MBA ONE STOP · IMAT

IMAT (IIM Mumbai): what is confirmed, what is not, and how to prepare

IMAT for IIM Mumbai executive MBAs: confirmed dates, fee, route and interview, what is unpublished, and a prep route from CAT, GMAT and GRE basics.

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What IIM Mumbai has confirmed

IMAT is the IIM Mumbai Admission Test. It is IIM Mumbai's own test, used only for its own programmes: the Executive MBA in Wealth Management, the MBA-BPGP (online/blended) and the PGPEx-EIM. It is not a national exam, and other institutes do not use it. This note carries only what IIM Mumbai's own pages state.

Item	What IIM Mumbai states
What it is	An online exam based on the CAT exam pattern
Mode	Home-proctored
Size	100 marks and 90 to 120 minutes (MBA-BPGP FAQ)
Alternative route	For the Executive MBA, IMAT is not compulsory. You can take the home-proctored IMAT, or submit a valid CAT, GRE or GMAT score. Either route is followed by a personal interview
Fee	Rs 3,000, non-refundable, stated for the Executive MBA in Wealth Management
Executive MBA eligibility	Graduates from any discipline with at least two years of post-qualification experience

What IIM Mumbai has not published

Watch out. IIM Mumbai has not published the IMAT paper pattern. The only statement is that the test is based on the CAT pattern, for 100 marks and 90 to 120 minutes. This note does not describe IMAT sections or marking, because there is nothing official to describe.

- Not published: section names, number of questions, marking scheme, negative marking, and rules for non-MCQ items.
- Not stated: how long an IMAT score is valid and how many times you may attempt IMAT.
- Not stated: a fee for programmes other than the Executive MBA in Wealth Management. The MBA-BPGP and PGPEx-EIM pages we opened show none.
- Not shown: closing dates for the Executive MBA. Its page shows the application window as open without dates.

Treat any coaching-site claim about IMAT sections or negative marking as unconfirmed unless it cites an IIM Mumbai page. Prepare in a way that works whatever the paper contains.

Dates differ by programme

Programme	IMAT date	Other dates	Experience and eligibility
Executive MBA in Wealth Management	8 November 2026	Interviews 25 to 27 November. Tentative result 1 December 2026	Graduate in any discipline with at least 2 years of post-qualification experience
MBA-BPGP (online/blended), Batch 3	22 November 2026	Applications 1 August to 15 November 2026	Bachelor's with 50% (45% for SC/ST/PwD), 3 years of relevant experience by 31 October 2026, and a CAT, GMAT or GRE taken since June 2021, or a cleared IMAT
PGPEx-EIM	11 October and 29 November 2026	Applications opened 1 September 2026	Not in the pages we opened

As of 6 November 2026, the 8 November sitting is 2 days away, 22 November is 16 days away and 29 November is 23 days away. MBA-BPGP applications close in 9 days. The 11 October PGPEx-EIM sitting has passed.

Watch out. 29 November is also the CAT 2026 date. If you plan to sit CAT that day, check with IIM Mumbai whether the PGPEx-EIM offers another sitting.

Do you need IMAT at all?

- Executive MBA: a valid CAT, GRE or GMAT score is an accepted alternative to IMAT. IMAT is optional.
- MBA-BPGP: you need a CAT, GMAT or GRE taken since June 2021, or a cleared IMAT.
- CAT 2026 will not help for the November sittings. CAT is on 29 November 2026 and results are likely in the first week of January 2027.

Example. The MBA-BPGP asks for 3 years of relevant experience by 31 October 2026. You joined your first full-time job on 15 September 2023. A friend joined on 15 December 2023. Who meets the experience rule, assuming the work counts as relevant?

1. Three years before 31 October 2026 is 31 October 2023, so you must have started on or before that date.
2. 15 September 2023 is before 31 October 2023. By 31 October 2026 you have 3 years and 46 days.
3. 15 December 2023 is after 31 October 2023. Your friend reaches 3 years on 15 December 2026, which is 45 days too late.

