



TELANGANA STATE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION: HYDERABAD
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS) ON NORMALIZATION PROCESS

Q1. Why is a single notification exam conducted in multiple sessions?

Ans. Generally TSPSC notifications get large number of applications. To conduct exams for these large numbers of applicants with a limitation of availability of Computers in Test centers across the state, the exam is conducted in multiple sessions based on the applications received for certain examinations.

Q2. Are the question papers different when examination is conducted in multiple sessions?

Ans. Yes, the question papers contain different questions for different sessions of the Examination with the same Syllabus.

Q3. Why Normalization is necessary?

Ans: When an examination is conducted in multiple sessions for the same syllabus, there are chances of variation in the difficulty level of the questions in various sessions. Thus, the score obtained by the candidates of same caliber is likely to vary. In order to address the variation in the difficulty level of question papers a process called statistical normalization of marks is adopted. This ensures level playing field for all the candidates.



Q4. What is the Normalization formula followed by TSPSC?

Ans: The following formula is used by the Commission to calculate final normalized score of candidates in the multi-session examinations. This formula is largely used by various organizations and recruitment agencies viz., Staff Selection Commission (SSC) & Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) etc., and also recommended by the Experts Committee constituted by the Commission.

$$\widehat{M}_{ij} = \frac{\bar{M}_t^g - M_q^g}{\bar{M}_{ti} - M_{iq}} (M_{ij} - M_{iq}) + M_q^{gm}$$

Where:

\widehat{M}_{ij} = Normalized marks of j^{th} candidate in the i^{th} shift.

\bar{M}_t^g = is the average marks of the top 0.1% of the candidates considering all shifts (number of candidates will be rounded-up).

M_q^g = is the sum of mean and standard deviation marks of the candidates in the examination considering all shifts.

\bar{M}_{ti} = is the average marks of the top 0.1% of the candidates in the i^{th} shift (number of candidates will be rounded-up).

Q5. Will Normalization process result in decrease or increase in the marks as compared to the actual raw marks Scored?

Ans. Yes. It completely depends on the statistical parameters calculated based on the performance of candidates in the session of the candidates as well as candidates of other sessions.



Q6. What is Raw (Actual) Score & Normalized Score?

Ans. Raw Score of a candidate is calculated based on number of correct responses to the questions. The Normalized Score for each candidate is the score obtained after applying the Normalization formula.

Q7. How Normalization is done when an examination is conducted in multiple sessions and papers?

Ans. Normalization formula is applied to sessions whose syllabus, marks criteria & subject are same. Hence, General Studies & General Ability (GSGA) and subject papers are normalized separately and then the Normalized scores are added to arrive at total marks scored by a candidate in the said exam.

Q8. Is there any Human intervention while following Normalization process?

Ans. No, the whole process of calculating normalized scores is system driven based on the algorithm designed using the normalization formula. Once the data is entered in the system, the computer application runs the program for all candidates and shares final normalized scores.

Q9. Are there any chances of candidates getting less than zero marks or more than maximum marks after applying normalization?

Ans. Yes, after normalization there are absolute chances of a candidates getting negative marks if he/she has performed very poorly in easy question paper session. Similarly, if a candidate performs excellent in tough question paper session, then he/she may get more than maximum marks.