

MBA—Preparing For FMS

Tips And Guide

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Faculty of Management Studies, University of Delhi conducts an entrance exam for admission to its full-time MBA programmes: MBA & MBA (MS). FMS-DU started in 1954 and since then it is a premium institute for management education in India. It is constantly ranked amongst the top ten B-Schools of India. Therefore, getting admission in its MBA programme is considered to be highly prestigious for a management aspirant.

FMS has affiliations with the top universities of the world like University of Wisconsin at Whitewater and University of Trinidad. FMS is located in the North Campus of University of Delhi and also has its own premises in South Campus. It conducts its own entrance test for admission to its MBA programmes. Candidates who clear the written test are then called for Personal Interview and General Discussion after which the final selection is done.

Planning for FMS

The process of clearing the examination can prove to be a challenging one considering the fact, that FMS is one of the most elite management schools in India.

FMS entrance test has basically the following four sections: Quantitative Ability, Verbal Ability, English Comprehension and Analytical Ability & Logical Reasoning. It is mandatory to score more than 50% marks in every section for you to get a call for the next round. Selection is made on the basis of overall percentage of marks achieved by the students.

- **Excellent Time Management Skills :** This goes a long way in helping an aspirant prepare for the FMS exam as time management is most crucial. It is important to prioritise the time to be spent on different sections of the test.
- **Strengthen the Weak Areas :** An individual may find one section of the test to be more difficult than the other, however the key is not to despair. For example, even if the aspirants feel that their English language skills are not up to the mark, they can refer and read a lot of newspapers, magazines and so on. It would be a good idea to concentrate on fill-in-the-blanks, spelling errors, origin of words,

analogies, phobias, synonyms and antonyms. Similarly, if its area is Quantitative Ability where the individual is lagging behind, all efforts should be made to refer to the correct books and practise as much as possible.

- **Mock Tests :** Taking mock/ sample test is extremely important in FMS entrance where speed is an important criterion for passing the test. After completing the mock test, it is best to analyse the paper thoroughly for identifying the mistakes so that they can be avoided in the future. These days, there are numerous reliable online portals which help aspirants take a mock test online and give them the results instantly.
- **Coaching Institute :** Joining a coaching institute is always a beneficial thing to do as they expose the students to various sections of the test, familiarise them with the content and character of the test most importantly helps in building the overall confidence level of an individual.
- **Accuracy :** In the FMS entrance test, there is negative marking i.e. deduction of one mark for every wrong answer, hence accuracy is of vital significance. Mock tests can tremendously help the students in building up their accuracy for attempting the FMS exam.

Requirements, Procedure and Format of FMS Entrance Examination (As per the FMS website)

Eligibility for appearing in FMS

1. Candidates applying for admission to the first year of MBA (Full-Time) Programme must have pursued at least a 3-year Bachelor's Degree Programme after 12 years of formal schooling in any of the following disciplines. The minimum requisite percentage of marks in different disciplines is as follows :
 - Arts, Commerce or Social Sciences - 50%
 - Sciences - 55%
 - Mathematics or Statistics - 60%
 - Medicine, Engineering or Technology - 60% / CGPA of at least 6.00 in a scale of 10.00



OR

- Post Graduate Degree or 2nd Degree examination after 10+2+3 scheme, securing at least 60% marks.

Note :

1. Candidates appearing for the final examination of Bachelor's / Post Graduate Degree examinations may also apply.
2. There is no reservation whatsoever for the graduates of Delhi University or the residents of Delhi.

Mode of Test :

FMS is a paper and pencil based test. Students are expected to use only HB pencils for answering the question paper.

Test Duration :

Duration of FMS entrance exam is 2 hours.

Pattern of Test :

The previous admission tests usually comprise the following basic areas:

- Quantitative ability
- Verbal ability
- English comprehension
- Analytical ability & logical reasoning.

The merit list is prepared on the basis of total percentile rank scores. At least 50th percentile rank score in each section of the test is required by a candidate to qualify for being short-listed for GD and Interview. The percentile rank will be calculated on the basis of the category of the candidate. Therefore, inter-category transfer or comparison is not possible.

