

Karnataka PGCET 2026 Exam Day Guidelines (June 14): Bell Timings, Dress Code, Do's and Don'ts

Karnataka PGCET Exam Day Guidelines 2026: The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) will conduct the [Karnataka PGCET 2026 exam](#) for MBA and MCA courses on **June 14, 2026 from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM**. KEA has released [PGCET 2026 Admit Card](#) and exam day guidelines including **Bell Timings, Dress Code, Dos and Don'ts** and other instructions. Candidates appearing for the MBA entrance exam must be thoroughly familiar with the official exam day instructions laid down by KEA. This complete Karnataka PGCET Exam Day Guidelines 2026 guide covers KEA's official **7-bell schedule** (First Bell 10:00 AM, Third Bell / exam start 10:30 AM, Last Bell 12:30 PM), the **mandatory dress code** (no shoes, no long-sleeved attire, Mangala Sutra and nose ring permitted, Janivara and Shivadhara allowed), documents required at the exam centre, prohibited items, the **100-question MBA exam pattern with no negative marking**, OMR filling rules, dos and don'ts, and last-minute preparation tips. Also check updates on [Karnataka PGCET Result 2026](#) and [Karnataka PGCET Counselling 2026](#).

Karnataka PGCET 2026 Exam: Key Highlights

Karnataka PGCET, also known as KEA PGCET, is the state-level postgraduate entrance exam that opens doors to MBA admission in over 170 government, university, and private B-schools across Karnataka, including Bangalore University, Mysore University, Mangalore University, VTU-affiliated colleges, and several reputed autonomous institutes.

Karnataka PGCET 2026 Exam Highlights

Exam Highlight	Details
What is Karnataka PGCET Full Form?	Karnataka Post Graduate Common Entrance Test
Who conducts PGCET exam?	Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) conducts PGCET exam
What is Karnataka PGCET MBA exam date 2026?	June 14, 2026 (10:30 AM to 12:30 PM)
What is mode of PGCET 2026 exam?	PGCET will be conducted as Paper-based test through OMR. Question paper will be of Objective Multiple Choice (MCQ) type.
What is Karnataka PGCET 2026 Eligibility Criteria?	Candidates should complete Graduation from a recognized university or college with 50% Marks
How many questions appear in Karnataka PGCET MBA Exam?	100 questions divided in 5 sections with 20 questions in each section

What is total time duration of Karnataka PG CET 2026 MBA Exam?	120 Mins (2 hours)
Which are top MBA Colleges Accepting Karnataka PG CET 2026 Scores?	Government and most Private MBA Colleges in Karnataka accept PG CET Scores. Check complete list below.
What is Karnataka PG CET 2026 official website?	cetonline.karnataka.gov.in/kea/pgcet2026

Karnataka PG CET 2026 Exam Bell Timings

The first Karnataka PG CET Exam Day Guidelines 2026 is related to exam timings. KEA has released Karnataka PG CET 2026 Bell Timings that cover exam reporting time, exam start and end timing. Check complete details below.

Sl. No.	BELL NUMBER	MORNING SESSION (MBA Exam)	AFTERNOON SESSION (MCA Exam)	PARTICULARS
	FIRST BELL	10.00 A.M.	2.00 P.M.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidates should be allowed to enter and occupy their seats in the examination hall, upon showing their Admission Tickets and Valid Identity Card. • The Invigilator should verify the Photograph pasted on the Admission Ticket with the Identity Card and the Nominal Roll with the candidate present for examination. • The Invigilator should distribute the OMR Answer Sheets ONLY to the candidates present in the examination hall. • The candidates have to write their Name on the OMR Answer Sheet. • Afterwards candidates have to carefully enter the PG CET Number and shade the respective circle on the OMR Answer Sheet. • The candidates should verify the PG CET No. written on the OMR Answer Sheet with that of the PG CET No. printed on the Admission Ticket.
	SECOND BELL	10.15 A.M.	2.15 P.M.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Deputy Chief Superintendent / Custodian should distribute the sealed question paper packet to room invigilators in the examination hall at

10.20 A.M. / 2.20 P.M.

- The Invigilator should LOUDLY ANNOUNCE by showing the sealed question paper packet to the candidates present in the examination hall:

"THE SEAL OF THE QUESTION PAPER PACKET IS FULLY INTACT. NOW, I REQUEST ANY TWO CANDIDATES PRESENT HERE TO CERTIFY THE SAME ON THIS PACKET, SO THAT I CAN OPEN THE SEAL OF THE QUESTION PAPER PACKET"

- Obtain signatures of any TWO candidates present in the examination hall.

