

STATE EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION

**PRESS RELEASE**

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION 2016

Almost 58,500 candidates receive results today

**17<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

The State Examinations Commission (SEC) congratulates and wishes well for the future the candidates who sat the Leaving Certificate examination in 2016 and whose results issued today.

The statements of provisional results of this year's examinations are available in schools today. From midday, students who are not in a position to collect their results in person from their school can access them through the SEC's internet results service.

**General Overview of the Leaving Certificate**

The overall number sitting the examinations has increased by 0.9 % from 57,931 candidates in 2015 to 58,466 in 2016. Of the 58,466 candidates who sat Leaving Certificate examinations this year, 55,708 candidates followed the Leaving Certificate (Established) programme, including 14,637 (26%) who followed the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme. A further 2,758 (4.7%) candidates followed the Leaving Certificate Applied Programme.

The results obtained in most subjects this year are broadly in line with those of previous years.

**What Candidates Should Do Next**

Candidates are strongly advised to consult the *Leaving Certificate Candidate Information Booklet* that they have received earlier this year when deciding on their next course of action. (A copy of this booklet is available on the SEC website [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie)) Candidates should adhere to the instructions provided in order to ensure that they lodge valid requests for viewing marked scripts and appealing results.

**Viewing of Marked Scripts**

This free service offers all candidates the opportunity to view one or more of their marked examination scripts and to see how the marking scheme has been applied to their work. This facility assists candidates in deciding whether or not to lodge an appeal against a result. With the exception of external candidates, all applications for Viewing of Marked Scripts should be made through the candidate's school. The closing date for receipt of completed application forms in schools is Tuesday 23rd August 2016.

External candidates should follow the instructions that accompany their provisional statement of results. All candidates will have access to the Marking Schemes and will be able to see how they were applied in their case. The Viewing of Scripts will take place in schools on Friday 2nd September and Saturday 3rd September 2016.

### **Marking Schemes**

Marking Schemes in all Leaving Certificate subjects will be published and made available to schools to facilitate the Viewing of Marked Scripts. The marking schemes will also be available on [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie).

### **Appeals**

School based candidates who wish to appeal should do so through their school. External candidates should follow the instructions that accompany their provisional statement of results. All appeal applications must be with the State Examinations Commission by 5pm on Wednesday 7th September. Results of appeals will be issued in mid-October.

### **Admissions to Higher Education**

The SEC transmits the results of all candidates electronically to the Central Applications Office (CAO). This brings about the earliest possible issue of college place offers to candidates.

### **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. There has been a difference in emphasis in the Chief Examiners Reports since 2013, which has linked the assessment objectives with the learning objectives outlined in the syllabi. Reports are published in a selected number of subjects and programmes each year. Following the 2016 examinations, Chief Examiners' Reports will be published in the Leaving Certificate subjects French, German, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Technology. The reports are expected to be published in Spring, 2017.

### **Leaving Certificate Applied Programme**

This year 2,758 students took their final stage examinations in the two year Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA) programme. LCA students have been building their credits right through the two years of their Leaving Certificate course, so today brings the final stage and full recognition of their achievements.

The results for LCA students differ from those of their counterparts in the established Leaving Certificate. Graduates from the LCA programme receive a single award made on the basis of credits accumulated over the two year cycle. This award is given at three levels: Pass for those students with total credits of 60% or over but less than 70%; Merit for 70% or over but less than 85%; and Distinction for 85% and above.

The numbers taking the LCA programme over the past five years and the grades awarded are shown in the following table.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Distinction</b>	<b>Merit</b>	<b>Pass</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>2012</b>	669	1,657	445	457	3,228
<b>2013</b>	552	1,376	477	405	2,810
<b>2014</b>	609	1,496	406	453	2,964
<b>2015</b>	544	1,442	430	471	2,887
<b>2016</b>	529	1369	396	464	2,758

*Table 1 LCA Results 2012-2016*

### **Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme**

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP) is an optional, 2 year, academic and experience-based programme, available in 2 out of 3 post-primary schools. Candidates following the LCVP take a specified range of Leaving Certificate (established) subjects as well as a formal and practical programme called the Links Modules. The Links Modules consists of compulsory work experience and enterprise activity together with personal vocational exploration and substantial use of information technology.

The numbers taking the subject over the past five years and the grades awarded are shown in the following table:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Distinction</b>	<b>Merit</b>	<b>Pass</b>	<b>Unsuccessful</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>2012</b>	1,972	8,153	4,554	1,169	15,848
<b>2013</b>	1,707	7,622	5,117	1,233	15,679
<b>2014</b>	1,730	7,538	4,750	1,256	15,274
<b>2015</b>	1,620	8,326	4,148	830	14,924
<b>2016</b>	1,870	7,454	4,291	1,022	14,637

*Table 2 Link Modules Results 2012—2016*

### **Non-curricular EU Languages**

The SEC provides examinations in a range of EU non-curricular languages. In order to simplify the administration of these examinations, all non-curricular EU language subjects were again scheduled for a single examination session this year. It is intended to continue this practice in future years.

There is a slight increase in the candidature for the non-curricular EU languages this year – a total of 1424 as against 1344 in 2015.

The following table provides the number of candidates in these language subjects in 2016.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>2016</b>
Dutch	19
Portuguese	95
Polish	717
Latvian	73
Lithuanian	202
Romanian	167
Hungarian	45
Czech	15
Slovakian	30
Bulgarian	14
Croatian	22
Others less than 10 candidates *	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,424</b>

*Non-Curricular Language Subjects 2016*

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

### **Advice for Candidates**

A helpline facility will be operating from early on 17th August to provide information and advice to students and parents at results time. The helpline number operated by the National Parents' Council (Post-Primary) is: 1800 265 165

(Note: This helpline facility is not operated by the State Examinations Commission)

*All statistics provided in this press release are provisional for 2016 and as such are subject to enquiry and appeal.*

The SEC publishes on its website ([www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie)) statistical documentation on the results of the 2016 Leaving Certificate examinations for all subject levels with 10 candidates or more. For reasons of candidate confidentiality, the SEC only publishes details of individual subjects/levels for 10 or more candidates.

## Numbers of Candidates Sitting the Leaving Certificate 2012 – 2016

	Leaving Certificate (Established and LCVP)	Leaving Certificate Applied Programme	Total	Annual % Change
<b>2012</b>	52,588	3,228	55,816	-3.0%
<b>2013</b>	52,767	2,810	55,577	-0.4%
<b>2014</b>	54,025	2,964	56,989	+2.5%
<b>2015</b>	55,044	2,887	57,931	+1.6%
<b>2016</b>	55,708	2,758	58,466	+0.9%

*Table 2.1 All Leaving Certificate Candidature 2012-2016*

2012 figures include 2,852 External and 2,484 Repeat Candidates.

2013 figures include 2,743 External and 1,948 Repeat Candidates.

2014 figures include 2,578 External and 1,768 Repeat Candidates.

2015 figures include 2,616 External and 1,670 Repeat Candidates.

2016 figures include 2,819 External and 1,445 Repeat Candidates.

### **Access to Exam Results**

Results are available on-line from 12:00 midday Wednesday, 17th August, 2016.

Access to the on-line results service, which requires the use of the candidate's examination number and unique candidate Personal Identification Number, is through [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie).

The closing date for receipt of completed application forms to view scripts is Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2016. The closing date for receipt by the SEC of applications to appeal results is Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

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