

IIM-B rolls out admission process

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bangalore: Notwithstanding the tech glitches which plagued CAT, the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIM-B) announced the admission process to the Post Graduate Programme in Management (PGP) for the 2010 batch.

This process is based on cumulative data on the CAT applicants which includes past academic performance, CAT score, performance in the interview and work experience. The selection criteria and weightage given to various parameters are based on data from previous admissions as well as inputs from IIM-B faculty body and other stakeholders. The admission committee fixes these criteria and weightage at the beginning of each admission cycle before looking at candidates' information to avoid any bias.

SELECTION PROCESS

In the two-phase process, the first phase is applied to all eligible candi-



dates who appear for CAT to determine those qualifying candidates who will be called for the Personal Interview (PI). During the half-day interview, candidates have to write a short note in 30 minutes on a topic given by IIM-B. Topics range from current affairs, economic and business affairs to sports. Subsequently, two interviewers will evaluate each candidate's performance based on the writing and personal interview.

PHASE 1

The candidates' percentage scores in the 10th and 12th board exams will be adjusted by dividing each such score by the 90th percentile score obtained in that board. The database of 10th and 12th scores of all CAT applicants of the past two years are identified by the 90th percentile score for each 10th and 12th board for this purpose. For all candidates in the first shortlist, the weightage for the remaining components (each of them being standardized) are fixed as: CAT = 20, 10th board = 15, 12th board = 10, Bachelors degree = 15.

PHASE 2

Three elements of evaluation during the PI process — note content, note style and PI — and average of scores given by two interviewers will be considered. All candidates give three confidential reference letters from employers or faculty and this is considered in PI evaluation. The work experience score will be multiplied by

the quality of experience score, as evaluated by the interviewing panel.

The note content, note style, and the personal interview scores, after standardization within interview panels, is added to the pre-PI total to arrive at the final aggregate score. The final offers of admission are made strictly on the basis of ranks in each category.

ADMISSION TO GMAT

A separate process is used for processing applications from candidates for GMAT. A candidate must have stayed abroad for at least 18 months in the preceding three years (Jan 2007 to Dec 2009) and should not be in a position to appear for CAT 2009.

The first short-list of applicants is done through percentile cut-offs as used for the general category in the CAT route. The final decision for each candidate is taken on the basis of detailed discussion on recommendations and assessments of strengths and weaknesses of each candidate.