Answer: You meet the rule. Your friend does not, by 45 days. This is the MBA-BPGP rule; the Executive MBA states 2 years of post-qualification experience with no cut-off date on its page.

Example. The MBA-BPGP counts a CAT, GMAT or GRE taken since June 2021. Which of these qualify: a GMAT on 18 March 2021, a GRE on 2 February 2023, a CAT on 27 November 2022?

1. The cut-off is 1 June 2021.
2. 18 March 2021 is before the cut-off, so it does not qualify.
3. 27 November 2022 and 2 February 2023 are after it, so both qualify.

Answer: The CAT and the GRE qualify. The March 2021 GMAT does not. Check the exact wording on your programme's page before you decide.

A preparation route built on CAT, GMAT and GRE fundamentals

IIM Mumbai says only that IMAT follows the CAT pattern. We cannot tell you what is in it, so build the fundamentals that CAT, GMAT and GRE share. The three blocks below are skill areas, not IMAT sections.

Skill block	What to practise	Practice material
Quant fundamentals	Arithmetic, percentages, ratios, averages, algebra, number basics, geometry basics	CAT QA sets; GMAT and GRE quant for word problems
Reading and verbal	Passages, summarising an argument, vocabulary in context, sentence correction	CAT VARC; GMAT Verbal; GRE verbal
Data and logic	Tables, charts, caselets, arrangements, puzzles	CAT DILR; GMAT Data Insights

Example. IMAT is for 100 marks and 90 to 120 minutes. What average pace per mark does that give?

1. Fastest case: 90 x 60 = 5,400 seconds; 5,400 / 100 = 54 seconds a mark.
2. Slowest case: 120 x 60 = 7,200 seconds; 7,200 / 100 = 72 seconds a mark.

Answer: 54 to 72 seconds a mark, or 0.9 to 1.2 minutes. Do not turn this into a question count. IIM Mumbai has published neither a question count nor the marks per question.

Example. You have 16 days to the 22 November sitting and can give 2.5 hours a day. Split the time 40% quant, 30% reading and verbal, 30% data and logic.

1. Total time = 16 x 2.5 = 40 hours.
2. Quant = 0.40 x 40 = 16 hours.
3. Reading and verbal = 0.30 x 40 = 12 hours. Data and logic = 0.30 x 40 = 12 hours.
4. Check: 16 + 12 + 12 = 40.

Answer: 16, 12 and 12 hours. Shift the weights toward your weakest block after a first timed set. The 40-30-30 split is only a starting point.

Run timed practice sets of CAT, GMAT or GRE-style questions at 90 minutes first, then at 120. IIM Mumbai gives a range, so you should be ready for either end of it. After each set, log every miss as a concept gap, a slip or a time problem.

The interview and the home-proctored sitting

- The Executive MBA route ends in a personal interview whether you use IMAT or a CAT, GRE or GMAT score. Interviews are listed for 25 to 27 November 2026.
- Prepare a 90-second answer to 'Why this programme, and why now?' that uses your own work history.
- Be ready to explain every role and gap on your CV in one sentence each.
- Home-proctored tests usually need a working webcam, a stable connection, a quiet room and a valid ID. Confirm the exact requirements in IIM Mumbai's booking instructions.

□ Decide your route: IMAT, or a valid CAT, GRE or GMAT score.
□ Confirm the IMAT date for your own programme, not another programme's.
□ Check the application fee on your programme's page. Rs 3,000 is stated only for the Executive MBA in Wealth Management.
□ Check your work experience against your programme's rule.
□ Book the home-proctored slot and test your setup a day earlier.

Original study notes by MBA One Stop. Exam patterns, dates and fees are from each exam body’s own pages as checked in November 2026; confirm on the official site before you act. Not affiliated with any exam body. https://mbaonestop.com/notes/imat-guide