Leaving Certificate 2020

Covid-19 is having an enormous impact on the lives of everyone, including our young people. Junior Cycle examinations have already been cancelled. For a number of reasons it is not possible to hold the Leaving Certificate examinations this summer.

Fairness and certainty for our Leaving Certificate students is now paramount.

The Leaving Certificate will not be held in July/August, in the best interests of candidates.

All candidates will be offered a State certificate of Calculated Grades, which they can use to progress to further or higher education, or employment.

Calculated Grades are decided based on data on each candidate from schools.

How Calculated Grades work

1. Estimation of Scores and Rankings by Teacher
   - The subject teacher estimates percentage mark the candidate is likely to have achieved in Leaving Certificate 2020
   - The teacher estimates class ranking of each candidate in order of predicted level of achievement for each subject.

2. In-school alignment by Teachers
   - Subject teachers review the estimated marks and rankings of students
   - Teachers finalise their estimated marks and rankings following alignment process

3. Oversight of Marks and Rankings by School Principal
   - The principal reviews estimated marks and rankings, and signs off on behalf of the school.
   - The principal may return the estimated marks and rankings to the relevant group of teachers for further consideration.

4. National Standardisation by Department of Education & Skills
   - Marks and rankings submitted by schools will be examined and may be adjusted using statistical methods to ensure a common national standard is applied.

The CAO and further education processes will run as close as possible to their original dates. The new dates will be announced as soon as possible.

All 2020 students will be given the opportunity to sit the conventional Leaving Certificate examination if they wish, at the earliest safe and practical time.

Find out more at gov.ie/leavingcert

Supported by the Government of Ireland