

Difference Between IAS and PCS Officer

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DIFFERENCE BETWEEN IAS AND PCS OFFICER

The Difference between an IAS and PCS is that both civil services Posts with the difference being one is under the central government and another is a state service working for the executive branch of the State Government.

An IAS manages the administrative responsibilities and can be appointed to the position of a district collector, Commissioner, Chief Secretary etc. Whereas, the PCS is responsible for managing the administrative work on behalf of the executive branch of the state government.

To learn more about the difference between an IAS and a PCS and their functions and roles and responsibilities.

Difference Between IAS and PCS

Here is a table of key differences in between the roles and responsibilities of an IAS Officer and an PCS Officer:

Aspect	IAS Officer	PCS Officer
Full Form	Indian Administrative Service	Provincial Civil Service

Scope of Work	Manages administrative affairs at the national and state levels.	Manages state-level administrative tasks, focusing on provincial matters.
Recruitment	Through the UPSC Civil Services Examination (national-level).	Through the State Public Service Commission Examination (state-level).
Cadre Allocation	Allocated to different states as per the cadre system.	Works only within the respective state where recruited.
Key Responsibilities	Policy implementation, district administration, and advising the government.	Law and order maintenance, tax collection, and local governance.
Promotion Scope	Can rise to top national roles (e.g., Cabinet Secretary, Chief Secretary).	Limited to state-level roles, such as Divisional Commissioner or Secretary.
Salary (Starting)	Approx. ₹56,100 (excluding allowances) under Pay Level 10.	Approx. ₹47,600 (excluding allowances) under Pay Level 9.
Powers	Wider jurisdiction, inter-departmental authority, and central government roles.	Limited to state governance and departmental operations within the state.
Transferability	Transfers across India within the assigned cadre/state.	Transfers restricted within the recruiting state.
Training Institute	Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussoorie.	State Administrative Training Institute of the respective state.
Authority Level	Higher authority in policy decisions and national matters.	Lower compared to IAS, confined to state-level issues.

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