

Secondary Schools : Examinations.

REGULATIONS, DATED 23RD JULY, 1931, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, UNDER SECTION 99 OF THE EDUCATION ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1923, AND LAID BEFORE PARLIAMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THAT SECTION.

1931. No. 84.

I.—CITATIONS AND DEFINITIONS.

1. These regulations may be cited as “The Secondary School Examinations Regulations.”

2. In these regulations—

- (1) the expression “the Ministry” means the Ministry of Education for Northern Ireland ;
- (2) the expression “secondary” includes “intermediate” ;
- (3) the expression “school-year” means an annual period beginning on 1st August and ending on 31st July following ;
- (4) the expression “approved” means approved by the Ministry ;
- (5) the expression “recognized” means recognized by the Ministry, and when used with reference to an intermediate or secondary school means recognized under the Ministry’s regulations for the payment of grants to preparatory, intermediate and secondary schools.
- (6) the expression “compulsory subject” means a subject the examination in which a candidate is obliged to take under these regulations ;
- (7) the expression “pass in” a subject means pass the examination in that subject ;
- (8) the masculine includes the feminine and the singular includes the plural except where the context requires otherwise.

II.—SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS.**A. GENERAL.**

3. The Ministry will hold annually the following examinations (hereinafter called “the Certificate Examinations”) for the award of certificates to pupils in secondary schools in Northern Ireland :—

- (1) the examination for the award of the Junior Certificate (hereinafter called "the Junior Certificate Examination");
- (2) the examination for the award of the Senior Certificate (hereinafter called "the Senior Certificate Examination").

4. The Ministry will award to each candidate according as he has passed the Junior or Senior Certificate Examination in the manner required by these regulations a Junior or a Senior Certificate whereon will be specified each subject in which the candidate has passed, and also each subject in which he has passed with credit or distinction.

5. The maximum number of marks (hereinafter called the "maximum") obtainable in each subject of a certificate examination will be the same.

6. In a certificate examination—

- (1) to pass in any subject a candidate must obtain at least 40 per cent. of the maximum;
- (2) to pass in any subject with credit a candidate must obtain at least 50 per cent. of the maximum;
- (3) to pass in any subject with distinction a candidate must obtain at least 70 per cent. of the maximum:

Provided, however, that:—

- (1) in the Senior Certificate Examination,
 - (a) in any one of the More Advanced Mathematical Subjects a candidate—
 - (i) will pass who obtains at least 30 per cent. of the maximum;
 - (ii) will pass with credit who obtains at least 40 per cent. of the maximum;
 - (iii) will pass with distinction who obtains at least 60 per cent. of the maximum.
 - (b) in Science, in Domestic Economy, and in Music a candidate may not pass with credit or distinction who has not satisfied the Ministry in the practical tests; and
 - (c) in any modern language a candidate may not pass with credit or distinction who has not satisfied the Ministry in the oral tests.

(2) in the Junior Certificate Examination—

- (a) in Domestic Economy a candidate may not pass with distinction who has not satisfied the Ministry in a qualifying practical test ;
- (b) in any modern language a candidate may not pass with distinction who has not satisfied the Ministry in the oral tests.

B. CANDIDATES.

7. Every candidate for a certificate must be an enrolled pupil in attendance at a recognised secondary school in Northern Ireland.

8. No such pupil will be admitted as a candidate who has not—

- (1) been in attendance at a recognized secondary school in Northern Ireland from the beginning of the school-year in which the examination is held ; and
- (2) followed at an approved secondary school an approved course of study extending over such period as may be prescribed for the examination :

Provided, however, that the Ministry may in exceptional circumstances admit as a candidate a person who does not satisfy either or both of the above requirements, upon written application being made to the Ministry, by the principal or other competent authority of the school of which he is an enrolled pupil, stating the special circumstances under which the admission is sought.

9. No person will be admitted as a candidate for a certificate examination who has not been entered for the examination as provided in these regulations by the principal or other competent authority of the school at which he is an enrolled pupil.

