

**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION,
PROVINCIAL COUNCILS AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT**

**Limited Competitive Examination for
Recruitment to Grade III of the Sri Lanka
Planning Service - 2026**

APPLICATIONS are called from Sri Lankan citizens who have satisfied the qualifications stipulated in this notification for the Limited Competitive Examination to fill 24 vacancies in Grade III of the Sri Lanka Planning Service on limited basis.

The application for this examination has been published on the website of the Department of Examinations Sri Lanka, www.doenets.lk, under the "Online Applications – Recruitment Exams / E.B. Exams" section within "Our Services". Applications can only be submitted online. Receipt of online applications will be open from April 20, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. and will close on May 18, 2026 at 9.00 p.m.

Officers must submit a copy of the application to the Head of the Institution for inclusion in the personal file. They must present a copy of the application certified by the Head of the Institution and a service confirmation letter at the interview.

The applicants must bear any adverse effects caused by the delay in submitting applications until the closing date.

This examination will be conducted by the Commissioner General of Examinations in Colombo in July 2026, subject to the regulations prescribed by the Public Service Commission. The Commissioner General of Examinations reserves the power to postpone or cancel this examination, subject to the regulations of the Public Service Commission.

1. In this notification, 'Appointing Authority' means the Public Service Commission, and 'Service' means the Sri Lanka Planning Service, unless specifically mentioned otherwise.
2. Method of Recruitment :
A certain number of candidates, determined by the Appointing Authority, based on the order of merit and the number of available vacancies, from among those who have appeared for all three papers of the written examination and have secured at least 40% or more of the marks prescribed for each paper, will be called for an interview for verification of

qualifications. The qualifications of those candidates will be verified by an interview board approved by the Public Service Commission. No marks will be allocated for the interview.

The number of appointments to be made through this recruitment and the effective date of such appointments shall be determined as per the order of the Public Service Commission. The Public Service Commission reserves the power to fill any number of vacancies or all available vacancies. Furthermore, in the event that the number of candidates who have obtained equal marks for the final vacancy or the final few vacancies, exceeds the number of available vacancies, the decision regarding the filling of such vacancies shall be made by the Public Service Commission, in accordance with Section 92 of the Procedural Rules of the Public Service Commission published in the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, No. 2310/29 dated 14.12.2022.

3. Conditions of Service and Employment :

- i. This appointment shall be subject to the provisions of the Minute of the Sri Lanka Planning Service, published in the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 1670/32 dated 10.09.2010, including any amendments already made or to be made thereto in the future, Procedural Rules of the Public Service Commission published in Gazette Extraordinary No. 2310/29 dated 14.12.2022, the Establishments Code of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Financial Regulations of the Government and other government regulations, circulars, and instructions, along with any amendments issued from time to time in relation to them.
- ii. This appointment is permanent. However, appointees shall be subject to a probation period of one year, and they will be confirmed in their appointment at the end of the probation period only if all requirements are successfully fulfilled during that time.
- iii. This appointment is pensionable. Appointees must be subject to any policy decision taken by the Government regarding the pension scheme in the future. Furthermore, appointees must contribute to the Widows' and Orphans'

Pension Scheme / Widowers' and Orphans' Pension Scheme and pay contributions as prescribed by the Government from time to time.

- iv. The language medium mentioned by the applicant in the application to sit for the examination shall be the language medium in which they qualify for appointment.
- v. The appointment of any person who fails to report for duty on the date specified in the letter of appointment, without prior written notification of an acceptable reason, shall be cancelled.
- vi. In accordance with the provisions of Public Administration Circular No. 18/2020 dated 16.10.2020 and its consequent circulars, appointees must acquire the relevant Official Language Proficiency.
- vii. The appointees must pass the first efficiency bar examination as stated in the Service Minute before the lapse of 03 years from the date of appointment.

4. Salary Scale :

According to the provisions of Public Administration Circular No. 10/2025 dated 25.03.2025, the monthly salary scale applicable to this post is Rs. 82,150 - 10 x 2,400 – 8 x 2,940 - 17 x 3,900 – 195,970/- (SL 1 – 2025). In addition to this, you are entitled to other allowances paid by the Government to public officers from time to time.

5. Qualifications :

5.1. Educational Qualifications :

Possession of a degree offered by a foreign or state university recognized by the University Grants Commission, or a degree offered by a university established by an Act of Parliament in Sri Lanka, or a degree recognized under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978.

