

# STATE EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION

## PRESS RELEASE

### 2013 STATE EXAMINATIONS

116,845 Students Sit Exams This Year

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

*(The Notes for Editors at end includes key logistics, details of non-curricular EU Language subjects and statistical tables including tables of entries by county. A detailed Examinations Information & Statistics Pack has been published in the Press Office section of [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie))*

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2013, some 116,845 candidates will take their seats in 4,876 examination centres countywide to begin their Leaving and Junior Certificate examinations.

**Mr. Richard Langford**, Chairman of the State Examinations Commission (SEC), sends his best wishes and those of his fellow Commissioners on behalf of the SEC to all sitting the state examinations in 2013.

He said: *‘The State Examinations are a significant milestone in the lives of candidates and their families. The examinations are a demanding test of ability, requiring dedication, focus and hard work. They afford an opportunity for candidates to demonstrate the range and level of knowledge, skills and competencies acquired during their many years of study. Everybody involved in the process recognise that the examinations can be a difficult and stressful time for candidates but the support of family, schools and the wider community plays a valuable role in assisting candidates to achieve their best possible outcomes. The staff and Commissioners of the SEC acknowledge that the highest standards in administration and assessment are paramount in the provision of the examinations and we are committed to delivering on these standards again this year. I wish all those sitting State Examinations in 2013 every success’.*

From the June bank holiday weekend, over 4,800 superintendents involved in supervising the written examinations will take possession of the boxes containing the 3 million examination papers that are required by candidates over the 13 day examination period. Over 4,000 examiners will be involved in examining the work presented by candidates in the written examinations. This is in addition to the some 2,000 examiners required to mark the oral and practical tests.

The examinations run until Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June for Junior Certificate subjects and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June for Leaving Certificate subjects. The written examinations in the Leaving Certificate Applied programme finish on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June. The results of the Leaving Certificate examinations will be available on Wednesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> August 2013. Results of the Junior Certificate will be available in mid-September 2013.

ENDS

## Notes for Editors

Further detailed information, including additional information on the 2013 examination changes is available in our Media Information Pack on [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie)

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### 1. Key Logistics

Established in 2003, the SEC assumed responsibility from the Department of Education and Skills for the operation of the second level examinations of the Irish State: the Junior Certificate and the Leaving Certificate. The SEC is based at Cornamaddy, Athlone, Co. Westmeath. The SEC employs some 154 permanent staff; this number is supplemented by some 80 temporary staff to assist in key seasonal activities such as the packing and distribution of examination material and the examination resulting process.

To give an idea of the scale of activities involved in conducting the state examinations it is worth noting that the 2012 examinations involved the following activities and outcomes

- Providing examinations to **114,614 candidates** across all examination programmes; **58,798** at Junior Certificate, **52,588** at Leaving Certificate, and **3,228** at Leaving Certificate Applied Programme
- Arranging for **examinations** in **90** curricular and **15** non-curricular examination subjects
- Engaging **664** drafters, setters and translators to develop **254** different **test instruments** – including oral tests, aural recordings, practical briefs, project briefs, portfolio and coursework items as well as the written examination papers
- Producing approx **3.1 million** examination **papers** made up of approx **38 million A4 pages**
- Arranging for the recording of some **80,465** oral tests
- Engaging **4,818 superintendents** to superintend at ordinary examination centres
- Providing **19,397 reasonable accommodations** to facilitate candidates with individual needs to access the certificate exams and establishing **9,782 special examination centres** as a result
- Engaging **6,719 examiners** to mark the examinations **4,226 written** examiners, **1,100 oral** examiners and **1,393 practical** examiners
- Examining some **1.9million individual test items** including written examination scripts, art and craftwork pieces, project and practical pieces in Leaving Certificate Construction Studies and Engineering and Junior

Certificate Metalwork, Materials Technology (Wood) and Technology, oral tests, coursework journals, research reports and portfolios

- Generating just under **1million individual grades** leading to the award of **114,614 examination results**
- Returning **360,000 marked scripts** to schools for viewing
- Processing some **12,679 appeals** at Leaving and Junior Certificate

Please see our website, [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie) for further details including 2013 timetables, detailed statistics on examination results for 2001-2012, sample and past examination papers, and general information on the organisation and management of the examinations and the SEC.

## 2. Non-Curricular EU Language Subjects

The SEC also provides examinations in a range of subjects in the language area referred to as the non-curricular EU languages. These are languages which do not appear as part of the normal school curriculum but which students may opt to be examined in if they meet certain criteria. Chief among these conditions are the requirements that candidates for these examinations;

- Be from a member state of the European Union
- Speak the language in which they opt to be examined in as a mother tongue
- Have followed a programme of study leading to the Leaving Certificate
- Be taking Leaving Certificate English

Another condition is that candidates may undertake examination in one non-curricular language subject only and for this reason in 2013 the SEC has scheduled all of the non curricular examinations for one session – **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2013 from 9.30am to 12.30pm.**

For the 2013 Leaving Certificate examinations, candidates will be examined in the following fifteen non-curricular language subjects:

- |                                    |                                         |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bulgarian | <input type="checkbox"/> Finnish        | <input type="checkbox"/> Polish     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Czech     | <input type="checkbox"/> Greek (Modern) | <input type="checkbox"/> Portuguese |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dutch     | <input type="checkbox"/> Hungarian      | <input type="checkbox"/> Romanian   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Danish    | <input type="checkbox"/> Latvian        | <input type="checkbox"/> Slovakian  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Estonian  | <input type="checkbox"/> Lithuanian     | <input type="checkbox"/> Swedish    |

The following table compares the predicted candidate entries for these subjects in the 2013 Leaving Certificate to the number of candidates that sat these exams in 2012.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>2012 (Sits)</b>	<b>2013 (entries)</b>
Dutch	20	36
Portuguese	63	62
Polish	707	797
Latvian	87	116
Lithuanian	262	266
Romanian	109	149
Hungarian	33	46
Ancient Greek	12	12
Swedish	-	-
Czech	14	22
Estonian	-	-
Slovakian	36	41
Bulgarian	17	-
Others 2012#	22	
Others 2013*		36
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,382</b>	<b>1,583</b>

*Non-Curricular Language Subjects 2012 V 2013*

#Modern Greek, Danish, Swedish, Finnish, Estonian.

