

MEDICAL STANDARDS AND PROCEDURE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION
FOR OFFICER ENTRIES INTO ARMY

1. Aim:

Aim of this literature is to familiarize the general population on medical standards for enrolment of candidates into Army through various types of entries. This literature also serves the purpose of placing information in public domain as per the policy of Information Commission under RTI Act -2005

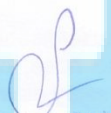
2. Introduction:

(a) The primary responsibility of the Armed Forces is defending territorial integrity of the nation. For this purpose Armed Forces should always be prepared for war. Armed Forces personnel undergo rigorous training in preparation for war. Armed Forces also assist civil authorities if required whenever the need arises like in the case of disasters. To carry out such tasks Armed Forces requires candidates with robust mental and physical health. Such candidates should also be capable of withstanding rigorous stress and strain of service conditions to perform their military duties in adverse terrain and uncongenial climate incl sea and air, in remote areas, in austere conditions with no medical facilities. A medically unfit individual due to disease/disability can not only drain precious resources but can also jeopardize lives of other members of the team during operations. Therefore only medically fit candidates are selected who emerge fit to be trained for war.

(b) The Armed Forces Medical Services are responsible for ensuring selection of 'Medically Fit' individuals into the Armed Forces.

(c) All Armed Forces personnel regardless of occupational specialty, unit assignment, age or gender should have a basic level of general 'Medical fitness' when inducted into service. This basic level of fitness can then be used as a benchmark to train personnel for further physically demanding occupational specialties or unit assignments. This will enhance deployable combat readiness.

(d) Medical examinations are carried out meticulously by Armed Forces Medical Services Medical Officers. These Medical Officers are well oriented to specific working conditions of Armed Forces after undergoing basic military training. Medical examinations are finalized by the Board of Medical Officers. The decision of the Medical Board is final. In case of any doubt about any disease/disability/injury/genetic disorder etc noticed during enrolment/commissioning, the benefit of doubt will be given to State.


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Medical Standards.

3. Medical standards described in the following paragraphs are general guidelines. They are not exhaustive in view of the vast knowledge of disease. These standards are subject to change with advancement in the scientific knowledge and change in working conditions of Armed Forces due to introduction of new eqpt/trades. Such changes will be promulgated from time to time by policy letters by competent authorities. Medical Officers, Spl Medical Officers and Medical Boards will take appropriate decisions based on following guidelines and principles.

4. To be deemed 'Medically fit', a candidate must be in good physical and mental health and free from any disease/syndrome/disability likely to interfere with the efficient performance of military duties in any terrain, climate, season incl sea and air, in remote areas, in austere conditions with no medical aid. Candidate also should be free of medical conditions which require frequent visit to medical facilities and use of any aid / drugs.

- (a) It will, however, be ensured that candidate is in good health. There should be no evidence of weak constitution, imperfect development of any system, any congenital deformities/ diseases/syndrome or malformation.
- (b) No swelling/s including tumours/cyst/swollen lymph node/s anywhere on the body. No sinus/es or fistula/e anywhere on the body.
- (c) No hyper or hypo pigmentation or any other disease/syndrome/disability of the skin.
- (d) No hernia anywhere on the body.
- (e) No scars which can impair the functioning and cause significant disfigurement.
- (f) No arterio-venous malformation anywhere in/on the body.
- (g) No malformation of the head and face including asymmetry, deformity from fracture or depression of the bones of the skull; or scars indicating old operative interference and malformation like sinuses and fistulae etc.
- (h) No impairment of vision including colour perception and field of vision.
- (j) No hearing impairment, deformities/disabilities in ears vestibule-cochlear system.
- (k) No impediment of speech due to any aetiology.
- (l) No disease/disability/ congenital anomaly/syndrome of the bones or cartilages of the nose, or palate, nasal polyps or disease of the naso-Pharynx, uvula and accessory sinuses. There should be no nasal deformity and no features of chronic tonsillitis.

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- (m) No disease /syndrome/disability of the throat, palate tonsils or gums or any disease or injury affecting the normal function of either mandibular joint.
- (n) No disease /syndrome/disability of the heart and blood vessels incl congenital, genetic, organic incl hypertension, and conduction disorders.
- (o) No evidence of pulmonary tuberculosis or previous history of this disease or any other disease /syndrome/disability chronic disease of the lungs and chest including allergies /immunological conditions, connective tissue disorders, musculoskeletal deformities of chest.
- (p) No disease of the digestive system including any abnormality of the liver, pancreas incl endocrinal, congenital, hereditary or genetic diseases /syndromes and disabilities.
- (q) No diseases/syndrome/disability of any endocrinal system, reticuloendothelial system.
- (r) No diseases/syndrome/disability of genito-urinary system including malformations, atrophy/hypertrophy of any organ or gland.
- (s) No active, latent or congenital venereal disease.
- (t) No history or evidence of mental disease, epilepsy, incontinence of urine or enuresis.
- (u) No disease/deformity/syndrome of musculo-skeletal system and joints incl skull, spine and limbs.
- (v) There is no congenital or hereditary disease/ syndrome/disability.