- The Invigilator should open the Question Paper packet and distribute the question booklets in the prescribed manner ONLY at **10.25 A.M. / 2.25 P.M.**

- The candidates should carefully enter the Version Code of the Question Booklet and shade the respective circle on the OMR Answer Sheet.

- They should also enter the question booklet serial number on the OMR Answer Sheet and affix their signature on the bottom portion of the OMR Answer Sheet.

- **NOTE:** Only INVIGILATORS are authorized to open the seal on the question paper packet.

- Until the third bell is rung, the candidates should not be allowed either to look inside the question booklet or to start answering on the OMR answer sheet.

- The Invigilator should obtain signature of the candidates on the nominal roll and verify the same with the signature printed on the nominal roll.

THIRD BELL	10.30 A.M.	2.30 P.M.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidates should be allowed to open the question booklet and to start answering on the OMR answer sheet. • After this bell at 10.30 A.M. / 2.30 P.M., the candidates should not be allowed either to enter OR leave the examination hall till the completion of the session.
FOURTH BELL	11.30 A.M.	3.30 P.M.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a FIRST CAUTION BELL – TO INDICATE ONE HOUR OF EXAMINATION COMPLETED.
FIFTH BELL	12.00 NOON	4.00 P.M.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a SECOND CAUTION BELL – TO INDICATE THIRTY MINUTES ARE REMAINING FOR THE EXAMINATION TO END.
SIXTH BELL	12.25 P.M.	4.25 P.M.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a LAST CAUTION BELL and the Invigilators should inform all the candidates: "ONLY FIVE MINUTES ARE REMAINING FOR THE EXAMINATION TO END".
SEVENTH & LAST BELL	12.30 P.M.	4.30 P.M.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of the examination. • Soon after this bell, the Invigilator should first ensure that all the candidates have stopped answering on the OMR answer sheet. • The Invigilator should collect the OMR answer sheets as it is from the candidates. • IMPORTANT: Before allowing the candidates to leave the examination hall, the Invigilators must ensure that they have collected the OMR answer sheets from all the candidates. • The Invigilator should separate the TOP sheet of the OMR answer sheet (Office Copy) and retain the same. • The Invigilator should return the bottom sheet replica (CANDIDATE COPY) to the respective candidates, along with their question booklets.

Misdeeds to attract Disciplinary Actions

KEA has also issued warning for candidate not to indulge in malpractices. The following misdeeds will attract disciplinary actions and criminal prosecution:

- (a) Breach of silence.
- (b) Use of books, notes, manuscripts, etc., pertaining to the subject in the examination hall.
- (c) Talking or signaling to other candidates.
- (d) Candidates copying from the answer books of the other candidates or from other source.
- (e) Sending of OMR Answer Sheet or question paper out of the examination hall.
- (f) Impersonation.
- (g) Tearing of OMR Answer Sheet or any other examination misconduct.

KARNATAKA PGCET 2026 BELL TIMINGS: OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION

