**About NATA**

National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) measures the aptitude of the applicant for specific field of study, i.e. Architecture. The test measures drawing and observation skills, sense of proportion, aesthetic sensitivity and critical thinking ability, that have been acquired over a long period of time, and that are related to specific field of study, i.e. Architecture.  
  
Applicants desirous of taking admission to First year of undergraduate course in Architecture (Bachelor of Architecture) in India take NATA. NATA scores are used by admissions authorities of different Government, Govt. Aided & unaided schools / colleges of Architecture, to provide common measures for comparing the qualifications of applicants.  
  
All schools / colleges of Architecture, Government, Government aided, University Departments, private unaided, including colleges affiliated to self-financed Deemed Universities and Private Universities, or any department of Architecture within a college, requires that its applicants take the NATA.

**Registration Process**

Approach the Test Center located at college / school of Architecture at a location convenient to the candidate  
with the documents listed below and test fees.  
• Fill up and submit the form  
• Pay the fees through Demand Draft.  
• Get the online registration form filled (http://NATA.in)  
• Get receipt cum appointment voucher with date and time from the Test Center.  
  
**Documents required for Registration**

1. Std. X or equivalent exam marklist – attested copy
2. One recent passport size colour photograph, to be pasted on the registration form.
3. Any valid document of identification bearing photograph and signature of the candidate – attested copy
4. Test fees in the form of demand draft in favour of ‘Council of Architecture’ payable at New Delhi.
5. Valid email address. (In case you do not possess one, we suggest you to open email account on one of the free service providers such as yahoo, hotmail, rediffmail, gmail, etc. PLEASE DO NOT REVEAL YOUR PASSWORD TO ANY ONE.)

**Number of Attempts**

NATA can be given as many number of times as desired by the candidate. For every attempt, however, test fees have to be paid afresh in full. The marklist will show the average of marks scored by the candidate in his last attempt and his previous valid score.

**Exam Pattern**

The test is in two parts. A paper based drawing test for two hours and computer based online aesthetic sensitivity test for one hour.  
The test measures aptitude of the candidate through two sections – a paper based section for drawing and computer based section for aesthetic sensitivity.  
  
**Drawing Test**  
This is a two hour paper where candidate has to attempt two questions. One of the questions has two sub  
questions. The drawing aptitude is judged on the following aspects –  
  
• Ability to sketch a given object proportionately and rendering the same in visually appealing manner.  
• Visualising and drawing the effects of light on the object and shadows cast on surroundings.  
• Sense of perspective drawing.  
• Combining and composing given three dimensional elements to form a building or structural form.  
• Creating interesting two dimensional composition using given shapes and forms.  
• Creating visual harmony using colours in given composition.  
• Understanding of scale and proportions.  
• Drawing from memory through pencil sketch on themes from day to day experiences.  
  
**Aesthetic Sensitivity Test**  
This is computer based test of one hour where candidate has to answer 40 multiple choice questions.  
The aesthetic sensitivity test measures perception, imagination and observation, creativity and communication  
along with architectural awareness and comprises of –  
  
• Visualising three diemnsional objects from two dimensional drawings.  
• Visualising different sides of three dimensional object.  
• Indentifying commonly used materials and objects based on their textural qualities.  
• Analytical reasoning.  
• Mental Ability.  
• Imaginative comprehension and expression.  
• Architectural awareness.  
  
**The Scoring Process**  
The drawing paper will be examined by the designated examiners over the internet in absence of the candidate and marks will be uploaded to NATA server. The drawing papers are scanned and uploaded to NATA server for the purpose, within four hours of printing the question paper. Usually three different examiners, from different parts of India, independently examine each question and their marks are averaged. NATA administrator reserves the rights to moderate the marks given by the examiners to achieve parity.  
  
During the computer based test, with adaptive testing, an examinee is administered a set of questions with a difficulty level that is specifically designed to match the examinee's ability level. The mathematical process for calculating a score in this situation incorporates the statistical properties of the questions, the examinee's performance on the questions, and the number of questions that are answered.  
  
**How the Sections of the Test Are Scored**  
  
**Drawing Section**  
  
• The primary emphasis in scoring the drawing section is on the candidate’s drawing, imagination and observation skills. The candidate’s sense of proportion & perspective is also evaluated together with sense for colour composition.  
Aesthetic Sensitivity Section  
  
• The candidate’s score will depend on his / her performance on the questions given and on the number of questions answered in the time allotted.  
  
