



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Corr na Madadh, Baile Átha Luain, Co. na hIarmhí
Cornamaddy, Athlone, Co. Westmeath.

Circ S48/20

LEAVING CERTIFICATE AND LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPLIED REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS 2020 and 2021

The purpose of this circular is to advise you of the arrangements for the sitting of the 2020 Leaving Certificate/Leaving Certificate Applied examinations in November 2020 and regarding the application process for the Leaving Certificate/Leaving Certificate Applied and Junior Cycle 2021 examinations.

Leaving Certificate/Leaving Certificate Applied 2020

Candidates sitting the Leaving Certificate/Leaving Certificate Applied examinations in November who have already been granted reasonable accommodations for the earlier examinations will be able to have these accommodations put in place for the examinations without any further action.

For candidates who experience an emergency in the lead up to the examinations and who may then need reasonable accommodation(s), there will be a RACE Emergency Application Form available on <https://www.examinations.ie>. This form will seek details of the circumstances leading to the application - the SEC will refuse any application that it deems not to be a genuine emergency.

Leaving Certificate/Leaving Certificate Applied 2021

The SEC will issue RACE scheme application forms for the 2021 Leaving Certificate/Leaving Certificate Applied examinations in mid-October.

The vast majority of RACE applications for LC/LCA 2021 will be reactivations of accommodations granted for Junior Cycle. However, the SEC acknowledges that there will be a small number of new applications and, due to the disruption caused to testing schedules by COVID-19, there may be a delay on new applications. To facilitate this we have an extended closing date of **20th November 2020**. Note that where testing cannot be carried out to meet the deadline, the application will have to then be made using the late application process.

The *Instructions for Schools* will also issue in mid-October and while there will be no material changes to these instructions, there will be more detailed information regarding testing. In advance of the issue of these instructions, set out at Appendix A are the details of the tests of literacy related skills that are accepted by the SEC for the purpose of RACE for the 2021 examinations and some additional guidelines regarding the carrying out of the testing. The selection of these tests and the additional guidelines below has been determined in conjunction with NEPS. You should also refer to the Department of Education and Skills, Circular Letter 0067/2020 (Revising Circular 0058/2019) regarding *Advice on the use of assessment instruments/tests for Guidance or for additional and special educational needs (SEN) in post primary schools* which issued on 22 September 2020.

Junior Cycle 2021

The SEC will issue RACE scheme application forms for the 2021 Junior Cycle examinations in November 2020. The closing date will be 22nd January 2021.

The list of Key Dates for 2021 Reasonable Accommodations is below:

2021 Reasonable Accommodations Key Dates

	AVAILABLE FROM	CLOSING DATE	DECISION TIMEFRAME
Leaving Certificate/Leaving Certificate Applied 2021 – Reactivation Form and New Accommodations Form	Mid-October 2020	20 th November 2020	Mid-February 2021
Leaving Certificate/LCA 2021 – Late Application Form	February 2021	9 th April 2021	May 2021
Junior Cycle 2021 – Standard Application Form	November 2020	22 nd January 2021	Mid-April 2021
Junior Cycle 2021 – Late Application Form	February 2021	9 th April 2021	May 2021
Emergency Application Form - LC and JC	May 2021	June 2021	June 2021

Please note that if a school has a problem with meeting any of these dates due to a COVID-19 incident in their school the principal should contact the RACE section immediately.

If you need assistance on any aspect of the application process, please contact us by e-mail or phone using the details supplied below.

John Burke
A/Higher Executive Officer
September 2020

Appendix A

Additional guidelines regarding testing, and lists of tests accepted by the SEC for the purpose of RACE

Additional guidelines:

Great care should be taken to ensure that all tests are carried out correctly, with a particular emphasis placed on the following:

- Use of publishers' record sheets.
- Correct calculation of chronological age.
- Adherence to test administration instructions (including basal and ceiling points).
- Meticulous attention to the calculation of raw scores, and subsequent conversion to standard scores.

