

Test Code : PHB : (Short Answer Type) 2026 - 2027

Junior Research Fellowship in Physics and Applied Mathematics

The candidates for Junior Research Fellowship in Physics and Applied Mathematics will have to write Two Papers – Test PHA (objective type) in the forenoon session and Test PHB (short answer type) in the afternoon session.

The PHB test booklet will consist of three parts. The candidates are required to answer Part I (compulsory) and any one between Parts II & III.

The syllabus for the test is as follows.

PART-I

Mathematical and Logical Reasoning

Syllabus

B.Sc. Pass Mathematics Syllabus of Indian Universities

PART-II

Physics

Syllabus

1. Classical Mechanics

Mechanics of a particle and system of particles, Scattering in a central field, Lagrange's equations and their applications, Hamilton's equations, Canonical transformations, Special theory of relativity, Small oscillations, Vibrations and acoustics.

2. Electromagnetic Theory

Electrostatics, Magnetostatics, Maxwell's equations, Gauge transformations, Poynting's theorem, Wave equation and plane waves, Radiating system and scattering.

3. Statistical Physics and Condensed Matter Physics

Statistical basis of thermodynamics, Ensembles – microcanonical, canonical and grand canonical, Quantum statistics, Phase transitions, Statistical fluctuations, Free electron theory, Band theory of electrons, Semiconductor physics, Transport phenomena, Magnetism, Superconductivity.

4. Quantum Mechanics and Quantum Field Theory

Schrödinger wave equation, General formalism of wave mechanics, Exactly solvable eigenvalue problems for various potentials, Approximation methods, Scattering theory, Time dependent perturbation theory, Symmetries and conservation laws, Relativistic quantum mechanics, Quantum field theory – scalar and spinor fields, Quantum electrodynamics.

5. Elementary Particles

Elementary particles, Weak and strong interactions, Selection rules, CPT theorem, Symmetry principles in particle physics.

PART-III

Mathematics

Syllabus

1. Linear Algebra

Vector space; Linear transformation; Matrices; Properties of eigenvalues and eigenvectors; Diagonalizability of matrices, Jordan canonical form, Hermitian and unitary matrices; Linear operators; Minimal polynomial; Spectral decomposition; Rank; System of linear equations.

2. Abstract Algebra

Sets; Relations and mappings; Groups; Rings; Fields.

3. Real analysis

Functions of single and several variables; Proper and improper integrals; Lebesgue measure, Lebesgue integration and their properties; Absolute continuity; Fourier series; Integral transform; Metric space, normed linear space, L_p spaces, Banach space, Hilbert space.

4. Differential Equations

Existence and uniqueness of solutions of initial value problems for first order ordinary differential equations; Linear differential equation, ordinary and singular points, series solution, Sturm-Liouville's problem; Special functions; System of ordinary differential equations; Nonlinear dynamical systems: equilibrium points and their stability analysis, Lyapunov function, bifurcation diagram; Partial differential equation up to second order.

5. Continuum Mechanics

Kinematics of fluid, equation of continuity, irrotational motion, velocity potential; Dynamics of ideal fluid, Eulerian and Lagrangian equations of motion, stream function, sources, sinks and doublets, vortex, surface waves, boundary layer.

6. Functions of Complex Variables

Analytic function; Taylor and Laurent series; Singularities and their classification, Branch-point; Contour integration, Cauchy's residue theorem; Analytic continuation; Entire function; Uniform convergence; Properties of uniformly convergent series, power series.

7. Classical Mechanics

Mechanics of a particle and system of particles; Lagrange's equations and their applications; Hamilton's principle and Hamilton's equation; Canonical transformation; Poisson bracket.