5.2. Experience :

Applicants must have been confirmed in their appointment and have satisfied qualifications

mentioned in 5.1 above on or before the date on which the Gazette notification on calling for applications is published. They must have completed an active and satisfactory service period of not less than five (05) years in a service or post in the Public Service or a Provincial Public Service, drawing a salary under Salary Code MN - 1 - 2025 or a higher MN Salary Code, or under Salary Code SL - 1 - 2025, as per Public Administration Circular No. 10/2025.

5.3. Physical Fitness :

Every candidate must possess adequate physical and mental fitness to serve in any part of Sri Lanka and to discharge the duties of the post effectively.

5.4. Other Qualifications :

- i. Applicants must be of excellent moral character.
- ii. Must have earned all salary increments on the due dates during the five years immediately preceding the date of becoming eligible to apply for this examination.
- iii. Must not have been subjected to any disciplinary punishment in accordance with the provisions of Public Service Commission Circular No. 01/2020 and any subsequent amendments made thereto as of the date on which qualifications are verified.
- iv. Must have completed all the qualifications required to apply for this examination in every respect on or before the date of publication of the Gazette notification calling for applications.

5.5. Limitations on Qualifications :

- i. Any person holding a priesthood in any sect of a religion is ineligible to sit for this examination.
- ii. No person shall be permitted to appear for the limited competitive examination of the Sri Lanka Planning Service more than three times.

6. Conditions of the Examination :

- i. The examination will be conducted in Sinhala, Tamil, and English mediums. Candidates may choose to sit for the exam in any one of these languages. Candidates must sit for all papers of this examination and must choose only one language medium for that purpose. Candidates shall not be permitted to change the medium of examination specified in their application at a later date. Every candidate must sit for all three main question papers.
- ii. The online examination application must be completed in English. The soft copy of the application submitted by the applicant online will be verified and the candidates will be notified *via* SMS to the mobile phone number or *via* email whether the application is accepted/not accepted by the Department of Examinations as a valid application. Before completing the online application, you must download the Common Instructions and strictly follow those instructions when filling out the application. Any amendments made to the printed copy of the application shall not be considered valid. Incomplete applications shall be rejected without any notice.
- iii. The examination fee is Rs. 1200/-. Payments should be made only *via* the following methods of payment provided by the online system.
 - (i) Any Bank Credit Card
 - (ii) Any Bank Debit Card with online payment facility
 - (iii) Online Banking Method, Bank of Ceylon
 - (iv) Bank of Ceylon Teller Slip Payment
- iv. Receipt of payment will be notified *via* an SMS or email. The total of the examination fees should be paid and the applications with payment of lesser or higher amounts shall be rejected. The Department of Examinations shall not be responsible for any error occurs during the payment of examination fees *via* the above methods of payments.

v. Under no circumstances the examination fee will be refunded or transferred to pay any other examination fee.

vi. The applicant's signature must be attested on both the application form and the admission card. An applicant applying for the examination must have their signature attested by the Head of the Institution or an officer authorized by him/her.

Note: Entrance to the examination hall without an admission card will not be permitted. On the day the examination commences, only an admission card with your attested signature must be presented to the Supervisor. The issuance of an admission card to a candidate must not be considered as an acceptance that he or she is eligible to sit for the examination or has fulfilled the qualifications for a post.

vii. The Commissioner General of Examinations will issue admission cards only online to applicants, who have paid the prescribed examination fee and submitted the perfected application along with the receipt relevant to the payment of the examination fee accurately on or before the closing date for applications, on the assumption that only those who have satisfied the qualifications mentioned in the *Gazette* have applied. Applicants will be notified *via* an SMS or web notice by the Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka as soon as the admission cards are issued to them. If the admission card is not received, steps should be taken to notify the Institutional Examination Organization Branch, Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka, in the manner specified in the advertisement. When such an inquiry is made, it will be more effective to send a letter of request mentioning accurately the name of the examination, the full name of the applicant, the National Identity Card number, and the address to the email address mentioned in the web notice. Further, it would be advisable to keep the copy of the perfected application and the copy of the receipt relevant to the payment of the examination fee to prove any information requested by the Department of Examinations. If any revisions are required after checking the admission card, the Department of Examinations should be contacted early and the relevant revisions

should be made as per the application. Requests made at the examination hall or interview to make revisions will not be considered.