Candidates for an accommodation should only be tested once only, following the establishment of need and a history of intervention. **Results from retests will not be accepted unless there is clear evidence that an error was made by the test administrator in conducting the first test or calculating results.** In such cases, a new application must be made.

Tests accepted by the SEC for the purpose of RACE:

1. The following tests should be used by teachers to establish a candidate's standard score in **reading** and must be administered individually:

- Wide Range Achievement Test 5 (WRAT-5) **or**
- Wechsler Individual Achievement Test III (WIAT-III) **or**
- Woodcock Reading Mastery Test 3rd Edition **or**
- Woodcock-Johnson IV Tests of Achievement **or**
- Diagnostic Reading Analysis (3rd Edition (DRA 3) **or**
- Adult Reading Test 2nd Edition (ART 2)

2. The following tests should be used by teachers to establish a candidate's standard score in **spelling** and must be administered individually:

- Wide Range Achievement Test 5 (WRAT-5) **or**
- Wechsler Individual Achievement Test III (WIAT-III) **or**
- Woodcock-Johnson IV Tests of Achievement **or**
- SPaRCS Test

3. The following standardised tests should be used, where applicable, by schools to explore a candidate's **writing speed**. They must be administered individually to establish the writing speed in words per minute.

- Detailed Assessment of Speed of Handwriting 2007 for Age Range 9 to 16:11 (www.pearsonclinical.co.uk)
- Detailed Assessment of Speed of Handwriting 2011 for Age Range 17 to 25 (www.pearsonclinical.co.uk)

Further information and support on testing can be accessed through the National Council for Special Education (NCSE) or The National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS) support services.



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SOCRUITHE RÉASÚNTA ARDTEISTIMÉIREACHT AGUS ARDTEISTIMÉIREACHT FHEIDHMEACH 2020 agus 2021

Is é aidhm an chiorcláin seo ná tú a chur ar an eolas maidir leis na socrúithe le scrúduithe Ardteistiméireacht/Ardteistiméireacht Fheidhmeach 2020 a dhéanamh i mí na Samhna 2020 agus maidir leis an bpróiseas iarratais do scrúduithe Ardteistiméireacht/Ardteistiméireacht Fheidhmeach agus Shraith Shóisearach 2021.

Ardteistiméireacht/Ardteistiméireacht Fheidhmeach 2020

Beidh iarrthóirí atá ag déanamh scrúduithe na hArdteistiméireacht/na hArdteistiméireachta Feidhmí i mí na Samhna ar bronnadh socrúithe réasúnta orthu do na scrúduithe a bhí le bheith ar siúl níos luaithe in ann na socrúithe seo a bheith curtha i bhfeidhm do na scrúduithe gan aon ghníomhú breise a dhéanamh.

D'iarrthóirí a mbíonn cás éigeandála a bhaineann leo roimh na scrúduithe agus a mbeadh socrú/socrúithe réasúnta de dhíth orthu, beidh Foirm Iarratais i gCás Éigeandála de chuid RACE ar fáil ar <https://www.examinations.ie>. San fhoirm seo lorgófar sonraí na gcúinsí is cúis leis an iarratas – diúltóidh CSS aon iarratas a cheapann sé nach fíorchás éigeandála atá ann.

Ardteistiméireacht/Ardteistiméireacht Fheidhmeach 2021

Eiseoidh CSS foirmeacha iarratais um scéim RACE le haghaidh scrúduithe Ardteistiméireacht/Ardteistiméireacht Fheidhmeach 2021 i lár mhí Dheireadh Fómhair.

Beidh an chuid is mó d'iarratais RACE do AT/ATF 2021 mar athghníomhachtúcháin de shocrúithe atá bronnta don tSraith Shóisearach. Ach, aithníonn CSS go mbeidh líon beag iarratas nua agus, toisc gur cuireadh isteach ar sceidil trialacha de bharr COVID-19, tá seans ann go mbeidh moill ar na hiarratais nua. Chun é seo a éascú, is é an dáta deiridh a bhfuil síneadh ama curtha leis ná an **20^ú Samhain 2020**. Tabhair faoi deara sa chás nach féidir trialacha a dhéanamh chun an spriocdháta a bhaint amach, ansin beidh gá leis an iarratas a dhéanamh ag baint úsáid as an bpróiseas iarratais déanach.

