Indian Army JAG Entry Scheme: Complete Guide for Law Graduates to Join Defence Services

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Are you a law graduate with a dream of serving the nation? The Indian Army offers an exclusive opportunity through the **Judge Advocate General (JAG) Entry Scheme**, allowing law professionals to join the armed forces as commissioned officers in the **legal branch**. The JAG Entry provides direct induction into the Indian Army without any written examination.

In this comprehensive guide by **Victor Growth Defence Academy, Kochi**—Kerala's most trusted defence coaching centre—we explain everything you need to know about the **Indian Army JAG Entry Scheme**, including eligibility, application process, salary, selection procedure, and more.

What is the Indian Army JAG Entry Scheme?

The **Judge Advocate General (JAG) Entry** is a **Short Service Commission (SSC) officer entry** in the **Indian Army's legal branch**. Under this scheme, **LLB graduates** are directly commissioned as officers after successfully clearing the **SSB Interview** and medical examination. This entry is ideal for young law graduates seeking a prestigious career in the defence services.

Why Choose JAG Entry?

- **Direct SSB Entry** – No written examination
- Opportunity to work as a legal advisor within the Indian Army
- Serve the nation as a **Commissioned Officer**
- Permanent Commission (PC) option available later
- Attractive salary, allowances, and benefits
- Prestige and honour of wearing the Army uniform

Eligibility Criteria for JAG Entry Scheme

Criteria	Requirement
Nationality	Indian citizen (or as specified by the official notification)
Age Limit	21 to 27 years (Both dates inclusive)

Criteria	Requirement
Educational Qualification	– LLB Degree (3-year/5-year course) – Minimum 55% aggregate marks – CLAT PG score mandatory (latest year) – Eligible for Bar Council registration
Marital Status	Unmarried (Marriage not permitted during training)

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Vacancies in JAG Entry Scheme

The Indian Army releases a small number of vacancies for each JAG entry cycle:

- **Men:** Approx. 5
- **Women:** Approx. 2
- **Total:** Approx. 7 vacancies per course

Note: Vacancies may vary based on official notifications.

Selection Process for Indian Army JAG Entry

1. **Online Application Submission**
   Submit your application via the official website: www.joinindianarmy.nic.in
2. **Shortlisting of Candidates**
   Based on **CLAT PG score**. Shortlisted candidates receive SSB call letters.
3. **SSB Interview (5 Days)**
   Conducted at Allahabad, Bhopal, Bangalore, or Kapurthala. Includes:
   - Stage I: Screening Test (OIR + PPDT)
   - Stage II: Psychology Tests, Group Tasks, Personal Interview
4. **Medical Examination**
   For candidates recommended by SSB.
5. **Final Merit List**
   Based purely on **SSB marks**. CLAT score is only for shortlisting.
6. **Training at OTA Chennai**
   Selected candidates undergo 49 weeks of military training.

Training Details

- **Location:** Officers Training Academy (OTA), Chennai
- **Duration:** 49 weeks
- **Certification:** Post Graduate Diploma in Defence Management and Strategic Studies (University of Madras)
- **Cost of Training:** Entirely borne by Indian Army

Note: Candidates must remain unmarried during training.

Salary, Pay Scale & Perks

Rank	Pay Level	Basic Pay (₹)
Lieutenant	Level 10	₹56,100 – ₹1,77,500
Captain	Level 10B	₹61,300 – ₹1,93,900
Major	Level 11	₹69,400 – ₹2,07,200
Lt Colonel	Level 12A	₹1,21,200 – ₹2,12,400

- **Military Service Pay (MSP):** ₹15,500 per month
- **Stipend during Training:** ₹56,100 per month
- **Additional Allowances:** Siachen Allowance, High Altitude Allowance, Uniform Allowance, Children's Education Allowance, Hostel Subsidy, Free Ration, Transport Allowance, and Insurance Cover of ₹1 crore.

How to Apply for JAG Entry?

1. Visit www.joinindianarmy.nic.in
2. Register/Login at Officer Entry section
3. Fill out the **JAG Entry Application Form**
4. Upload necessary documents (LLB Marksheet, CLAT PG Scorecard, etc.)
5. Submit and download the application form printout

Important: No offline applications are accepted.

When to Apply?

Indian Army generally releases the **JAG Entry Notification** twice a year:

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- **April Batch (Applications open in June-July of previous year)**
- **October Batch (Applications open in January-February)**

Career Growth & Promotion in JAG Branch

Rank	Promotion Timeline
Lieutenant	On commissioning
Captain	2 years of service
Major	6 years of service
Lt Colonel	13 years of service
Colonel & Above	Based on selection and service record

Work Role in Judge Advocate General Branch

Officers in the **JAG Branch** act as legal advisors to the Indian Army on military, disciplinary, and legal matters. Responsibilities include:

- Drafting legal documents and handling court cases
- Advising in courts-martial
- Handling contracts and agreements
- Advising on military law

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❓ FAQs – Indian Army JAG Entry Scheme

🔹 What is JAG Entry in Indian Army?

JAG Entry is a direct entry scheme for **Law Graduates** to join the Indian Army as **Short Service Commissioned Officers** in the legal branch.

🔹 Is there a written exam in JAG Entry?

No. Candidates are shortlisted based on **CLAT PG score** and then directly called for **SSB Interview**.

🔹 What is the age limit for JAG Entry?

21 to 27 years as on the cutoff date mentioned in the official notification.

🔹 How many vacancies are there in JAG Entry?

Usually, around **5 seats for men** and **2 seats for women**, but it varies slightly each cycle.

🔹 Can women apply for JAG Entry?

Yes. Both **male and female law graduates** are eligible to apply.

🔹 What is the duration of training?

49 weeks at **Officers Training Academy (OTA), Chennai**.

🔹 What is the salary after JAG Entry?

Starting pay is ₹56,100 per month (Basic Pay), plus allowances and perks as a **Lieutenant**.

🔹 Is Permanent Commission available in JAG Entry?

Yes. After serving under **Short Service Commission (10 years extendable to 14 years)**, officers may apply for **Permanent Commission** based on eligibility.

🔹 When is the JAG Entry notification released?

Typically, **twice a year** – around **June-July** and **January-February**.

❓ Ready to Serve as a Legal Officer in the Indian Army?

Join **Victor Growth Defence Academy**, Kerala's trusted name for **SSB Coaching**, and let your dream of wearing the Indian Army uniform become a reality.

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