CLAT (Common Law Admission Test) –

Introduction

The **Common Law Admission Test (CLAT)** is one of the most important national-level entrance exams in India for admission into **undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) law programs**. CLAT is the gateway to the **National Law Universities (NLUs)** and many other top private and government law colleges.

CLAT is a highly competitive exam and requires strong reading ability, logical thinking, legal awareness, and time management. In this guide, we will cover the complete CLAT exam details including eligibility, syllabus, exam pattern, marking scheme, selection process, and preparation strategy.

What is CLAT?

CLAT stands for **Common Law Admission Test**. It is conducted by the **Consortium of National Law Universities (NLU Consortium)**.

CLAT is conducted for admission into:

- **UG Program:** 5-Year Integrated LLB (BA LLB, BBA LLB, BCom LLB, etc.)
- **PG Program:** LLM

Courses Offered Through CLAT

UG (5-Year Integrated Law Programs)

- BA LLB
- BBA LLB
- BCom LLB
- BSc LLB
- BSocSc LLB (in some NLUs)

PG (LLM Program)

- LLM (1-Year)

Top Colleges Through CLAT

NLUs (National Law Universities)

Some of the top NLUs include:

- NLSIU Bangalore
- NALSAR Hyderabad
- WBNUJS Kolkata
- NLUD Delhi *(does not accept CLAT for UG; it conducts AILET)*
- NLU Jodhpur
- GNLU Gandhinagar
- NLU Bhopal
- NLU Lucknow
- HNLU Raipur
- NLU Odisha
- NLU Patna
- NLU Assam
- NLU Visakhapatnam
- NLU Trichy

CLAT score is also accepted by many private universities and law colleges.

CLAT Selection Process

The CLAT admission process includes:

1. **CLAT Exam**
2. **Result + Rank**
3. **Counselling by CLAT Consortium**
4. **Seat allotment in NLUs**
5. **Document verification**
6. **Final admission**

CLAT Important Timeline

- **Notification** – July/August
- **Registration** – July to November
- **Admit Card** – November/December

- **CLAT Exam** – December
- **Result** – December
- **Counselling** – December/January

(Exact dates change every year.)

CLAT Eligibility Criteria

For UG (5-Year LLB)

- Passed **Class 12 (10+2)** from a recognized board
- Minimum marks:
  - **General/OBC/PwD/NRI/PIO/OCI:** 45%
  - **SC/ST:** 40%

For PG (LLM)

- LLB degree or equivalent
- Minimum marks:
  - **General/OBC/PwD/NRI/PIO/OCI:** 50%
  - **SC/ST:** 45%

Age Limit

- Currently, there is **no upper age limit** for CLAT.

CLAT Exam Pattern (UG)

CLAT is a **pen-and-paper based test** (offline) conducted in one session.

Exam Duration

- **120 minutes (2 hours)**

Total Questions

- **120 questions** *(as per the latest pattern)*

Total Marks

- **120 marks**

CLAT Marking Scheme

- **Correct answer:** +1 mark
- **Wrong answer:** -0.25 marks (negative marking)
- **Unattempted question:** 0 marks

CLAT UG Section-Wise Pattern

CLAT UG paper is divided into **5 sections**:

1. **English Language**
2. **Current Affairs including General Knowledge**
3. **Legal Reasoning**
4. **Logical Reasoning**
5. **Quantitative Techniques**

CLAT Syllabus (Section-Wise)

1) English Language

- Reading comprehension passages
- Vocabulary-based questions
- Inference and conclusion
- Tone and central idea
- Grammar-based questions
- Word meaning in context

2) Current Affairs including GK

- National and international current affairs
- Government schemes
- Important events and awards

- Sports and appointments
- Summits and reports
- Static GK (limited but useful)

3) Legal Reasoning

- Legal principles and facts
- Legal aptitude questions
- Constitutional and legal awareness
- Rights and duties
- Legal maxims (basic)
- Case-based reasoning

(No deep law knowledge is required for UG, but legal awareness helps.)

4) Logical Reasoning

- Critical reasoning passages
- Arguments and assumptions
- Statement and conclusion
- Cause and effect
- Strengthen/weaken arguments
- Syllogisms (basic)
- Analogy and relationships

5) Quantitative Techniques

- Basic mathematics (Class 10 level)
- Ratios and proportions
- Percentages
- Profit and loss
- Time and work
- Time, speed and distance
- Averages
- Data interpretation (graphs, charts, tables)

CLAT PG Exam Pattern (LLM)

Total Questions

- 120 questions (objective)

Duration

- 2 hours

Subjects

- Constitutional Law
- Jurisprudence
- Administrative Law
- Contract
- Tort
- Criminal Law
- International Law
- Family Law
- Property Law

(Pattern may vary as per consortium updates.)

Skills Tested in CLAT

CLAT mainly tests:

- Reading speed and comprehension
- Analytical thinking
- Legal aptitude and awareness
- Logical reasoning
- Time management
- Accuracy under pressure

How to Prepare for CLAT (Step-by-Step Roadmap)

Step 1: Start with Reading

- Newspaper reading daily (The Hindu/Indian Express)
- Editorial reading for comprehension
- Improve vocabulary

Step 2: Build Section-Wise Concepts

- English: RC practice daily
- GK: Daily current affairs + monthly revision
- Legal reasoning: Principles + practice passages
- Logical reasoning: Critical reasoning sets
- Quant: Basics + DI practice

Step 3: Practice Previous Year Papers

- Solve past CLAT papers
- Understand question style
- Improve speed and accuracy

Step 4: Mock Tests

- Weekly mocks initially
- Increase to 2–3 mocks per week
- Analyse every mock thoroughly

Step 5: Revision

- Daily revision for GK
- Monthly current affairs notes
- Legal terms and key concepts

Study Material and Tests

A good CLAT coaching program provides:

- Updated CLAT-level study material
- Topic-wise question banks
- Legal reasoning passages
- Current affairs monthly PDFs
- Full-length mock tests
- Sectional tests
- Doubt-solving sessions

- Performance tracking

How EMGC CLAT Coaching Can Help

EMGC CLAT coaching offers a complete preparation plan for students aiming for top NLUs. With experienced mentors, structured classes, strong reading-based practice, updated current affairs support, legal reasoning training, and regular mock tests, EMGC helps students build accuracy, speed, and confidence.