, sweaters, cardigans are allowed in the testing lab
5. No Jackets, Coats with deep pockets are allowed inside the CAT Testing Lab
6. Candidates will not be allowed to wear garments with large buttons inside the CAT exam centre.
7. Do Not Wear Electronic Watch, Smart Watch, Watch with Calculator and must not take mobile phones, calculators, electronic keys of Car



8. Do not Wear Goggles inside the CAT Testing Hall. However, Optical specs used for eye sight are Not restricted
9. If any candidate is using metal implant, pacemaker, he/she will have to bring a supporting medical certificate of the same to the test centre.
10. Any Tattoo which hinders the Bio Metric or causes violation of CAT Exam Dress Code 2025 should not be there on Male or Female candidate