



NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL SCIENCE



Guidelines for Registered Animal Scientist and Graduate Animal Scientist Examinations

A. Introduction

The Registered Animal Scientist (RAS) and Graduate Animal Scientist (GAS) professional examinations are prescribed by the Council of the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science to test the technical depth/knowledge of Animal Science graduates seeking admission into the Institute.

B. Objective of the guidelines

The objective of this document is to provide prospective candidates with guidelines for the process, administration and guidance for the professional examinations (RAS and GAS).

C. Exemptions and exceptions from the respective examinations

The examination is compulsory for all candidates seeking to be registered by the Institute. In a situation where a candidate is unable to sit for the examination due to cogent reasons such as ill health, the candidate must submit an application for exemption addressed to the Registrar/CEO of the Institute with evidence for the reason(s) for seeking such exemption attached. Exemptions must be sought no later than a week before the examination, and formal approval obtained for exemption. Such a candidate will have to sit for the examination at a later date approved by the Institute.

D. Conditions for entry into the NIAS RAS/GAS professional examinations

The GAS examination qualifies a graduate of Animal Science for induction into the Institute as a Graduate Animal Scientist, while the RAS examination qualifies a graduate of Animal Science with a minimum of 5 years post-graduation experience for induction as a Registered Animal Scientist.

Every prospective RAS or GAS examination 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:

- Every graduating or fresh graduate of Animal Science must sit for the GAS examination;
- Every inducted Graduate Animal Scientist must attend a minimum of 2 years of Mandatory Continuing Professional Education (MCPE) training, within 5 years post-induction, to be able to register as a Registered Animal Scientist or else sit for the qualifying examination to be a Registered Animal Scientist;
- 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;
- Candidates who fail the RAS/GAS examination will re-sit the examination at the next available opportunity. There is no restriction as to the number of times the RAS/GAS examination could be taken by an unsuccessful candidate;
 - Only candidates who pass 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;
 - 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.

E. Eligibility to participate in the GAS or RAS Examinations

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

- For the GAS examination, only candidates from universities that are compliant with the Institute's Accreditation and Resource Verification program are eligible to participate in the examination;
- All candidates must have completed the RAS/GAS online form on the website first or via the link on the advert, where they will be redirected to the TSA platform to make payments. Payment made directly to the TSA platform before completing online registration is tagged invalid and not refundable;
- Candidates must have been registered for the examination and must have fulfilled all the requirements concerning qualifications, fees, and other regulations of the Institute;
- All candidates who registered for the examination must check the Institute's website to confirm their registration status as soon as the registration portal closes, as the Institute will not be held liable for incomplete registration;
- Candidates must show their valid identity card at the examination centre.

F. Obligation of the Institute

- Information on the examination date, time and venue shall be made available to the applicants via the Institute's website, candidate's emails, etc;
- The Institute shall supply all the necessary gadgets or links for the CBT examination;
- A written notice informing the applicants where they are to write the examination shall be made available on the website at least **two (2)** weeks before the examination date;
- Supervisors/Examiners for the examinations who must be registered members must remain with the candidates throughout the duration of the examination. The Institute will implement stipulated disciplinary measures in cases of examination malpractice and other infractions during examination.

G. Fees

- The examination fees shall be paid into the appropriate Federal Government TSA account;

- The Institute shall not be liable for any payment made into any other account other than the account designated for the payment for the GAS and RAS examinations. Such wrong payment is not refundable and cannot be requested to be used for any other activity.

H. Centre

- The centres for the examination shall be based on the number of applicants from various universities and as deemed fit by the Institute.

I. Examination Structure

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

J. Grading of the Examination

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

K. Result

- 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 by the Council of the Institute;
- The result of the examination shall be uploaded on the Institute's website, and candidates notified to check via email and SMS;
- The results of the GAS Examination shall be sent to all the Animal Science departments of all participating universities.

L. Petition

- Candidates have the right to protest formally in writing, the result of any of the examinations;
- However, where a candidate protests the grade obtained in an examination and writes a 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. The 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.