Government of Karnataka Karnataka Examinations Authority CIRCULAR					
Office of the Executive Director, Karnataka Examinations Authority, 18 th Cross, Malleshwaram, Sampige Road, BANGALORE – 560 012.					
PGCET-2026 Time Table and Schedule of Bell Timings for admission to MBA and MCA courses is as follows					
Date	Timings	Course	Number of questions	Total Marks	Each question carries one mark, no negative valuation
14-06-2026	10.30 am to 12.30 pm	MBA	100	100	
SUNDAY	2.30 pm to 4.30 pm	MCA	100	100	
SCHEDULE OF BELL TIMINGS					
This SCHEDULE should be observed scrupulously without any variation or scope for complaints whatsoever.					
Sl. No.	BELL NUMBER	MORNING SESSION	AFTERNOON SESSION	PARTICULARS	
1	FIRST BELL	10.00 A.M.	2.00 P.M.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The candidates should be allowed to enter and occupy their seats in the examination hall, upon showing their Admission Tickets and Valid Identity Card.▪ The Invigilator should verify the Photograph pasted on the Admission Ticket with the Identity Card and the Nominal Roll with the candidate present for examination.▪ The Invigilator should distribute the OMR Answer Sheets ONLY to the candidates present in the examination hall. The candidates have to write their Name on the OMR Answer Sheet.	

Karnataka PGCET 2026 Documents Required at Exam Centre

The next Karnataka PGCET Exam Day Guidelines 2026 is related documents. Candidates must carry the following Karnataka PGCET 2026 Documents required on June 14, 2026. Entry to the exam hall will not be permitted in the absence of these:

1. Karnataka PGCET 2026 Admit Card / Hall Ticket – A clear, legible printout downloaded from cetonline.karnataka.gov.in/kea/pgcet2026. Soft copies on mobile phones are not accepted.
2. One valid original photo ID proof issued by the Government of India. Acceptable IDs include:
 1. Aadhaar Card
 2. Voter ID Card
 3. Driving Licence

4. Passport
5. PAN Card
3. Two recent passport-size photographs, identical to the one uploaded during Karnataka PGCET 2026 registration (recommended as pre-cautionary measure for use, if required).
4. Two blue or black ink ballpoint pens (gel pens, fountain pens, and pencils are strictly prohibited for shading the OMR sheet, as they cause scanner rejection).
5. Category certificate, if applicable (SC/ST/OBC/PwD/EWS).

Place all documents in a clear, transparent file folder so that invigilators can verify them quickly during entry.

Karnataka PGCET 2026 Exam Dress Code: What to Wear

KEA has issued an important PGCET Exam Day Guidelines 2026 related to Dress Code. KEA has implemented a Karnataka PGCET 2026 Exam Dress Code for male and female candidates to prevent malpractice and the use of concealed electronic devices. Security personnel are authorised to deny entry for non-compliance.

Allowed (as per KEA Circular):

- Half-sleeve or short-sleeve shirts and T-shirts (plain, light fabric)
- Plain trousers, salwar-kameez, or kurta-pyjama (light, plain fabric)
- Slippers or low-heeled sandals
- **Janivara and Shivadhara** — explicitly permitted by KEA
- **Mangala Sutra and nose ring** — the only jewellery exceptions permitted inside the exam hall
- Religious headwear and religious attire — permitted only if candidate reports to the exam centre **2 hours before the exam begins** (8:30 AM for the MBA paper) for a separate screening process
- Hearing aids and cochlear implants for specially-abled candidates — permitted with **UDID card and valid medical certificate**; candidate must report 2 hours before the exam for separate screening

Not Allowed (as per KEA Circular):

- Long-sleeved dresses, shirts, kurtas, or tops of any kind
- Jackets, blazers, coats, sweaters, sweatshirts, or hoodies
- Any clothing that covers the head, ears, or face (other than approved religious headwear cleared through separate screening)
- Caps, scarves, stoles, or shawls

- **Shoes of any kind** — sports shoes, leather shoes, formal shoes, sneakers, or canvas shoes are all prohibited (KEA permits only slippers or low-heeled sandals)
- Footwear with thick soles or high heels
- Any jewellery or metal objects — chains, earrings, bangles, bracelets, rings, anklets, hairpins, brooches (Mangala Sutra and nose ring are the only exceptions)
- Wristwatches of any kind — analog, digital, or smartwatches
- Sunglasses or goggles
- Belts, wallets, handbags, purses, or pouches
- Clothing with large pockets, embroidery, metallic embellishments, or zippers

Important Note: KEA has authorised mandatory security screening at all Karnataka PG CET 2026 exam centres, including **AI-based facial recognition through a mobile app and CCTV surveillance**. Security personnel are authorised to deny entry for non-compliance with the dress code.