10. The principal or other competent authority of every recognized secondary school where there are pupils desirous of entering as candidates must send annually to the Ministry on the prescribed form of entry obtainable from the Ministry the names of all such pupils together with such other particulars with regard to them as may be required from time to time by the Ministry.

11. Every such form of entry must reach the Ministry not later than 31st January in the year in which the examination is to be held and must be accompanied by the prescribed fee of ten shillings in respect of each candidate whose name appears thereon. Provided that no fee shall be required under this regulation in respect of any candidate who has paid a fee of not less than ten shillings for entrance to the King's Scholarship examination of the same year.

12. The Ministry reserves to itself the right to accept or to refuse any form of entry received after the date named in Regu-

lation 11, hereof, and in the event of such late application being accepted, to charge, in addition to the ordinary fee, a late fee of ten shillings in respect of each candidate; provided that no application received after the first day of March in the year in which the examination is to be held shall be accepted.

C. EXTERN STUDENTS.

13. A student who is not a candidate (hereinafter called an "Extern Student") may be permitted by the Ministry to answer the tests set in the Certificate Examinations.

14. Every extern student must send to the Ministry on the prescribed form on or before the 31st January in the year in which the examinations are to be held, an application for permission to enter, containing such particulars as may be required.

15. (a) Every application from an extern student must be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

(b) The prescribed fee shall be as follows:—

For either of the examinations seven shillings and six pence for each subject or an inclusive fee of one guinea and a half for the whole of that examination whichever is the less: Provided that a student who is an entrant for the King's Scholarship Examination and who has paid the fee prescribed in the Regulations for that examination shall not be required to pay any further fee in respect of the subjects taken as part of the King's Scholarship Examination.

16. The Ministry reserves to itself the right to accept or to refuse any application received after the date mentioned in Regulation 14 hereof, and in the event of such late application being accepted, to charge, in addition to the ordinary fee, a late fee of ten shillings. Provided that no application received after the first day of March in the year in which the examination is to be held shall be accepted.

17. If the answering of an extern student is satisfactory and he fulfils such other conditions as the Ministry may prescribe, the Ministry may certify him as having attained the standard of education necessary to qualify for admission to the Army Entrance or other approved examination, and may supply particulars of his performance at the examination to a local education authority or other approved educational body for the purpose of the award of a scholarship or for such other purpose as may be advisable. Such student will not be eligible for the award of a certificate and his marks will not appear in any official list of results which may be issued by the Ministry, but the Ministry may certify him to a local education authority or other body as having passed the examination, provided that his answering is such as would have entitled him to the award of a certificate, had he been entered as a candidate.

18. An extern student, other than a candidate for the King's Scholarship Examination, may be supplied with the marks obtained by him in the examination on sending an application, accompanied by a fee of 1/—, to the Ministry.

D. JUNIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION.

19. No pupil will be admitted as a candidate for the Junior Certificate Examination who has not satisfied the following conditions :—

- (1) reached an approved standard of elementary education ;
- (2) thereafter followed an approved intermediate course for at least 2 years at an approved secondary school ; and
- (3) attained the age of 14 years on or before the first day of June in the year in which he is admitted as a candidate ;

Provided, however, that the Ministry may in exceptional circumstances admit a pupil who does not satisfy either or both of conditions (2) and (3) hereof upon written application being made to the Ministry by the principal or other recognised authority of the school of which the said pupil is an enrolled pupil stating the special circumstances under which the admission is sought.

20. The subjects of the Junior Certificate Examination and the programme thereof shall be such as may be prescribed from time to time by the Ministry.