• This section is computer adaptive, meaning that the computer selects questions based on the candidate’s performance on preceding questions (When correct answer is given, next question will be of higher difficulty level whereas, if wrong answer is given next question is of lower difficulty level) and on the requirements of the test design. Test design factors that influence which questions are presented to the candidate include:  
  
o The statistical characteristics (including difficulty level) of the questions already answered  
o The required variety of question types  
o The appropriate coverage of content.  
o The final score depends on average difficulty level of all questions and of those questions  
  
answered correctly. e.g. person with correct answer for less number of questions of higher difficulty level may score higher marks than someone who answers more number of questions correctly but of lower difficulty level.  
  
o Average time allotted to answer the question is 90 seconds and the countdown begins 30 seconds before the time ends, however, for certain questions depending upon their difficulty level, time allotted to provide the answer may be reduced to 60 seconds or may be extended to 120 seconds.  
  
o There is no Negative marking in this test.  
  
**Demo Online Exam**  
http://www.nata.in/cms/LinkClick.aspx?link=http%3a%2f%2fwww.nata.in%2fpractice%2fpt1.htm&tabid=56&mid=378

**FAQ's**

**1. Is giving NATA compulsory for taking admission to any Architectural College in India?**  
  
**Ans**: Yes it is; as prescribed by the Council of Architecture, a statutory body under MHRD created under the Architects Act of 1972, prescribed with the authority to regulate architectural education in India.  
  
**2. By giving NATA, do I get automatic admission into any Architectural College in India?**  
  
**Ans:** No. NATA is just an Aptitude Test. On receiving the Score Card, the candidate will have to contact various admission authorities with NATA Score Card and other details (as prescribed by the respective Admission Authorities). Admission in India lies with the State (usually under Directorate of Technical Education for that state). Usually around summer, Admission Authorities will bring out admission notices in National & Regional newspapers. The candidate may contact schools of architecture directly for information as to when the admission process is scheduled to begin.   
  
**3. What is the last date for giving NATA?**  
  
**Ans:** Technically, 30th September. NATA runs continuously from 1st January till 30th September, usually on working days. The dates on which NATA is available depends on the Test Centre. Candidates may request Test Centres for the preferred dates. If the candidate is available for NATA only on a particular date (or range of dates) that a particular Test Centre is not able to give, the candidate may register at any other Test Centre throughout India that is able to administer NATA on that date / time.  
TEST CENTRE LOCATION HAS NO BEARING ON CHOICE OF ADMISSION AND APPEARING AT A PARTICULAR CENTER FOR THE TEST DOES NOT IMPLY THAT THE CANDIDATE COULD BE GIVEN ANY PRIORITY FOR ADMISSION TO THAT INSTITUTE. The logical last date for giving NATA for candidates seeking admission this year itself would be 5 days before the last date for submitting application for admission under a particular  Admission Authority. This varies from authority to authority.  
  
**4. What is the meaning of Admission Authority?**  
  
**Ans:**Admission Authority is a body, authorised by the State Govt. / University to conduct and monitor admissions in that area. This may vary from the Directorate of Technical Education itself, a major University, a body created by an association of Architectural Schools in that State (eg. MASA), or any other Admission Authority recognised by the state. The candidate may be advised to check up in advance with Schools of Architecture where he / she is applying for the details of the admission  
authority and other information on the exact admission process.   
  
**5. How do I practice for NATA? Where can I take tuitions?**  
  
**Ans:** NATA is designed in such a manner that prior tutelage is not required. COA-NIASA is aware that candidates will have no or minimal knowledge of architecture. NATA measures aptitude of the candidate in his / her aesthetic sensibilities (3D visualisation, logical understanding, etc.) and drawing skills that are in-built in every candidate and developed right from childhood to the present day. There will be certain questions on architecural awareness wherein candidates may be required to  
identify building of national or international importance. The candidate is expected to know about these structures through General Knowledge. The candidate may also prefer to update his knowledge on this by some reading, internet browsing or even by talking to architectural students, architects and other knowledgable persons. In all probability, this will not be required. There will be a model NATA interface available on the NATA website to help candidates get acquainted with the visual format of the test. There will be no model questions available as such. The language medium of the test will be English. Minimal computer skills are required (pointing and clicking Mouse buttons).   
  
**6. I am a foreign student / NRI. Can I take the test from my country of residence?**  
  
**Ans**: No. The candidate will have to register in India and give the test from any of the designated Test centres of his / her choice in India. The qualification process for giving NATA stands the same. Admission will be given by the respective admission authorities according to the rules layed down by it for students of such category.  
  
**7. If I belong to a particular quota (SC/ST/NT/etc.), do I get score waiver during admission?**  
  
**Ans:** This issue lies with the Admission Authority in the particular state of application for B.Arch.   
  
**8. Are there any additional fees payable for training, etc?**  
  
**Ans:** THERE ARE NO OTHER FEES PAYABLE. IF ANY CENTRE INSISTS ON ADDITIONAL FEES OR  
PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING PROGRAM, PLEASE REPORT SUCH INCIDENCE TO COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURE OR NIASA.  
  
**9. Do I have to appear for NATA at the college where I aspire to take admission?**  
  
**Ans:**No. You may appear for NATA at any Test center convenient to you. Based on the score you may seek admission to any college where you are eligible to seek admission.