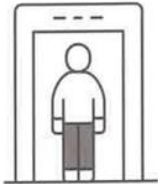
KARNATAKA PG CET 2026 PROHIBITED ITEMS & DRESS CODE: OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION



ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ
Karnataka Examinations Authority



PG CET & DCET 2026: PROHIBITED ITEMS & DRESS CODE



Candidates will undergo strict and mandatory security screening before being allowed to enter the CET examination centre. In addition, multiple identity verification processes may be conducted, including AI-based facial recognition through a mobile app and CCTV surveillance.

Under no circumstances candidates will be permitted to carry the following prohibited items inside the examination centre.

1. PROHIBITED ITEMS / DEVICES

a) TEXTS, STATIONERY



Texts (written or printed), notes, geometry box, / pencil box, plastic pouch, calculator, scale, writing paper, pen drives, eraser, log table, electronic pen/scanner, etc.

c) PERSONAL ITEMS



Other items like wallet, goggles, handbags, belt, cap, etc.

e) HIDING DEVICES



Any other item that can be used for unfair means by hiding communication devices like microchip, camera, Bluetooth device etc.

b) Modern communication devices



Any modern communication devices like mobile phone.

d) WRIST ITEMS



Any watch/wrist watch.

f) FOOD & DRINK



Any food items, water bottle, etc., whether

Items Strictly Prohibited Inside the Karnataka PG CET 2026 Exam Hall

The following items are banned from the exam hall. Any candidate found carrying these items risks immediate disqualification:

- Mobile phones, smartphones, smartwatches, fitness bands
- Calculators (scientific or basic), log tables, slide rules

- Bluetooth devices, earphones, microphones, hidden cameras
- Wristwatches (digital or analog) of any kind
- Books, notebooks, printed/written notes, study material
- Geometry box, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, scales, geometry tools
- Wallets, handbags, purses, pouches, backpacks
- Eatables, snacks, chewing gum, beverages
- Pen drives, electronic pens, any storage devices

Most [Karnataka PGCET 2026 exam centres](#) do not offer locker facilities. Avoid carrying valuables or electronic items altogether.

Karnataka PGCET 2026 Exam Day Do's

Candidates should follow these Karnataka PGCET Exam Day Guidelines 2026 related to Dos and Don'ts.

1. **Verify admit card details** – Cross-check your name, application number, photograph, exam centre address, and exam timings on the Karnataka PGCET 2026 hall ticket the night before.
2. **Pre-pack documents** – Keep the admit card, original photo ID, photographs, and two ballpoint pens ready in a transparent folder the night before, not on the morning of the exam.
3. **Sleep for at least 7–8 hours** the night before. A fresh, alert mind is your biggest asset in a 120-minute exam.
4. **Have a light, home-cooked breakfast** – Avoid heavy, oily, or unfamiliar food that may cause discomfort during the exam.
5. **Wear the prescribed dress code** to avoid any inconvenience or delay at the security check.
6. **Reach the centre by 9:00 AM** to clear biometric, document, and security checks without rush.
7. **Listen carefully to invigilator instructions** before the exam begins. Note the version code and serial number of the question booklet.
8. **Fill the OMR sheet correctly** – Use only blue/black ballpoint pen. Darken the bubble completely. Mark your version code, application number, and roll number accurately on the OMR.
9. **Attempt all 100 questions** – Since there is **no negative marking** in Karnataka PGCET 2026, every question is an opportunity to score. Make educated guesses where required.
10. **Stay calm and manage time** – Allocate roughly 70–75 minutes to attempt fresh questions, and reserve the last 10–15 minutes for review and unattempted questions.