5. Psychological examinations will be carried out during SSB selection procedure. However, any abnormal traits noticed during medical examination will be a cause for rejection.

6. Based on the above mentioned guidelines usual medical conditions which lead to rejection are:-

- (a) Musculo-skeletal deformities of spine, chest and pelvis, limbs e.g. scoliosis, torticollis, kyphosis, deformities of vertebrae, ribs, sternum, clavicle, other bones of skeleton, mal-united fractures, deformed limbs, fingers, toes and congenital deformities of spine.
- (b) Deformities of Limbs: Deformed limbs, toes and fingers, deformed joints like cubitus valgus, cubitus varus, knock knees, bow legs, hyper mobile joints, amputated toes or fingers and shortened limbs.
- (c) Vision and eye: Myopia, hypermetropia, astigmatism, lesions of cornea, lens, retina, squint and ptosis.
- (d) Hearing, ears, nose and throat: Sub standard hearing capability, lesions of pinna, tympanic membranes, middle ear, deviated nasal septum, and congenital abnormalities of lips, palate, peri-auricular sinuses and lymphadenitis/adenopathy of neck. Hearing capacity should be 610 cm for Conversational Voice and Forced Whispering for each ear.

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(e) Dental conditions:-

- (i) Incipient pathological conditions of the jaws, which are known to be progressive or recurrent.
- (ii) Significant jaw discrepancies between upper and lower jaw which may hamper efficient mastication and/or speech will be a cause for rejection.
- (iii) Symptomatic Temporo-Mandibular Joint clicking and tenderness. A mouth opening of less than 30 mm measured at the incisal edges, Dislocation of the TMJ on wide opening.
- (iv) All potentially cancerous conditions.
- (v) Clinical diagnosis for sub mucous fibrosis with or without restriction of mouth opening.
- (vi) Poor oral health status in the form of gross visible calculus, periodontal pockets and/or bleeding from gums.
- (vii) Loose teeth: More than two mobile teeth will render the candidate unfit.
- (viii) Cosmetic or post-traumatic maxillofacial surgery/trauma will be UNFIT for at least 24 weeks from the date of surgery/injury whichever is later.
- (ix) If malocclusion of teeth is hampering efficient mastication, maintenance of oral hygiene or general nutrition or performance of duties efficiently.

(f) Chest: Tuberculosis, or evidence of tuberculosis, lesions of lungs, heart , musculo skeletal lesions of chest wall.

(g) Abdomen and genitor-urinary system: Hernia, un-descended testis, varicocele, organomegaly, solitary kidney, horseshoe kidney & cysts in the kidney/liver, Gall bladder stones, renal and ureteric stones, lesions/deformities of urogenital organs, piles, sinuses and lymphadenitis/pathy.

(h) Nervous system: Tremors, speech impediment and imbalance.

(j) Skin: Vitiligo, haemangiomas, warts, corns, dermatitis, skin infections growths and hyperhydrosis.

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7. **Height and Weight:** Height requirement varies as per the stream of entry. Weight should be proportionate to height as per the chart given below:-