\*Modern Greek, Danish, Swedish, Finnish, Estonian, Bulgarian.

# and \* Less than 10 candidates taking these subjects

Background information on the development of the non curricular language subjects is available from the 2013 Media Information Pack on the SEC website [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie)

### 3. STATISTICAL TABLES

#### A. Number of Candidates Entered for the Certificate Examinations 2010-2013

#### B. Number of Candidates Sitting the Certificate Examinations 2010-2012

#### C. Predicted Leaving Certificate Entries by County and Gender 2013

#### D. Predicted Leaving Certificate Applied Entries by County and Gender 2013

#### E. Predicted Junior Certificate Entries by County and Gender 2013

#### A. Number of Candidates Entered for the Certificate Examinations 2010-2013

This table compares the numbers of candidates who were entered for the examinations immediately prior to the commencement of the written examinations in June this year and in each of the previous three years.

	<b>Established Leaving Certificate (including LCVP*)</b>	<b>Leaving Certificate Applied</b>	<b>Junior Certificate</b>	<b>Total</b>
2010	55,783	3,418	57,133	116,334
2011	55,550	3,245	57,732	116,527
2012	53,789	3,301	59,684	116,774
<b>2013</b>	<b>53,749</b>	<b>2,853</b>	<b>60,243</b>	<b>116,845</b>

\* LCVP = Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme.

#### B. Number of Candidates Sitting the Certificate Examinations 2010-2012

This table compares the numbers of candidates who, ultimately, sat the examinations in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

	<b>Established Leaving Certificate (incl. LCVP)</b>	<b>Leaving Certificate Applied</b>	<b>Junior Certificate</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2010</b>	54,479	3,358	56,086	113,923
<b>2011</b>	54,344	3,195	56,841	114,380
<b>2012</b>	52,588	3,228	58,798	114,614

### C. Predicted Leaving Certificate Entries by County and Gender 2013

<b>County</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>
Carlow	418	421	839
Cavan	344	341	685
Clare	667	646	1,313
Cork	2,992	3,063	6,055
Donegal	1,012	983	1,995
Dublin	6,785	6,956	13,741
Galway	1,501	1,460	2,961
Kerry	964	923	1,887
Kildare	1,179	1,242	2,421
Kilkenny	459	551	1,010
Laois	452	410	862
Leitrim	210	242	452
Limerick	1,178	1,249	2,427
Longford	302	285	587
Louth	723	889	1,612
Mayo	806	831	1,637
Meath	944	969	1,913
Monaghan	397	414	811
Offaly	454	442	896
Roscommon	277	242	519
Sligo	403	419	822
Tipperary N.R	530	510	1,040
Tipperary S.R	509	559	1,068
Waterford	732	825	1,557
Westmeath	690	708	1,398
Wexford	911	826	1,737
Wicklow	697	745	1,442
<b>Counties Total</b>	<b>26,536</b>	<b>27,151</b>	<b>53,687</b>
Libya	31	31	62
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,567</b>	<b>27,182</b>	<b>53,749</b>

#### D. Predicted Leaving Certificate Applied Entries by County and Gender 2013

County	Female	Male	Total
Carlow	12	0	12
Cavan	14	21	35
Clare	29	47	76
Cork	129	134	263
Donegal	55	82	137
Dublin	355	391	746
Galway	38	54	92
Kerry	45	56	101
Kildare	52	103	155
Kilkenny	23	2	25
Laois	12	15	27
Leitrim	0	0	0
Limerick	103	88	191
Longford	9	24	33
Louth	68	66	134
Mayo	31	58	89
Meath	38	61	99
Monaghan	15	24	39
Offaly	50	37	87
Roscommon	14	10	24
Sligo	25	12	37
Tipperary N.R	29	33	62
Tipperary S.R	36	39	75
Waterford	28	44	72
Westmeath	16	27	43
Wexford	57	76	133
Wicklow	35	31	66
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>1,535</b>	<b>2,853</b>

**E. Predicted Junior Certificate Entries by County and Gender 2013**

<b>County</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>
Carlow	420	443	863
Cavan	433	440	873
Clare	690	751	1,441
Cork	3,349	3,468	6,817
Donegal	1,149	1,161	2,310
Dublin	7,396	7,636	15,032
Galway	1,599	1,603	3,202
Kerry	1,024	977	2,001
Kildare	1,458	1,467	2,925
Kilkenny	538	575	1,113
Laois	419	508	927
Leitrim	213	227	440
Limerick	1,336	1,493	2,829
Longford	294	322	616
Louth	966	1,007	1,973
Mayo	833	909	1,742
Meath	1,175	1,231	2,406
Monaghan	425	468	893
Offaly	577	590	1,167
Roscommon	284	238	522
Sligo	413	456	869
Tipperary N.R	589	544	1,133
Tipperary S.R	580	642	1,222
Waterford	769	904	1,673
Westmeath	661	717	1,378
Wexford	1,027	1,056	2,083
Wicklow	805	988	1,793
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,422</b>	<b>30,821</b>	<b>60,243</b>