



NMAT 2026 Eligibility Criteria: Qualification, Age Limit, Attempt Rules

NMAT 2026 eligibility criteria: [NMAT 2026 exam](#) is expected to be held from early November till mid-December, 2026. [NMAT 2026 Registration](#) is expected to start in early August and will remain open till mid-October, 2026. Before registering the exam, you should check the official NMAT 2026 eligibility criteria, set by exam conducting body - Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC). Read this article for NMAT eligibility conditions related to the educational qualifications, age limit, number of attempts, and other key requirements for appearing in NMAT 2026. Also read eligibility criteria for [MBA colleges accepting NMAT Scores](#) like NMIMS Mumbai, XIM Bhubaneswar and K J Somaiya Mumbai. Download NMAT Eligibility Criteria 2026 PDF document from the link below.



NMAT 2026 Eligibility Criteria

Qualification, Age Limit, Attempt Rules

NMAT 2026 Exam: Key Highlights

NMAT (NMAT by GMAC) is an important national level MBA entrance test leading to admission in many top [MBA colleges](#) including NMIMS Mumbai, TAPMI, XIMB, KJ Somaiya and SDA Bocconi amongst others. NMAT exam is conducted by Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC), the body that also conducts GMAT Exam across the world. Exam is sometimes referred to as NMIMS NMAT 2026 as it was started by NMIMS University, but now GMAC conducts the exam.

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NMAT Eligibility Criteria 2026: Overview

NMAT eligibility criteria 2026 are decided by Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC), the exam conducting body. Key Highlights of NMAT Eligibility Criteria are:

- **Age Limit:** There is no specific age limit to apply for NMAT Exam
- **Education Qualifications:** To take NMAT exam, graduation in any discipline is required. For most participating institutions, minimum 50% marks in graduation is required. Check details below. Final year students can also apply.
- **Maximum NMAT Attempts:** You can take maximum of 3 attempts in one testing cycle. However, there is separate cost for each attempt.
- **Institute-specific Criteria Differ:** NMAT eligibility criteria are the minimum standards which all candidates must meet. Institute-specific criteria Differ, and must be checked separately. Check details below.

After this introduction of NMAT by GMAC eligibility criteria 2026, the following sections explain each criterion in detail.

NMAT Eligibility Criteria 2026: Educational Qualification

Most important NMAT exam eligibility requirement is related to education qualifications. To take NMAT exam, graduation in any discipline is mandatory. Candidates must hold a Bachelor's degree in any discipline from a recognized university.

While NMAT doesn't have minimum percentage of marks in graduation, most good MBA colleges require a minimum of 50% marks in graduation. Remember, this percentage requirement may vary depending on the institute.

Candidates appearing in the final year of graduation are also eligible, provided they complete the degree before the admission deadline.

NMAT Eligibility Criteria 2026: Age Limit

There is no upper age limit for taking the NMAT exam. Candidates of any age can appear for the exam as long as they meet the educational qualification criteria. This makes NMAT a good option for working professionals who may like to change careers and apply for MBA after many years of experience.

NMAT Eligibility Criteria 2026: Number of Attempts

NMAT exam allows for retesting to improve exam scores. However, in one testing cycle (one year), a candidate can take the NMAT exam up to three times. This includes one initial attempt and up to two optional retakes. A minimum gap of 15 days must be maintained between two attempts to allow for adequate preparation. Candidates can use retakes strategically to improve their scores. The highest score among all attempts is considered for admission by participating institutes.

NMAT Eligibility Criteria 2026: Work Experience

Work experience is not mandatory to appear for NMAT exam. However, some MBA colleges may specify minimum work experience criteria, especially Executive MBA courses. So, it is

always better to check the requirements of the institutes and the programs you are interested in.

NMAT Eligibility Criteria 2026 PDF

NMAT Eligibility Criteria 2026 PDF download is available on NMAT official website and MBAUniverse.com. Click on the link below to download and save the document.

Meeting NMAT Eligibility? Check Next Steps

If you are meeting the above NMAT eligibility criteria, the next step is to register for the exam. NMAT 2026 Registration will be open from early August till mid-October, 2026. NMAT registration is a user-friendly process that can be completed on the NMAT official website mba.com/exams/nmat. Candidates begin NMAT registration process by creating an account, filling out the application form with personal and academic details, selecting preferred B-schools and exam date and paying the NMAT registration fees. Read complete [NMAT Registration Guide 2026](#).

Eligibility Criteria for NMAT Accepting Colleges

As mentioned above, while GMAC sets the basic eligibility to take the NMAT exam, each participating institute can have its own additional criteria related to academic background, minimum score or percentile, and work experience. Check eligibility criteria for top NMAT accepting colleges.

NMIMS Mumbai MBA Eligibility Criteria

- Must have Bachelor's degree with minimum 50% marks
- Candidates must apply separately to NMIMS University after registering for NMAT
- NMIMS does not accept retake scores; only the first attempt score is considered

XIM University Bhubaneswar MBA Eligibility Criteria

- Must have a three-year Bachelor's degree or equivalent in any discipline with at least 55% marks.
- Final year degree students can also apply, provided they complete the final examination by June 2026.
- Candidates need to apply separately to XIM University with their NMAT scores.

KJ Somaiya Institute of Management Mumbai MBA Eligibility Criteria

- Candidates must have a Bachelor's degree in any discipline from a recognized university with at least 50% aggregate marks. Final year students can also apply
- The institute accepts NMAT scores along with other exam scores (CAT, XAT, CMAT).
- Candidates need to apply separately to KJ Somaiya Institute of Management Mumbai with their NMAT scores.

SDA Bocconi Asia Center Mumbai Eligibility Criteria

- Requires a recognized undergraduate degree in any discipline
- No minimum percentage cutoff officially specified, but academic consistency is important
- Final year students are eligible
- Work experience is not mandatory, but valued
- SDA Bocconi conducts its own evaluation process along with NMAT scores

In summary, meeting the NMAT 2026 eligibility criteria is the first step toward taking NMAT exam and securing admission to top B-schools. Before registering for the exam, you should check the official NMAT 2026 eligibility criteria, set by exam conducting body - Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC). Read above article for NMAT eligibility conditions related to the educational qualifications, age limit, number of attempts, and other key requirements for appearing in NMAT 2026.