

PRESS EMBARGO UNTIL 6.00 AM WEDNESDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2010

STATE EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION

PRESS RELEASE

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE RESULTS 2010

Over 56,000 students to receive Junior Certificate Results

15th September 2010

Statements of provisional Junior Certificate examination results for 56,088 candidates will be in all post-primary schools today, Wednesday 15th September 2010. Over half a million individual grades in 26 different subjects are being delivered to the 27,565 female and 28,523 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 4 PM today.

The Chairman of the State Examinations Commission (SEC), Mr. Richard Langford, sent his congratulations to all of the students receiving results today and to their parents and teachers. He expressed the hope that they would continue with their studies and that the Junior Certificate outcomes would assist them in making informed future choices. Mr. Langford sent special congratulations to the 1,135 re-entrants to education that entered for this year's Junior Certificate examination through various education schemes including the Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme and the Back to Education Initiative.

The Chairman commended examination superintendents, examiners, school authorities and staff, teachers, the staff of the SEC and all others involved in the examination process on their hard work and commitment in the conduct of the 2010 examinations.

The overall numbers sitting the examination has increased by 1.0% on last year and the proportion of candidates who are re-entrants to education has fallen slightly from 2.3% of the cohort in 2009 to 2% in 2010.

Junior Certificate Business Studies Higher Level-Paper 2

Students who sat this examination in June were presented with an examination paper that contained errors in Question 6 on the Cash Flow Forecast. The SEC regrets this error and since the examination was held has undertaken a range of measures to ensure that candidates did not lose out as a result. The marking scheme was revised to facilitate the range of possible approaches to the question and the answers provided by candidates and all examiners for this examination were informed of the error and the agreed procedure for managing the marking of this question.

On completion of the marking an analysis was carried out by the Chief Examiner to ascertain what impact, if any, the error had on candidate performance. The vast majority of candidates completed the requisite number of questions and candidates generally performed very well on Question 6. The SEC is reassured by the view of the

Chief Examiner and the examining team that the measures employed to resolve this issue through the marking scheme ensured that candidates did not lose out as a result of the errors on the paper. Ultimately the SEC is satisfied that the measures taken to address the errors in Question 6 have had the desired result of making sure that there has been no negative impact on candidates' results.

Appeals

Applications for review of Junior Certificate examination results, which must be made through the candidate's school, should be made so as to arrive in the State Examinations Commission no later than 5 PM on Friday, October 1st 2010. 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 who must confirm that the result obtained is at variance with the result expected. It is planned to post the results of the appeals in the week ending 20th November 2010.

Marking Schemes

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

Chief Examiners' Reports

Chief Examiners' Reports provide a review of the performance of candidates in the examinations and contain detailed analysis of all aspects of the examining process. They also contain recommendations for teachers and students and generally include examples of candidates' answers. Reports are published in a selected number of subjects and programmes each year. Following the 2010 examinations, Chief Examiners' Reports will be published in the following Junior Certificate subjects: Gaeilge, Science and Metalwork. The reports will be published in 2011.

On-Line Results Service.

Candidates will be able to access their results on the Internet from 4 PM today, Wednesday 15th September 2010. Access to the service, which requires the use of an examination number and a unique candidate Personal Identification Number, is through www.examinations.ie. 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 Examinations numbers required to access the service have already been issued.

ENDS

Notes for Editors

Note on Statistics

All statistics provided in this press release and in the accompanying documentation are provisional for 2010 and as such are subject to enquiry and appeal.

The accompanying statistical documentation provides details of the results of the 2010 Junior Certificate examinations for all subject levels with more than 10 candidates and the results in 2008 and 2009. For reasons of candidate confidentiality, we only make public the details of subject levels with results for more than 10 candidates. Results are also being issued to candidates in Ordinary Level Ancient Greek.

Number of Candidates Sitting the Junior Certificate 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010

	School Candidates	Re-entrants to Education*	Total Candidates
2007	55,923	1,256	57,179
2008	54,651	1,289	55,940
2009	54,290	1,267	55,557
2010	54,953	1,135	56,088

Table 1. Numbers of Junior Certificate Candidates

*Re-entrants to Education: Candidates in this classification are those that entered for the examination through education schemes such as the Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme and Back to Education Initiative.

**Media enquiries to Martina Mannion on 090-644 2778, Mobile 087-2830355
E-mail: martina.mannion@examinations.ie**