

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE To The IBEW Aptitude Test

Everything you need to know before you walk into that exam room.



What Is the IBEW Aptitude Test?

The IBEW Aptitude Test is a standardized entrance exam required by most IBEW Local Unions before you can be considered for an electrical apprenticeship. You don't need electrical experience or knowledge to pass it. You need solid math skills and reading comprehension.

Who Has to Take It?

Anyone applying to join the IBEW through a local Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) is required to take the aptitude test.

How Is It Structured?

The exam has two parts and is typically administered on paper in a proctored setting at your local JATC office.

Part	Subject	Questions	Time
Part 1	Algebra & Functions	33 questions	46 minutes
Part 2	Reading Comprehension	36 questions	51 minutes

Total: 69 questions • ~97 minutes

There is a brief **5-10 minutes** break between Part 1 and Part 2.



How to Prepare

The biggest mistake applicants make is showing up without studying. The math on Part 1 is very specific and it's not the traditional algebra most people remember from school. **Factoring multivariable quadratics, analyzing variable relationships, function analysis, and number series are all common problem types.** Many test-takers are caught off guard by how advanced the math actually is.

What works:



01

Practice the exact question types

Don't study general math, study IBEW-style problems.



02

Time yourself

46 minutes for 33 problems means about 1.4 minutes per question.



03

Read actively

The reading comprehension section rewards focused, deliberate readers.



04

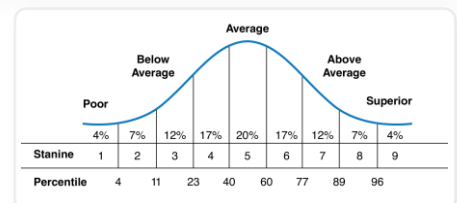
Take practice exams

Use realistic practice tests to improve confidence and performance.

The best prep is realistic practice. Use materials that mirror the real exam format.

How Is It Scored?

- The test is scored on a scale of 1 to 9.
- You typically need a **4 or higher** to pass and advance to the interview phase, though minimum score requirements can vary by local.
- Scores are combined with your interview rating to create a final ranking, and this ranking determines your position in the applicant pool.



READY TO SEE WHERE YOU STAND?

Take our free IBEW practice exam and find out exactly what you need to work on before the real test.



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