21. Every candidate for the Junior Certificate Examination must take the examination in the following subjects :—

- (1) English ;
- (2) Arithmetic ;
- (3) History or Geography ;
- (4) A language other than English ; and
- (5) (a) Algebra and Geometry ; or
(b) *Either Algebra or Geometry, together with one of the following subjects :—*
 - (i) Experimental Science ;
 - (ii) Domestic Economy ;
 - (iii) Drawing ;
 - (iv) A second language other than English ;
 - (v) History or Geography, being that one of these two subjects the examination in which he is not taking under (3) hereof.

22. To gain the Junior Certificate a candidate must obtain—

- (1) at least 30 per cent. of the maximum in English ;
- (2) at least 25 per cent. of the maximum in each of the other compulsory subjects ; and
- (3) an aggregate of at least 40 per cent. of the sum of the maxima in all the compulsory subjects.

E. SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION.

23. No pupil will be admitted as a candidate for the Senior Certificate Examination who has not—

- (1) followed an approved post-intermediate course for at least two years at a recognized secondary school, and
- (2) either—
 - (a) passed the Junior Certificate Examination or some other examination regarded by the Ministry as equivalent,
 - or
 - (b) pursued an approved course in a recognized secondary school for at least five years including the two post-intermediate years required by (1) above;

Provided, however, that the Ministry may in exceptional circumstances admit a pupil who does not satisfy the above requirements upon written application being made to the Ministry by the principal or other competent authority of the school of which he is an enrolled pupil stating the special circumstances under which the admission is sought.

24. The subjects of the Senior Certificate Examination and the programme thereof shall be such as may be prescribed from time to time by the Ministry.

25. Every candidate for the Senior Certificate Examination must take the examination in the following subjects:—

- (1) English;
- (2) (a) Elementary Mathematics, or
(b) Two (*one only, if a girl*) of the More Advanced Mathematical Subjects;
- (3) A language other than English; *and*
- (4) Any other *two* subjects of the examination.

26. To obtain the Senior Certificate a candidate must pass in each of the compulsory subjects:

Provided, however, that a candidate may be allowed by the Ministry to obtain the certificate by compensation, who, having failed to pass in one only of the compulsory subjects—

- (1) has been awarded in that subject at least 30 per cent. of the maximum, if it be English, or at least 25 per cent. of the maximum, if it be any other subject than English, and
- (2) has obtained an aggregate of at least 40 per cent. of the sum of the maxima in the compulsory subjects.

III. EXHIBITIONS AND PRIZES.

27. The Ministry may award exhibitions and prizes annually—

- (1) to candidates who have obtained the Junior Certificate;
- (2) to candidates who have obtained the Senior Certificate.

28. For the purpose of the award of both Senior and Junior exhibitions and prizes boys and girls will be grouped separately.

A. JUNIOR EXHIBITIONS AND PRIZES.

29. Every exhibition awarded to a candidate who has obtained the Junior Certificate (hereinafter called a "Junior Exhibition") will be of the value of £30, payable in two equal instalments of £15 each as follows:—

- (1) in the school-year immediately succeeding the examination, and
- (2) in the school-year next following.

30. The Ministry will not be liable to pay any instalment of a Junior Exhibition unless it is satisfied that the money so paid will be devoted to furthering the educational interests of the holder of the exhibition.

31. Any holder of a Junior Exhibition to whom a Senior Exhibition is subsequently awarded shall thereupon forfeit his right to receive payment of any outstanding instalment of such Junior Exhibition.

32. No candidate will be eligible for the award of a Junior Exhibition who has attained the age of 16 years before the 1st day of June in the year of the award.

33. The Ministry will award Junior Exhibitions according to the aggregates of marks obtained by candidates in English and in the five other subjects of the examination in which each has gained most marks.

34. The Ministry may award prizes of the value of £4 each (hereinafter called "Junior Prizes") to candidates in the Junior Certificate Examination who have failed to obtain Junior Exhibitions.

35. The conditions governing the award of Junior Prizes shall be the same as those laid down for the award of Junior Exhibitions in Regulations 32 and 33 hereof.

36. No candidate who has previously been awarded a Junior Exhibition will be eligible for a further award of a Junior Exhibition or Prize in connection with a subsequent Junior Certificate Examination.