Age (yrs)	Minimum weight for all ages	Age: 17 to 20 yrs	Age: 20+01 day - 30 yrs	Age: 30 + 01 day - 40 yrs	Age: Above 40 yrs
Height (cm)	Weight (Kg)	Weight (Kg)	Weight (Kg)	Weight (Kg)	Weight (Kg)
140	35.3	43.1	45.1	47.0	49.0
141	35.8	43.7	45.7	47.7	49.7
142	36.3	44.4	46.4	48.4	50.4
143	36.8	45.0	47.0	49.1	51.1
144	37.3	45.6	47.7	49.8	51.8
145	37.8	46.3	48.4	50.5	52.6
146	38.4	46.9	49.0	51.2	53.3
147	38.9	47.5	49.7	51.9	54.0
148	39.4	48.2	50.4	52.6	54.8
149	40.0	48.8	51.1	53.3	55.5
150	40.5	49.5	51.8	54.0	56.3
151	41.0	50.2	52.4	54.7	57.0
152	41.6	50.8	53.1	55.4	57.8
153	42.1	51.5	53.8	56.2	58.5
154	42.7	52.2	54.5	56.9	59.3
155	43.2	52.9	55.3	57.7	60.1
156	43.8	53.5	56.0	58.4	60.8
157	44.4	54.2	56.7	59.2	61.6
158	44.9	54.9	57.4	59.9	62.4
159	45.5	55.6	58.1	60.7	63.2
160	46.1	56.3	58.9	61.4	64.0
161	46.7	57.0	59.6	62.2	64.8
162	47.2	57.7	60.4	63.0	65.6
163	47.8	58.5	61.1	63.8	66.4
164	48.4	59.2	61.9	64.6	67.2
165	49.0	59.9	62.6	65.3	68.1
166	49.6	60.6	63.4	66.1	68.9
167	50.2	61.4	64.1	66.9	69.7
168	50.8	62.1	64.9	67.7	70.6
169	51.4	62.8	65.7	68.5	71.4
170	52.0	63.6	66.5	69.4	72.3
171	52.6	64.3	67.3	70.2	73.1
172	53.3	65.1	68.0	71.0	74.0
173	53.9	65.8	68.8	71.8	74.8
174	54.5	66.6	69.6	72.7	75.7
175	55.1	67.4	70.4	73.5	76.6
176	55.8	68.1	71.2	74.3	77.4
177	56.4	68.9	72.1	75.2	78.3
178	57.0	69.7	72.9	76.0	79.2
179	57.7	70.5	73.7	76.9	80.1

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Age (yrs)	Minimum weight for all ages	Age: 17 to 20 yrs	Age: 20+01 day - 30 yrs	Age: 30 + 01 day - 40 yrs	Age: Above 40 yrs
Height (cm)	Weight (Kg)	Weight (Kg)	Weight (Kg)	Weight (Kg)	Weight (Kg)
180	58.3	71.3	74.5	77.8	81.0
181	59.0	72.1	75.4	78.6	81.9
182	59.6	72.9	76.2	79.5	82.8
183	60.3	73.7	77.0	80.4	83.7
184	60.9	74.5	77.9	81.3	84.6
185	61.6	75.3	78.7	82.1	85.6
186	62.3	76.1	79.6	83.0	86.5
187	62.9	76.9	80.4	83.9	87.4
188	63.6	77.8	81.3	84.8	88.4
189	64.3	78.6	82.2	85.7	89.3
190	65.0	79.4	83.0	86.6	90.3
191	65.7	80.3	83.9	87.6	91.2
192	66.4	81.1	84.8	88.5	92.2
193	67.0	81.9	85.7	89.4	93.1
194	67.7	82.8	86.6	90.3	94.1
195	68.4	83.7	87.5	91.3	95.1
196	69.1	84.5	88.4	92.2	96.0
197	69.9	85.4	89.3	93.1	97.0
198	70.6	86.2	90.2	94.1	98.0
199	71.3	87.1	91.1	95.0	99.0
200	72.0	88.0	92.0	96.0	100.0
201	72.7	88.9	92.9	97.0	101.0
202	73.4	89.8	93.8	97.9	102.0
203	74.2	90.7	94.8	98.9	103.0
204	74.9	91.6	95.7	99.9	104.0
205	75.6	92.5	96.7	100.9	105.1
206	76.4	93.4	97.6	101.8	106.1
207	77.1	94.3	98.6	102.8	107.1
208	77.9	95.2	99.5	103.8	108.2
209	78.6	96.1	100.5	104.8	109.2
210	79.4	97.0	101.4	105.8	110.3

(a) Weight for height charts given above is for all categories of personnel. This chart is prepared based on the BMI. The chart specifies the minimum acceptable weight that candidates of a particular height must have. Weights below the minimum specified will not be acceptable in any case. The maximum acceptable weight of height has been specified in age wise categories. Weights higher than the acceptable limit will be acceptable only in the case of candidates with documented evidence of body building, wrestling, and boxing at the National level. In such cases the following criteria will have to be met.

- (i) Body Mass Index should be below 25.
- (ii) Waist Hip ratio should be below 0.9 for males and 0.8 for females.
- (iii) Waist Circumference should be less than 90 cm for males and 80 cm for females.
- (vi) All biochemical metabolic parameters should be within normal limits.

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Note: The height and weight for candidates below 17 yrs will be followed as per guidelines by 'Indian Academy of Paediatrics growth charts for height, weight and BMI for 05 yrs to 16 yrs old children'.

