

PRESS EMBARGO UNTIL 6.00 AM FRIDAY 4th OCTOBER 2019

STATE EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION

PRESS RELEASE

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE/CYCLE RESULTS 2019

Almost 64,500 students to receive Provisional Junior Certificate/Cycle Results

4th October 2019

The State Examinations Commission (SEC) congratulates the candidates who sat the Junior Certificate/Cycle examination in 2019 and whose results issued today.

The SEC has issued the statements of provisional Junior Certificate/Cycle examination results in respect of 64,330 candidates which will be in schools today.

Overview

The change to the Junior Certificate/Cycle issue date this year, which arose from the necessary prioritisation of the achievement of the deadline of issuing the results of the Leaving Certificate appeals three weeks earlier this year, has presented the opportunity to change the day of issue from the traditional Wednesday to a Friday. This has been requested of SEC from time to time and the SEC has had agreement to this change of day from all of the stakeholders, including school management, leaders and parents.

Over 635,000 individual grades in 25 different subjects are being delivered to the 31,564 female and 32,766 male candidates in this year's examination. Students can also access their results through the on-line examination results service on www.examinations.ie from 4pm today.

The overall numbers sitting the examination has increased by 2.7% on last year. The proportion of candidates who are re-entrants to education remains the same as 2018 at 0.9% of the cohort.

New Junior Cycle Programme

The 2017 examinations saw the first manifestations of the new Junior Cycle Reform process. The new specification in English was first examined, with its subsequent new reporting structure. Candidate achievements in curricular and non-curricular areas were reported on by means of a *Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement*, generated at school level, into which the *Final Examination* results certified by the State Examination Commission (SEC) were added. No new Junior Cycle specifications were examined in 2018.

In 2019, Junior Cycle Reform was further extended, with the new specifications in Business Studies and Science being examined at Common level for the first time and scheduled for inclusion in the new reporting structures (see Appendix A). Examinations in all other subjects, continue to be reported in line with the Junior Certificate programme and graded under the old A, B, C etc.

With new Junior Cycle specifications in French, German, Spanish and Italian to be examined at a Common level for the first time in 2020, 2019 has seen the last examinations of the old Junior Certificate syllabi in these subjects at Higher and Ordinary levels. Similarly, there will

be two new specifications (Teanga 1 and Teanga 2) in Junior Cycle Gaeilge, each at Higher and Ordinary level, for examination for the first time in 2020. Therefore, the 2019 examinations saw the last examination of the old syllabus in Gaeilge. Civic, Social & Political Education, which is examined at a Common level, saw the final examination in this subject as it will no longer be examined as part of the state examinations. It remained the largest single cohort again this year.

Appeals

Applications for review of Junior Certificate/Cycle examination results, which must be made through the candidate's school, should be received by the State Examinations Commission no later than 5pm on Friday, 11th October 2019. The fee for this service is €32.00 per subject which will be refunded in the event that a result is upgraded. Applications are accepted only from a school authority which must confirm that the result obtained is significantly at variance with the result expected. It is planned to issue the results of the appeals in the week ending 22nd November 2019.

Marking Schemes

The official marking schemes for all subjects will be published on the SEC website, www.examinations.ie in the coming days.

On-Line Results Service

Candidates can access their results online from 4pm today, Friday 4th October 2019. Access to the service via www.examinations.ie requires the use of an examination number and a unique candidate Personal Identification Number. This service is not intended to replace the valuable results service and advice provided to students by schools at results issue time. The PIN and examination numbers required to access the service have already been issued to schools.

All statistics provided in this press release are provisional for 2019 and as such are subject to enquiry and appeal.

The SEC publishes on its website (www.examinations.ie) statistical information on the results of the 2019 Junior Certificate/Cycle examinations for all subject levels with more than 10 candidates. For reasons of candidate confidentiality, the SEC only publishes details of subject/levels with results for more than 10 candidates.

	School Candidates	Re-entrants to Education¹	Total
2015	58,765	756	59,521
2016	59,525	722	60,247
2017	61,051	603	61,654
2018	61,969	593	62,562
2019	63,774	556	64,330

Table 1: Classification of candidates in Junior Certificate/Cycle

¹ Re-entrants to Education are candidates entered for the examination through education schemes such as the Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme and Back to Education Initiative.

Notes for Editors

The following further information is provided below:

- A. New Junior Certificate/Cycle Grading System
- B. Junior Certificate/Cycle Sits by county and gender

All Media enquiries to:

Eela Carr

Press Officer

Phone 090 6442770 or 087 2830355

Email: sec.pressoffice@examinations.ie

Jackie Wade

Deputy Press Officer

Phone 090 6442851 or 087 180 4466

ENDS

2019/PR_JC_Results_19.doc

A. NEW JUNIOR CERTIFICATE / CYCLE GRADING SYSTEM

The following table provides an explanation of the current and revised grading system for Junior Cycle English, Business Studies and Science, and all other Junior Certificate subjects. Both sets of grades are in use this year and this dual presentation will continue until 2021 when the last of the Junior Certificate examinations are terminated.

Level	Junior Cycle Subjects		Junior Certificate Subjects	
	Percentage	Grade	Percentage	Grade
Higher, Ordinary, Foundation / Ard, Gnath, Bonn ²	≥ 90 to 100	Distinction	≥ 85 to 100	A
	≥ 75 and < 90	Higher Merit	≥ 70 and < 85	B
	≥ 55 and < 75	Merit	≥ 55 and < 70	C
	≥ 40 and < 55	Achieved	≥ 40 and < 55	D
	≥ 20 and < 40	Partially Achieved	≥ 25 and < 40	E
	≥ 0 and < 20	Not Graded (NG)	≥ 10 and < 25	F
			≥ 0 and < 10	NG

Both the old and the new grade formats will appear side-by-side on the Statements of Provisional Examination Results issued by the SEC and on the *Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement* (JCPA) which will be generated by schools for issue to their students. The JCPA will include details of the final grades awarded by the SEC following the conclusion of the Junior Certificate/Cycle appeals and related processes. The JCPA will also draw upon and report on student achievement across a range of areas of student learning in Junior Cycle, including Classroom-Based Assessments, Short Courses, Level 2 Learning Programmes (where appropriate), and other areas of learning.

More information on Junior Cycle reform is available from the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment's website (NCCA) [here](#) and [here](#).

² The new Junior Cycle English Final Examination is sat at Higher and Ordinary Level only. Science and Business is sat at Common Level only.

B. JUNIOR CERTIFICATE/CYCLE SITS BY COUNTY AND GENDER

COUNTY	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
CARLOW	497	490	987
CAVAN	462	522	984
CLARE	748	733	1,481
CORK	3,483	3,684	7,167
DONEGAL	1,140	1,238	2,378
DUBLIN	7,985	8,059	16,044
GALWAY	1,679	1,804	3,483
KERRY	957	992	1,949
KILDARE	1,696	1,806	3,502
KILKENNY	588	581	1,169
LAOIS	535	592	1,127
LEITRIM	246	248	494
LIMERICK	1,372	1,452	2,824
LONGFORD	321	354	675
LOUTH	1,090	1,160	2,250
MAYO	882	849	1,731
MEATH	1,313	1,427	2,740
MONAGHAN	436	435	871
OFFALY	544	588	1,132
ROSCOMMON	291	321	612
SLIGO	405	431	836
TIPPERARY	1,118	1,149	2,267
WATERFORD	882	891	1,773
WESTMEATH	763	720	1,483
WEXFORD	1,129	1,198	2,327
WICKLOW	1002	1,042	2,044
Grand Total	31,564	32,766	64,330