- viii. Candidates shall be subject to the rules and regulations imposed by the Commissioner General of Examinations with regard to conducting the examination. If those rules and regulations are violated, he or she is liable to be subjected to any punishment imposed by the Commissioner General of Examinations.
- ix. The issuance of an admission card to a candidate does not necessarily mean that he or she has satisfied the qualifications to sit for the examination. If it is revealed at the time of the interview that the applicants do not possess the required qualifications as per the *Gazette* notification, their candidature for the examination shall be cancelled.
- x. Candidates must prove their identity to the satisfaction of the Supervisor for every subject they sit at the examination hall. For this purpose, only the following documents will be accepted.
 - i. National Identity Card
 - ii. Valid Passport
 - iii. Valid Sri Lankan Driving License

Furthermore, candidates must enter the examination hall without covering their faces enabling the verification of their identity, and without covering their ears, so it can be confirmed that they are not wearing any electronic communication devices. Applicants who do not agree to this shall not be admitted to the examination hall. Furthermore, from the moment of entering the examination hall until leaving after the examination is over, the candidates must keep their face and ears uncovered.

7. Results of the Examination :

Once the appointing authority informs the appropriate date for the release of results, the Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka will take steps to send a result sheet, containing the marks obtained for each subject / total marks, to all candidates who sat for the examination by post, or publish the results online *via* the website: www.results.exams.gov.lk. The decision of the Commissioner General of Examinations regarding the results of the examination shall be final.

8. Penalty for Furnishing False Information :

When filling out applications, accurate information must be provided with great care. If it is found that any applicant is not eligible according to the rules and regulations of this examination, his/her candidature can be cancelled at any time before, during or after the examination. If it reveals that a candidate has submitted false information or concealed any important matter knowingly, he/she will be dismissed from the public service.

If the above-mentioned facts are revealed after receiving the appointment, all the amount paid by the Government as salary and allowances under the relevant appointment also will be recovered.

9. Method of Recruitment

9.1 Written Examination :

A written examination consisting of 03 question papers on the following subjects will be held. The minimum marks required to pass each subject and the time duration allotted for each paper are as follows:

<i>Serial Number</i>	<i>Subjects</i>	<i>Maximum Marks</i>	<i>Pass Marks</i>	<i>Duration</i>
1	Comprehension	100	40	02 Hours
2	Case study	100	40	01 Hour
3	Planning	100	40	02 Hours

9.2 Syllabus :

Subject No. 01 - Comprehension

The candidate will be given passages. The candidate will be presented with a group of alternative statements relating to the passage and one of which fits the contents of the passage best. The candidate will be directed to select and state the most appropriate text. The questions in respect of other texts will be set to test how best the candidate grasps their meaning. All questions should be answered.

Subject No. 02 - Case Study

This is a question paper designed to test the candidate's strengths of creative thinking and problem solving abilities. In this paper, the candidate will be presented with one or more situations based on books and publications relating to economy and planning of present Sri Lanka and directed to give solutions. All questions should be answered.

Subject No. 03 - Planning

This question paper is intended to test the candidate's basic knowledge of principles of planning and planning strategies.

9.3 Interview :

i. The Ministry in charge of the subject of Public Administration, in accordance with the directives of the Public Service Commission, will conduct a general interview for a number of candidates determined by the Commission based on the

order of merit and the number of available vacancies, from among those who have obtained at least 40% or more of the marks prescribed for each written paper.

ii. Accordingly, the qualifications of the candidates called for the interview will be verified by an interview board approved by the Public Service Commission. No marks will be allocated for this general interview, and candidates who are confirmed to have satisfied the basic qualifications will be selected for appointment to Grade III of the service.

N.B.:

Participation in the interview does not necessarily mean that the candidate has satisfied the qualifications required for granting the appointment.

10. Any matter not provided for in these regulations shall be determined by the Public Service Commission.

11. In the event of any inconsistency or discrepancy between the Sinhala, Tamil, and English texts of this notification, the Sinhala text shall prevail.

As per the order of the Public Service Commission,

S. ALOKABANDARA,
Secretary.

Ministry of Public Administration,
Provincial Councils and Local Government,
30th March, 2026.

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