8. Following investigations will be carried out for all officer entries and for pre-commission training academies. However examining medical officer/ medical board may ask for any other investigation deemed fit.

- (a) Complete haemogram
- (b) Urine RE
- (c) Chest X-ray
- (d) USG abdomen and Pelvis.

9. Certain standards vary depending on age and type entry viz stds for vision as follows:-

Parameter	Standards : 10+2 entries, NDA(Army), TES and equivalent	Graduate & equivalent entries: CDSE, IMA, OTA, UES, NCC, TGC & equivalent	Post graduate & equivalent entries: JAG, AEC, APS, RVC, TA, AMC, ADC, SL & equivalent
Uncorrected vision(max allowed)	6/36 & 6/36	6/60 & 6/60	3/60 & 3/60
BCVA	Rt 6/6 & Lt 6/6	Rt 6/6 & Lt 6/6	Rt 6/6 & Lt 6/6
Myopia	≤ -2.5 D Sph (including max astigmatism $\leq \pm 2.0$ D Cyl)	≤ -3.50 D Sph (including max astigmatism $\leq \pm 2.0$ D Cyl)	≤ -5.50 D Sph (including max astigmatism $\leq \pm 2.0$ D Cyl)
Hypermetropia	$\leq +2.5$ D Sph, (including max astigmatism $\leq \pm 2.0$ D Cyl)	$\leq +3.50$ DSph (including max astigmatism $\leq \pm 2.0$ D Cyl)	$\leq +3.50$ D Sph (including max astigmatism $\leq \pm 2.0$ D Cyl)
Lasik/equivalent surgery	Not permitted	Permitted *	Permitted*
Colour perception	CP-II	CP-II	CP-II

***LASIK or Equivalent kerato-refractive procedure**

(a) Any candidate who has undergone any kerato-refractive procedure will have a certificate/operative notes from the medical centre where he/she has undergone the procedure, specifying the date and type of surgery.

Note: Absence of such a certificate will necessitate the Ophthalmologist to make a decision to reject the candidate with specific endorsement of "Unfit due to undocumented Visual Acuity corrective procedure".

(b) In order to be made FIT, the following criteria will have to be met:

- (i) Age more than 20 yrs at the time of surgery

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- (ii) Minimum 12 months post LASIK
- (iii) Central corneal thickness equal to or more than 450 μ
- (iv) Axial length by IOL Master equal to or less than 26 mm
- (v) Residual refraction of less than or equal to +/- 1.0 D incl cylinder, (provided acceptable in the category applied for).
- (vi) Normal healthy retina.
- (vii) Corneal topography and ectasia markers can also be included as addl criteria.

Candidates who have undergone radial keratotomy are permanently unfit

10. Form to be used for med board proceedings is AFMSF-2A.

11. Procedure of Medical Examination Board: Medical Examination Board for selection for officers and pre-commissioning training academies are convened at designated Armed Forces Medical Services Hospitals near Service Selection Boards (SSB). These Medical Boards are termed as 'Special Medical Board' (SMB). Candidates who clear SSB interview are referred to Armed Forces Medical Services Hospital with identification documents. Staff Surgeon of Hospital will identify the candidate, guide the candidate to fill the relevant portions of the AFMSF-2, organize investigations and examination by Medical, Surgical, Eye, ENT, Dental specialists. Female candidates are examined by Gynaecology Specialist also. After examination by Specialists, the candidate is brought before Medical Board. Medical Board once satisfied with findings of Specialists will declare fitness of candidate. If any candidate is declared 'Unfit' by SMB, such candidates can request for 'Appeal Medical Board' (AMB). Detailed procedure for AMB will be provided by President SMB.

12. Miscellaneous aspects:

- (a) Clinical methods of examinations are laid down by O/O DGAFMS.
- (b) Female candidates will be examined by female medical officers and specialists. In case of non availability they will be examined by Medical Officer in the presence of female attendant.
- (c) Fitness following surgery: Candidates may be declared fit after surgery. However, there should not be any complication; scar should be healthy, well healed and attained required tensile strength. The candidate shall be considered fit after 01 year of open/laparoscopic surgeries for hernia and twelve weeks of laparoscopic abdominal surgery for choleystectomy. For any other surgery, fitness shall be considered only after 12 weeks of the laparoscopic surgery and 12 months after an open surgery. Candidate shall be unfit for any surgeries for injuries, ligament tear, and meniscus tear of any joint, irrespective of duration of surgery.

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