Eiseofar na *Treoracha do Scoileanna* freisin i lár mhí Dheireadh Fómhair agus cé nach bhfuil aon athruithe san ábhar ar na treoracha, beidh níos mó mioneolas ann maidir le trialacha a dhéanamh. Sula ndéanfar na treoracha seo a eisiúint, tá sonraí leagtha amach in Aguisín A maidir leis na trialacha ar scileanna a bhaineann leis an litearthacht mar a nglacann CSS leo chun críche RACE do scrúduithe 2021 and roinnt treoirlínte breise maidir leis na trialacha a dhéanamh. Rinneadh cinneadh maidir le roghnú na dtrialacha seo agus na treoirlínte breise thíos i gcomhar le NEPS. Ba chóir duit féachaint freisin ar Chiorclán 0067/2020 (Ciorclán Athbhreithnithe 0058/2019) de chuid na Roinne Oideachais agus Scileanna, maidir le *Comhairle maidir le hionstraimí/trialacha measúnachta a úsáid le haghaidh Treorach nó le haghaidh riachtanas breise agus speisialta oideachais (RSO) in iar-bhunscoileanna* a eisíodh ar an 22 Meán Fómhair 2020.

Sraith Shóisearach 2021

Eiseoidh CSS foirmeacha iarratais um Scéim RACE do scrúduithe Shraith Shóisearach 2021 i mí na Samhna 2020. Is é an dáta deiridh ná an 22^ú Eanáir 2021.

Tá liosta na bPríomhdhátaí le haghaidh Shocruithe Réasúnta 2021 thíos:

Príomhdhátaí Shocruithe Réasúnta 2021

	AR FÁIL Ó	DÁTA DEIRIDH	TRÉIMHSE AMA DON CHINNEADH
Ardteistiméireacht/Ardteistiméireacht Fheidhmeach 2021 – Foirm Athghníomhachtúcháin agus Foirm Socruithe Nua	Lár Dheireadh Fómhair 2020	20 ^ú Samhain 2020	Lár Feabhra 2021
Ardteistiméireacht/ATF 2021 – Foirm Iarratais Dhéanach	Feabhra 2021	9 ^ú Aibreán 2021	Bealtaine 2021
Sraith Shóisearach 2021 – Foirm Iarratais Chaighdeánach	Samhain 2020	22 ^ú Eanáir 2021	Lár Aibreáin 2021
Sraith Shóisearach 2021 – Foirm Iarratais Dhéanach	Feabhra 2021	9 ^ú Aibreán 2021	Bealtaine 2021
Foirm Iarratais Éigeandála - AT agus SS	Bealtaine 2021	Meitheamh 2021	Meitheamh 2021

Tabhair faoi deara le do thoil má bhíonn fadhb ag scoil le haon cheann de na dátaí seo a chomhlíonadh de bharr eachtra COVID-19 ina scoil ba chóir don phríomhoide dul i dteagmháil le rannóg RACE láithreach.

Má tá cúnamh ag teastáil uait maidir le gné ar bith den phróiseas iarratais, téigh i dteagmháil linn ar ríomhphost nó ar an bhfón ag baint úsáid as na sonraí atá curtha ar fáil thíos.