Negative Marking :

Deduction of one mark for every wrong answer.

Test Centres :

Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Kolkata, Mumbai and Nagpur.

Registration for FMS

There are two ways in which candidates can register themselves for the FMS exam:

A. Mode-I (Physical Form)

Information Bulletin along with the application form can be purchased from the designated branches of State Bank of India located in the cities specified in the advertisement for the admission test. The cost of the Information Bulletin also includes the admission test fee.

At the designated SBI branches, applicants have to fill-in a printed Bank payment counter-foil (supplied by FMS) with their Name, Name of the Branch and the required amount. The bank will return two portions of the counter-foil to the candidate along with a packet

containing the Information Bulletin and the application form.

The candidate is required to attach one stamped counter-foil, in original, with the duly filled-in application form while sending it to FMS. Application forms without the counter-foil or with the counter-foil showing incorrect amount will be rejected and the amount received will not be refunded.

B. Mode-II (Online Registration)

Visit the FMS website <http://www.fms.edu>

Those who want to apply online would be directed to the Online Registration

page. Fill in the required information correctly. Verify the data entered. After the registration information is confirmed, no data can be modified.

Once the relevant information of the candidate is filled in, the candidate will be directed to the Internet payment gateway of SBI. The candidate will have to make payment through credit card, debit card. Every candidate making application online must carry three important things: digital photograph, digital signature and digital thumb impression (all in soft form).

Comparative Analysis of CAT/MAT/XAT				
	CAT	MAT	XAT	FMS
Level of the Test	1. CAT affiliated B-Schools (like IIMs and some other top B-Schools) are ranked a tad higher.	1. MAT affiliated B-Schools are mostly 2nd tier group of schools.	1. XAT affiliated B-Schools are considered to be generally ranked higher compared to MAT.	1. FMS is one of the premier institutes of the country and hence the test is considered to be of the same level as CAT, XAT etc.
Test Pattern	2. CAT has a total of 3 sections in the test and the total number of questions is 60-70.	2. MAT has a total of 5 sections in the test and the total number of questions is 200.	2. XAT has 3 sections in the test and the total number of questions may be more than 100.	2. FMS has 4 sections and the number of questions is likely to be 175.
Test Duration	3. The test duration in CAT is 2 hours and 15 minutes plus an additional 15 minutes for tutorials.	3. The duration of MAT is 2 hours and 30 minutes.	3. The test duration of XAT is 2 hours 30 minutes.	3. Test duration for FMS exam is 2 hours.
Mode of Test	4. CAT is a computer-based test.	4. In MAT, students have the option of attempting either a paper-pencil based test or computer-based test.	4. XAT is a paper-pencil based test.	4. FMS is a paper-pencil based test.
Eligibility Criteria	5. Candidate must hold a Bachelor's Degree, with at least 50% marks or equivalent CGPA.	5. Candidate should be a graduate; those who are in their final year of graduation can also apply for MAT for provisional admission subject to completion of their graduation.	5. Candidates, who are graduates and are in their final year of graduation, can apply. Candidates with less than 50% marks in graduation are also eligible to apply.	5. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Candidates, who are graduates and are in their final year of graduation, can apply. Candidates need Arts, Commerce or Social Sciences - 50% ● Sciences - 55% ● Mathematics or Statistics - 60% ● Medicine, Engineering or Technology - 60%/CGPA of at least 6.00 in a scale of 10.00
Frequency of the Test	6. CAT is conducted once a year.	6. MAT is conducted 4 times in a year— February, May, September and December.	6. XAT is conducted once in a year, during the month of January.	6. FMS is conducted once in a year.

Conclusion

Speed is essence in the FMS exam, and candidates should be well aware of this. The FMS exam gives more focus on a good knowledge of vocabulary;

hence students are advised to revise this before exam. To summarise, make sure you move across the paper fast without getting bogged down. Revise the fundamentals thoroughly, and choose the questions you attempt with care. Make

sure you clear the sectional cut-offs and ensure accuracy.

Always remember that cracking B-School examination is not a big deal, it just requires hard work, dedication, and systematic, smart preparation.