Karnataka PG CET 2026 Exam Day Don'ts

1. **Do not arrive late** – Entry is allowed only between 10:00 AM (First Bell) and 10:30 AM (Third Bell / exam start). No entry will be permitted after 10:30 AM under any circumstances.
2. **Do not carry prohibited items** to the exam hall. Most centres lack lockers, so leave electronics at home or with a family member.
3. **Do not use pencils or gel pens** on the OMR sheet. They cause scanner rejection and your answers may not be evaluated.
4. **Do not mark two choices for the same question** – KEA will award zero marks for such questions on the Karnataka PG CET 2026 OMR sheet.
5. **Do not leave any question blank** – With no negative marking, attempting all questions maximises your score.
6. **Do not engage in unfair means** – Any malpractice, communication with other candidates, or use of unauthorised material will result in immediate disqualification and a possible ban.
7. **Do not forget to sign and place your thumb impression** on the Nominal Roll and OMR sheet at the designated place after the exam.
8. **Do not leave the seat without permission** – No breaks are allowed during the 2-hour exam. Visit the washroom before entering the hall.

Karnataka PG CET 2026 MBA Exam Pattern: Quick Recap

Section	No. of Questions	Marks
Proficiency in English Language	20	20
General Knowledge	20	20
Computer Awareness	20	20
Test of Reasoning & General Intelligence	20	20
Quantitative Analysis	20	20
Total	100	100

Each correct answer carries **1 mark**, and there is **no negative marking** in Karnataka PG CET 2026 for MBA. There is **no sectional time limit**. Read complete Karnataka [PG CET 2026 exam pattern](#).

OMR Sheet Filling: Critical Karnataka PG CET 2026 Exam Day Instructions

The OMR sheet is the most important aspect of Karnataka PG CET Exam Day Guidelines 2026, and backbone of your Karnataka PG CET 2026 score. KEA has laid down explicit instructions:

- Use only **blue or black ballpoint pen** to darken the bubbles.
- Darken the bubble **completely** — partial shading may not be detected by the scanner.
- Enter the **Version Code** and **Serial Number** of the question booklet on the Nominal Roll without any error.
- After completing the exam, affix your full signature at the designated place. Provide thumb impression if instructed by the invigilator.
- **Do not damage, fold, or stain** the OMR sheet — damaged sheets may be rejected.
- Do not use whiteners, correction fluid, or erasers.

Last-Minute Preparation Tips for Karnataka PG CET 2026 MBA

Candidates should utilize last few days and hours before exam wisely. Follow these tips to ensure exam day preparation.

- **Revise high-weightage topics** – Arithmetic, Algebra, Data Interpretation in Quant; grammar and vocabulary in English; static GK and business current affairs.
- **Brush up on Computer Awareness** – MS Office, internet basics, computer fundamentals, networking, and operating systems — often overlooked, but a high-scoring section for non-IT aspirants too.
- **Attempt 2–3 Karnataka PG CET previous year question papers** in exam-like conditions (10:30 AM – 12:30 PM) to build stamina and time-management skills.
- **Review current affairs of January–May 2026**, with focus on Indian economy, business, sports, awards, and books.
- **Practise OMR shading** on a sample sheet to avoid errors on exam day.

Read [Karnataka PG CET 2026 exam preparation guide](#).

After the Karnataka PG CET 2026 Exam: What Next

The Karnataka PG CET 2026 provisional answer key is expected to be released within a few days of the exam on cetonline.karnataka.gov.in/kea/pgcet2026. Candidates will be given a window to raise objections against the provisional key. The [Karnataka PG CET 2026 result](#) is expected in July 2026, followed by the [Karnataka PG CET 2026 Counselling process](#) conducted by KEA in two phases. Final admission to MBA programmes is based on PG CET rank, document verification, and seat allotment through the KEA online counselling portal.

Summary

Karnataka PG CET Exam Day Guidelines 2026: Karnataka PG CET 2026 on June 14, 2026 is a significant opportunity for MBA aspirants targeting Karnataka's top B-schools. KEA has released [PG CET 2026 Admit Card](#), guidelines including Bell Timings, Dress Code and Karnataka PG CET 2026 Exam Day Instructions. Candidates appearing for the MBA entrance exam must be thoroughly familiar with the Karnataka PG CET 2026 exam day instructions

laid down by KEA and published in this article. Also check updates on [Karnataka PG CET Result 2026](#) and [Karnataka PG CET Counselling 2026](#).

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