John Burke
Ardoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin Gníomhach
Meán Fómhair 2020

Aguisín A

Treoirlínte breise maidir le trialacha a dhéanamh, agus liosta na dtrialacha a nglacann CSS leo chun críocha RACE

Treoirlínte breise:

Ba chóir bheith an-chúramach lena chinntiú go ndéantar na trialacha ar fad i gceart, le béim ar leith curtha ar na nithe seo a leanas:

- Úsáid bileoga taifid na bhfoilsitheoirí.
- Ríomh ceart d'aois cróineolaíoch.
- Treoracha riaracháin na dtrialacha a chomhlíonadh (lena n-áirítear bunphointí agus uasphointí).
- Aird phointeáilte ar ríomh amhscór, nó aistriú chuig scóir chaighdeánacha ina dhiaidh sin.

Níor chóir triail a dhéanamh ar iarrthóirí le haghaidh socraithe ach aon uair amháin, tar éis an gá agus stair na hidirghabhála a bhunú. **Ní ghlacfar le torthaí ó arialacha ach amháin má bhíonn fianaise shoiléir ann go ndearna riarthóir na trialach botún sa chéad triail a reáchtáil sé/sí nó nuair a rinneadh a dtorthaí a ríomh.** Ina leithéid de chásanna, ní mór iarratas nua a dhéanamh.

Trialacha a nglacann CSS leo chun críocha RACE:

1. Ba chóir do mhúinteoirí na trialacha seo a leanas a úsáid chun scór caighdeánach iarrthóra a aimsiú sa **léitheoireacht** agus ní mór iad a riar ar bhonn aonair:

- Triail Ghnóthachtála Raon Leathan (*Wide Range Achievement Test*) 5 (WRAT-5) **nó**
- Triail Ghnóthachtála Aonair Wechsler (*Wechsler Individual Achievement Test*) III (WIAT-III) **nó**
- Triail Máistreacht Léitheoireachta Woodcock (*Woodcock Reading Mastery Test*) 3ú hEagrán **nó**
- Trialacha Gnóthachtála Woodcock-Johnson IV (*Woodcock-Johnson IV Tests of Achievement*) **nó**
- Anailís Léitheoireachta Dhiagnóiseach (*Diagnostic Reading Analysis*) (3ú hEagrán) (DRA 3) **nó**
- Triail Léitheoireachta do Dhaoine Fásta (Adult Reading Test) 2^ú hEagrán (ART 2)

2. Ba chóir do mhúinteoirí úsáid a bhaint as na trialacha seo a leanas chun scór caighdeánach iarrthóra a aimsiú sa **litriú** agus ní mór iad a riar ar bhonn aonair:

- Triail Ghnóthachtála Raon Leathan (*Wide Range Achievement Test*) 5 (WRAT-5) **nó**
- Triail Ghnóthachtála Aonair Wechsler (*Wechsler Individual Achievement Test*) III (WIAT-III) **nó**
- Trialacha Gnóthachtála Woodcock-Johnson IV (*Woodcock-Johnson IV Tests of Achievement*) **nó**
- Triail SPaRCS (*SPaRCS Test*)

3. Ba chóir do scoileanna na trialacha caighdeánacha seo a leanas a úsáid, más bainteach, chun iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar **luas scríbhneoireachta** iarrthóra. Ní mór iad a riar ar bhonn aonair chun an luas scríbhneoireachta i bhfocail in aghaidh an nóiméid a aimsiú.

- Measúnacht Mhion ar Luas na Scríbhneoireachta 2007 don Aoisraon 9 mbliana go 16 bliana d'aois: 11 (*Detailed Assessment of Speed of Handwriting 2007 for Age Range 9 to 16:11*) (www.pearsonclinical.co.uk)
- Measúnacht Mhion ar Luas na Scríbhneoireachta 2007 don Aoisraon 17 mbliana go 25 bliana d'aois (*Detailed Assessment of Speed of Handwriting 2011 for Age Range 17 to 25*) (www.pearsonclinical.co.uk)

Is féidir teacht ar thuilleadh eolais agus tacaíochta maidir le trialacha a dhéanamh tríd an gComhairle Náisiúnta um Oideachas Speisialta (NCSE) nó trí sheirbhís tacaíochta na Seirbhíse Náisiúnta Síceolaíochta Oideachais (NEPS).