B. SENIOR EXHIBITIONS AND PRIZES.

37. Every exhibition awarded to a candidate who has obtained the Senior Certificate (hereinafter called a "Senior Exhibition") will be of the value of £40, payable in the year of award.

38. The Ministry will not be liable to pay the amount of a Senior Exhibition unless it is satisfied that the money so paid

will be devoted to furthering the educational interests of the holder of the exhibition.

39. No candidate will be eligible for the award of a Senior Exhibition who has attained the age of 18 years before the first day of June in the year of the award.

40.—(1) The Ministry will make awards of exhibitions and prizes to candidates in each of the following groups of subjects :—

GROUP A. English and 3 other subjects, of which at least 2 must be literary subjects; provided, however, that Elementary Mathematics shall not be one of the subjects of this group.

GROUP B. English and 4 other subjects, of which at least 3 must be scientific subjects, provided, however, that Elementary Mathematics shall not be one of the subjects of this group.

(2) For the purposes of this regulation—

(a) the literary subjects shall be History and languages other than English;

(b) the scientific subjects shall be the More Advanced Mathematical Subjects, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Geography and Domestic Economy.

(3) The Ministry will award Senior Exhibitions to those successful candidates who have obtained the highest aggregates in the group to which they belong: Provided that a candidate may obtain an award in one group of subjects only.

(4) The number of awards in each group shall be at the discretion of the Ministry.

41. The Ministry may award prizes of the value of £5 each (hereinafter called "Senior Prizes") to candidates in the Senior Certificate Examination who have failed to obtain Senior Exhibitions.

42. The conditions governing the award of Senior Prizes shall be the same as those laid down for the award of Senior Exhibitions in Regulations 39 and 40 hereof.

43. No candidate who has been previously been awarded a Senior Exhibition will be eligible for a further award of a Senior Exhibition or Prize in connection with a subsequent Senior Certificate Examination.

IV.—GENERAL.

44. A candidate or extern student must observe all instructions given to him by the Ministry or by an examination superintendent.

45. A candidate or extern student adjudged by the Ministry to have violated Regulation 44 hereof, or in any way to have acted unfairly or improperly during a certificate examination, may be

deprived of the marks awarded to him in all the subjects of the examination, or in such subjects as the Ministry may decide ; and the Ministry may, if it thinks fit, publish his name and address as that of a student who has been so deprived.

46. The Ministry may publish such particulars of the results of the certificate examinations and such other information relating thereto as it may think fit.

47. The decision of the Ministry upon the title to certificates, exhibitions, and prizes, and upon the mode of application of exhibitions, and upon any question which may arise upon the construction of these regulations, shall be final and conclusive.

48. The Interpretation Act, 1921 (12 GEO. 5., c. 4), applies for the purpose of the interpretation of these regulations as it applies for the purpose of the interpretation of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

49. These regulations shall come into operation and have effect as from 1st August, 1931, but shall not apply to anything relating to the school-year ending 31st July, 1931.

The Regulations for the Secondary School Certificate Examinations, dated 27th May, 1929, shall continue to apply to all questions in relation to the examinations held in 1931, but for all other purposes are hereby revoked.

Given under the seal of the Ministry of Education for Northern Ireland this 23rd day of July, 1931.

(L.S.)

A. N. Bonaparte Wyse,
Secretary.

Secondary Schools : Grants.

REGULATIONS, DATED THE 22ND MAY, 1931, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, UNDER SECTION 77 OF THE EDUCATION ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1923, AND LAID BEFORE PARLIAMENT UNDER SECTION 99 (2) OF THE ACT AFORESAID.

1931. No. 52.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Secondary School Grants Regulations, Northern Ireland, 1930, Amending Regulations, No. 1, 1931.

2. The grants payable to a school under the Secondary School Grants Regulations, Northern Ireland, 1930 (hereinafter called