

Republic of Ireland

Educational Timeline

- School year: August-June; Graduation occurs in June or July
- Primary school is six years followed by three years of Junior Cycle (then an optional “Transition year”) and two years of Senior Cycle

Group A: Documents That Meet High School Graduation Requirement

Students presenting documents other than those listed below will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis

Ardeistmeireacht/Leaving Certificate

- Student must achieve at least five exam subject passes at the Ordinary or Higher level. Statements of Results are acceptable as proof of high school graduation and can be used for GPA calculation.

Senior Certificate

- Student must achieve at least five exam subject passes at the Ordinary or Higher level. Statements of Results are acceptable as proof of high school graduation and can be used for GPA calculation.

Leaving Certificate Vocational Program or Leaving Certificate Applied

- Student must achieve at least five exam subject passes at the Ordinary or Higher level. Statements of Results are acceptable as proof of high school graduation and can be used for GPA calculation.

Allowable high school extension:

A student’s high school graduation date can be extended one year for attendance and completion of a FETAC Level 5 at a College of Further Education (e.g. Colaiste Ide). Students taking the FETAC Level 5 qualification at a College will not be considered transfer students. The student must enroll immediately after completion of the Leaving Certificate and earn the credential within one year to have high school graduation extended for a maximum of one year.

Group B: Documents That Do Not Meet High School Graduation Requirement

Comparable to less than completion of US high school

Junior Certificate/*Teastas Sóisearach* Completion of Lower Secondary
High School Transcripts

GPA Calculation

Calculate the cumulative high school GPA by converting line-by-line all grades listed on documents listed in “Group A” above to US equivalents and convert to quality points. Divide quality points by the total number of courses attempted.

Grading scale does not differ depending on the level of the exam written on the Leaving Certificate. All exams passes on the Leaving Certificate are evaluated based on the scale below.

Grading Scale (May not be all inclusive):

Leaving Certificate (1992 onward):

Grade	Numeric Grade	US Equivalent	Quality Points	
A1	90-100	A	4	
A2	85-89	A	4	
B1	80-84	B	3	
B2	75-79	B	3	
B3	70-74	B	3	
C1	65-69	C	2	
C2	60-64	C	2	
C3	55-59	C	2	
D1	50-54	D	1	
D2	45-49	D	1	
D3	40-44	D	1	lowest passing grade
E	25-39	F	0	
F	0-24	F	0	

Leaving Certificate Link Modules (1997 onward):

Grade	Translation	Numeric Grade	US Equivalent	Quality Points	
GD	Distinction	80-100	A	4	
FM	Merit	65-79	B	3	
PP	Pass	50-64	C	2	lowest passing grade
No award	Fail	0-49	F	0	

Senior Certificate:

Grade	Translation	Numeric Grade	US Equivalent	Quality Points	
PG	Pass with Distinction	76-100	A	4	
PM	Pass with Credit	60-75	B	3	
P	Pass	40-59	C	2	lowest passing grade
S	Succeeded		C	2	lowest passing grade
No award	Fail	0-39	F	0	

Class Ranking

Class rank is evaluated based on a letter written and submitted by the headmaster or principal of the institution from which the student graduated. The letter must confirm both the student's final position in his/her secondary school class and the total number of students in the graduating class (e.g. the student is 41st in a total graduating class of 112 students). However, students completing tracked or separate degree programs (e.g. Leaving Certificate Vocational) must be ranked against all other students in a given class who completed the same degree program. Class rank cannot be used to meet initial freshmen requirements for external candidates.

Post-Secondary Education

Students will be charged terms of attendance and considered transfer students if they have enrolled as a regular student and attended one or more courses at any of the types of institutions listed below (may not be all inclusive) or any other institution that requires proof of high school graduation as a pre-requisite for admission (subject to review on a case-by-case basis).

University

College

Institute

FETAC Level 6 and above

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