

Under Strict Embargo until 6 AM on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011

## STATE EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION

### PRESS RELEASE

## LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPEALS 2011

**12th October 2011**

The State Examinations Commission (SEC) has released the appeal results for the 2011 Leaving Certificate examination. Candidates will receive the results of their appeals today either through their school or through the on-line examination results service on [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie). At 12 midday today the Leaving Certificate examination results available on [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie) will be updated to reflect the appeal outcomes. The appeal results have also been transmitted electronically to the Central Applications Office.

In 2011, the Leaving Certificate examinations culminated in the issue of some 380,000 grades to 54,481 candidates. These candidates were afforded an opportunity to view their scripts in their schools in early September before making a decision as to whether or not they wished to appeal the results of one or more subjects. In making this decision candidates had access to copies of the marking schemes for those subjects and could be accompanied to the viewing of their scripts by a parent or teacher. A total of 5,812 candidates made applications for appeals against 10,142 grades leading to 1,931 upgrades, which is 0.5% of all grades awarded in the 2011 Leaving Certificate examination. A total of 4 results were downgraded in the appeal process.

In the processing of appeals, the work of each candidate is fully re-marked question by question using the original marking scheme. The re-marking is performed by a different examiner to the one who originally marked the work.

Candidates may opt to view their re-marked examination scripts. Candidates are required to complete the application form that accompanies the appeal results and to return it through the school that entered them for examination by Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October. Externally entered candidates should return the form directly to the SEC. All such applications must be with the SEC by 5 PM on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2011. The viewing will be held in the Athlone office of the SEC on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm.

Candidates who are dissatisfied with the outcome of their appeal have recourse to the Independent Appeals Scrutineers. The Scrutineers' role is to ensure that due process has been followed in the case of each appeal and that all of the appeal procedures were properly carried out. The Scrutineers are independent of the State Examinations Commission and they have the power to request from the SEC all documentation relating to an appeal in conducting their investigations. Application forms for an appeal review by the Independent Appeal Scrutineers have been provided to candidates with their appeal results.

The appeals process is also used as a further quality assurance check on the original results processing. In 2011 this quality assurance process has culminated in 34 upgrades for candidates who had not appealed.

## NUMBER AND OUTCOME OF APPEALS 2011

A total of 5,812 candidates made applications for appeals against 10,142 grades leading to 1,931 upgrades, which is 0.5% of all grades awarded.

|                   | Level | Grades         | Appeals       | Upgrades     | Upgrades as a % of overall grades |
|-------------------|-------|----------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| ACCOUNTING        | A     | 4,060          | 160           | 37           | 0.9%                              |
| AG SCIENCE        | A     | 5,287          | 335           | 99           | 1.9%                              |
| APPLIED MATHS     | A     | 1,274          | 48            | 6            | 0.5%                              |
| ART               | A     | 8,215          | 191           | 31           | 0.4%                              |
| BIOLOGY           | A     | 22,677         | 1,197         | 299          | 1.3%                              |
| BUSINESS          | A     | 12,024         | 606           | 84           | 0.7%                              |
| CHEMISTRY         | A     | 6,272          | 388           | 82           | 1.3%                              |
| CLASSICAL STUDIES | A     | 588            | 59            | 9            | 1.5%                              |
| CONSTR STUDIES    | A     | 6,887          | 48            | 6            | 0.1%                              |
| DCG               | A     | 3,994          | 108           | 8            | 0.2%                              |
| ECONOMICS         | A     | 3,733          | 286           | 52           | 1.4%                              |
| ENGINEERING       | A     | 3,960          | 38            | 7            | 0.2%                              |
| ENGLISH           | A     | 32,783         | 1,706         | 218          | 0.7%                              |
| ENGLISH           | G     | 18,672         | 63            | 21           | 0.1%                              |
| FRENCH            | A     | 13,899         | 678           | 148          | 1.1%                              |
| FRENCH            | G     | 12,867         | 61            | 11           | 0.1%                              |
| GEOGRAPHY         | A     | 21,249         | 811           | 174          | 0.8%                              |
| GERMAN            | A     | 4,186          | 115           | 21           | 0.5%                              |
| HISTORY           | A     | 7,938          | 334           | 91           | 1.1%                              |
| HOME ECON         | A     | 8,724          | 270           | 64           | 0.7%                              |
| IRISH             | A     | 14,359         | 859           | 147          | 1.0%                              |
| IRISH             | G     | 25,220         | 62            | 9            | 0.0%                              |
| ITALIAN           | A     | 233            | 11            | 3            | 1.3%                              |
| LINKS MODULES     | C     | 16,422         | 319           | 50           | 0.3%                              |
| MATHEMATICS       | A     | 8,237          | 417           | 79           | 1.0%                              |
| MATHEMATICS       | G     | 37,505         | 414           | 83           | 0.2%                              |
| MUSIC             | A     | 5,427          | 176           | 18           | 0.3%                              |
| PHYSICS           | A     | 4,782          | 168           | 30           | 0.6%                              |
| PHY & CHEM        | A     | 379            | 10            | 1            | 0.3%                              |
| RELIG EDUC        | A     | 888            | 41            | 0            | 0.0%                              |
| SPANISH           | A     | 2,407          | 84            | 21           | 0.9%                              |
| TECHNOLOGY        | A     | 699            | 10            | 1            | 0.1%                              |
| OTHER SUBJECTS*   |       | 55,995         | 69            | 21           | 0.0%                              |
| <b>TOTALS</b>     |       | <b>371,842</b> | <b>10,142</b> | <b>1,931</b> | <b>0.5%</b>                       |

*A = Ard (Higher), G = Gnath (Ordinary), B = Bonn (Foundation) C = Common.*

**Other Subjects** \* (where less than 10 candidates appealed their result)

**Higher Level:** Agricultural Economics, Ancient Greek, Arabic, Polish, Romanian, Slovakian.

**Ordinary Level:** Accounting, Agricultural Science, Applied Maths, Art, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Construction Studies, Design & Communication Graphics, Economics, Engineering, Geography, German, History, Home Economics, Japanese, Latin, Physics, Spanish.

**Foundation Level:** Irish, Mathematics,

The figures do not include a small number of appeals which have yet to be finalised.

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