



NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL SCIENCE



Guidelines for Registered Animal Scientist and Graduate Animal Scientist Examinations

Introduction

The Registered Animal Scientist and Graduate Animal Scientist professional examinations are prescribed by the Council of the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science for Graduates of Animal Science seeking membership of the Institute.

These professional examinations are to be written by all graduates or graduating students of Animal Science departments. The Graduate Animal Scientists' Examination serves as a requirement for becoming a graduate member of the Institute.

Objective of the guidelines

The objective of this document is to provide guidelines to prospective candidates for the process, administration and guidance for the professional examinations. This will eventually lead to admission of persons into the Institute as Registered Animal Scientists or Graduate Animal Scientists.

Objectives of the Examinations

- I. To assess the technical depth / knowledge of the Animal Science graduates.
- II. To assess the extent to which, through, the performance of the candidates, the University has achieved the academic objectives stipulated during the training program.

Definition

Registered Animal Scientist (RAS) or Graduate Animal Scientist (GAS) examinations are professional examinations administered by the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science to test the technical depth/knowledge of the graduates of Animal Science on the subject matter of applicants seeking to be admitted into the Institute.

Exemptions and Exceptions from the respective examinations

The examination is compulsory for all candidates that seek to be registered by the Institute. In a situation where a candidate will be unable to sit for the examination as a result of ill health, the candidate must submit an application for exemption addressed to the Registrar/CEO of the Institute with evidence for the reason(s) adduced for seeking such exemption attached. Exemptions must be sought no later than a week prior to the examination.

A formal approval must be received for exemption from the examination by the candidate from the Institute, before such a candidate can refrain from writing. Such a candidate will have to sit for the examination at a later date approved by the Institute.

A. General conditions for entry into the NIAS RAS/GAS professional examinations

The Graduate Animal Scientists examination qualifies a graduate of Animal Science for admission into the Institute as a Graduate Animal Scientist, while the Registered Animal Scientists' examination qualifies a graduate of Animal Science with 5 years of post-qualification experience for induction as a Registered Animal Scientist.

Every Registered Animal Scientist (RAS) or Graduate Animal Scientist (GAS) candidate must satisfy all the conditions stated below and any other conditions the Institute may require from time to time to qualify for entry into the examination.

1. Every graduating or fresh Animal Science graduate must sit for the Graduate Animal Scientist (GAS) examination;
2. Every Graduate Animal Scientist must attend a minimum of 2 years of Mandatory Continuing Professional Education (MCPE) training (post GAS induction), to be able to register as a Registered Animal Scientist or else sit for the qualifying examination to be a Registered Animal Scientist;
3. Fresh graduates of Animal Science who did not write the GAS examination must sit for the RAS examination to be inducted as RAS once they attain 5 years post-graduation.
4. Candidates who failed the RAS/GAS examination will re-sit the examination at the next available opportunity;
5. There is no restriction as to the number of times the RAS/GAS examination could be taken by an unsuccessful candidate;
6. Only candidates who passed the RAS/GAS examination will be inducted into the Institute as Registered Animal Scientist or Graduate Animal Scientist. This is in addition to the clearance by the respective university for fresh graduates;
7. Graduates from overseas institutions must furnish NIAS with the details of the accreditation status of their institution to enable the secretariat to establish the professional status of the degrees obtained.

B. Eligibility to sit for GAS and RAS Examinations

To be eligible to sit for an examination, the following conditions must be fulfilled:

8. For **GAS examination**, only candidates from universities that are compliant with the Institute Accreditation and Resource Verification Program are eligible to participate in the examination.
9. All candidates must have completed the RAS/GAS online form linked on the advert first, where he/she will be redirected to the TSA platform to make payments (*payment made before completing online registration is tagged invalid and not refundable*)
10. The candidate must have been registered for the examination and must have fulfilled all the requirements concerning qualifications, fees, and other regulations of the Institute;
11. **All candidates that registered for the examination must check the Institute website to confirm their registration status as soon as the registration portal closes; as the Institute will not be held liable for incomplete registration.**
12. Candidate must show his/her current identity card at the examination centre;
13. The candidate will be responsible for expenses incurred before and during the period of the examination

C. Obligation of the Institute

14. Information on the Examination date, time and venue shall be made available to the applicants via the Institute's website, candidate's emails, etc.
15. Proper sitting arrangement at the centre for the examination shall be made available to the candidates.
16. The Institute shall supply all the necessary gadgets or links for the CBT examination.
17. A written notice informing the applicant where he/she is to write the examination shall be made available on the website at least **two (2)** weeks before the Examination date.

- 18 Supervisors/Examiners for the GAS Examination must be registered members and must remain with the candidates throughout the duration of the examination. The Institute will implement stipulated disciplinary measures in cases of examinationmalpractice and other infractions during examination.

D Fees

- 19 The examination fees shall be paid into the appropriate Federal Government TSAaccount provided by the Institute.
- 20 The Institute shall not be liable for any payment made into any other account other than the account designated for the payment for GAS and RAS examinations. Suchwrong payment is not refundable and cannot be requested to be used for any other activity.

E. Centre

- 21 The centre for the examination shall be based on the number of applicants from various universities and or designated examination centers as deemed fit by the Institute.

F. Examination Presentation

- 22 The examination shall be multiple-choice questions covering the disciplines of Animal Science as enshrined in the Act.

G. Grading of the Examination

- 23 The Institute shall, at its discretion, utilize examination methods like the OMR or CBTE for the Professional Examination.

H Result

24. The result of the examination from all centres shall be collated and vetted by the Council's Committee on Education, and approval for the release of the result given bythe Council of the Institute.
25. The result of the examination shall be uploaded on the Institute's website, and candidates notified to check via email and SMS.
26. The results of the GAS Examination shall be sent to all the Animal Science departments of all participating universities.

H. Petition

27. Candidates have the right to protest the result of any of the examinations.
28. However, where a candidate protests the grade obtained in an examination and writesa petition requesting for remarking, the following conditions shall apply:
 - i. The candidate shall pay 50% of the cost of the examination as administrative cost for the re- grading.
 - ii. Education Committee Chairman shall appoint Registered Animal Scientist(s) to remark the examination answer sheets manually or electronically, and the result presented to the Council for approval.
 - iii. The candidate will then be formally notified of the final results of the examination.