

# How Should Parents Prepare for Leaving Certificate Results Day?

With more than 55,000 students receiving their Leaving Certificate results in August, students and their parents are likely to go through a roller-coaster of emotions and it's important that everyone knows how to prepare for all scenarios.

As a parent, you're likely to be one of the most important sources of invaluable advice and information to your son or daughter during this important time in their lives. How do you support them through this stressful time and what happens next if things don't go according to plan?

Richard Murphy, Schools Liaison Officer at Griffith College, has collated some useful tips for parents to help prepare themselves and their son or daughter ahead of the big day. Richard remarks:

*"We've all been there before, it's a special day no matter what the outcome - students have been on one hell of a journey and the parent's role isn't over yet. It is important for parents to take time ahead of this important day to prepare for all eventualities so that their children feel supported and the correct course of action is taken to ultimately secure a college place."*

Richard's top tips are ...

## Reassurance in Advance

Parents and students should sit down in advance of the results to talk about their options. Even the most laid back students will be feeling stressed in the lead-up to receiving their results so it is up to parents to remind them that the exam results will be just one chapter in their lives, regardless of the outcome.

## Have a Plan B

Exams are important though they are one milestone in a much longer path to success. Steven Spielberg, Albert Einstein, and Jane Austen are just some names who didn't succeed in exams first time around.

It is up to parents and students to prepare a plan B in advance; discuss the options available if points aren't achieved and decide on what the best course of action will be. For example, if a law degree is the first preference but the points aren't achieved, the plan could be a decision to study a Diploma in Legal Studies as a gateway to the degree or prepare a direct entry application to a degree course with an independent college or institution.

It is also important to remember that the CAO re-opens applications during August and September for college places that haven't been filled with their [Available Places](#) utility. I would highly recommend that parents or applicants check out this list online regardless of whether they have been offered a place, as new courses that were not available at the time of deadline, might now be open for application.

One person's disappointment is another's success

Parents should remind students to be sensitive when discussing results with friends. While they may not have achieved points as high as they would have liked, these could be a far cry from what their peers achieved.

Avoid Hype

The final outcome is not determined until the offer in late August so don't over-speculate or spend too much time discussing with relations, neighbours or friends. This will only serve to increase stress on the student at an already difficult time.

Celebrate!

Even if a first or second preference course isn't secured, this is the start of a new chapter in the student's life and should be celebrated. Starting college is an exciting time and the student should be encouraged to make the most of it, academically, socially and professionally.

We hope these tips help you and your son or daughter to discover their path to a bright and fulfilling future!

[www.griffith.ie/about-griffith/news/how-should-parents-prepare-leaving-certificate-results-day](http://www.griffith.ie/about-griffith/news/how-should-parents-prepare-leaving-certificate-results-day))

Useful Resources

[CAO Available Places](#)

[Search Griffith College Courses](#)

[Careers Portal Ireland](#)

# Advice after getting Leaving Cert results

## How do I appeal my results?

Students who are not satisfied with their results can appeal one or more of their Leaving Cert results to the State Examinations Commission. Examination scripts may be viewed before making a decision to appeal results. The Organising Superintendent for the State Examinations Commission will assign a specific viewing session for each student.

Students are entitled to bring one other person with them when viewing their script. When you collect your results from your school /centre or online you are given all the documentation to avail of the viewing and the appeal process at your school. Candidates have two options available to them when applying for an appeal -a bank giro facility or an internet facility. Each student will get a unique reference number which enables the Commission to trace payments and match it with appeal applications.

School candidates applying for rechecks will need to have returned all necessary forms to their school a few days earlier.

## What is the cost of appealing?

The cost of appealing the Leaving Certificate Established is €40 per subject and €15.50 per subject for the Leaving Certificate Applied.

Where will I find more on appealing results? For more Information on appealing results click on the following link to the [State Examinations Commission's website](#).

CAO offers come in 2 stages – First and Second round offers. These are usually issued later in August. If you did not get any CAO offers what other options are available for Further Education?

For information on further education please visit the following websites:

FETAC

[www.fetac.ie](http://www.fetac.ie)

Failte Ireland

[www.failteireland.com](http://www.failteireland.com)

Qualifax

[www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)

CAO

[www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)

In addition to the above, you can either complete an access course, or repeat the leaving certificate.

## **What is an Access Course?**

An Access Course is available for school leavers that have the aspiration to study at third level, but due to financial and/or social reasons do not have the opportunity. The Access Course is available to school leavers from all schools in the BMW region and County Clare.

For more information on The Access Course please log on to [http://www.nuigalway.ie/access/school\\_leavers.html](http://www.nuigalway.ie/access/school_leavers.html)

## **Can I apply for the Defence and Garda Forces?**

There is currently an embargo on recruiting in the Defence and Garda forces however, both forces recruit reserves each year. Check out [www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie) and [www.military.ie](http://www.military.ie) for more information.

## **Repeat the Leaving Certificate**

If you did not get offered the course you wanted and you have your heart set on a particular course repeating is an option, you are still young and remember it is only one more year.

## **Should I consider a Career Guidance Counsellor?**

Yes, you should if you have any doubts about your chosen career path, as recent studies have shown that one in three college students drop out before reaching 2nd Year at college which costs parents and students in excess of €15,000, which is a costly lesson for choosing the wrong course.

A career guidance counsellor will get you to do a series of assessments to see what career you would be best suited in.

## **What is the cost of seeing a Career Guidance Counsellor?**

The cost of attending a guidance counsellor varies from €100-€300 depending on the service you require

<https://irevise.com/ie/info-and-advice/advice-after-getting-leaving-cert-results>