



accs

Association of Community
and Comprehensive Schools

Cumann na Scoileanna Pobail
agus Cuimsitheacha

2nd June, 2022.

**The Secretary,
Board of Management and
School Principal in
each Community and Comprehensive School.**

Members of the Executive of ACCS.

ACCS/Info Bulletin 15/22. Re: State Examinations Commission - Extension of the RACE Scheme to provide deferred Examinations for Leaving Certificate and Leaving Certificate Applied.

The State Examinations Commission has issued Circular Letter S34/22, *Leaving Certificate: Extension of the RACE Scheme to provide deferred Examinations for Leaving Certificate and Leaving Certificate Applied candidates unable to sit one or more papers in the main sitting in June on grounds of;*

A. Close family bereavement – funeral preparation and attendance.

B. Serious medical conditions – Accident, injury or illness.

and

[Addendum to S34/22](#) – Leaving Certificate 2022 – Access to deferred Examinations due to Public Health Advice – Covid 19.

The Circular and Addendum outline in detail the provision of deferred examinations for leaving certificate and leaving certificate applied students unable to sit one or more papers in the main sitting in June on the grounds of:

- A close family bereavement
- Serious medical conditions
- Covid-19

S34/22 is accompanied by two appendices:

1. Appendix 1 – Provisional Deferred Examination Timetables for LC and LCA. Both sets of deferred examinations commence on June 30th with the first 5 days of the LC fixed and the first day of the LCA fixed. All other days are provisional and subject to change dependent and the number of candidates resitting particular subjects.
2. Appendix 2- Leaving Certificate and Leaving Certificate Applied Deferred Examinations Declaration Form. The school endorse the application with the Principal certifying that they believe this candidate is eligible in line with this Circular. The candidate and parent/guardian are also required to sign a declaration.

A close family bereavement

The arrangements for a close family bereavement are the same as those that applied in 2019, the last occasion there was a deferred sitting of the leaving certificate. Eligible candidates who experience a **close family** bereavement will be able to **defer up to three days of examinations**. The three days do not need to be consecutive but must fall between the date of death and the day after the date of the funeral.

Comment [JI1]:

Serious medical conditions

This is an extension to the provisions. Exemplars of the type of serious illness considered are included in the Circular with the key provision that *for reasons of examinations integrity, the threshold for evidence is high and evidence will be required from a **medical consultant or hospital**.*

Covid-19

If a candidate is absent for an examination(s) as they are experiencing symptoms of Covid-19, they will be allowed to access the examinations for which they are absent in the deferred sitting.

The mandatory absence period starts on the first day on which symptoms occur (day zero) and will require the candidate to be absent from the examinations for the following 7-day period (including weekends); so, 8 days in total. This means that a candidate will be unable to sit any examination paper they were due to take on the day the symptoms occur and any that they were due to take in the following 7 days (i.e. 8 days in total).

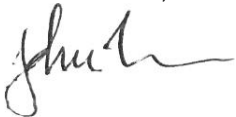
Role of all Schools

Section 12 of the Circular details the role of all schools relating to the administrative requirements. As a support for schools in the administration of the deferred examinations application process all schools may claim up to **one additional Examinations Aide day**. If there are no applications from candidates in a school, then no claim should be made.

The deferred examinations will be facilitated on a regional basis and the host schools in which the deferred Leaving Certificate examinations are being held have been provided separately with details of the support arrangements which will apply. Some schools may be required to facilitate deferred examinations in LCVP, Computer Science and LCA ICT on the date that will be notified in due course.

Schools required to be open as an examination centre on the date of the deferred examinations in LCVP, Computer Science and the LCA ICT can claim up to two additional Examinations Aide days and otherwise claim for miscellaneous expenses (school-opening; care-taking; cleaning) as provided for under [SEC Circular S32/2022](#) *Additional Resources and Payment Arrangements to Schools to Support the Running of the State Examinations 2022*.

Is mise,
le mór mheas,



John Irwin,
GENERAL SECRETARY.