

Language & Honours Requirements

Subject	This subject is essential for....	This subject is desirable for...	This subject fulfills a requirement for....
English	Higher English is a requirement for most Journalism courses. O4 or H7 req. for Primary teaching	N/a	A 1 st language Higher in English, Irish or Maths is required for Nursing studies and study in some colleges and universities- check prospectuses
Irish	Primary Teaching (Minimum H4)	Teaching & Civil Service Jobs, The Gardai	A 2 nd language (ordinary or higher).
French or Spanish, or German	Need a foreign language for some courses e.g. business & a language- check individual college prospectuses	Study of Arts with a language or business with a language	A 3 rd language. (NUI colleges- NUI Maynooth, NUI Galway, UCC, UCD, RCSI, St Angela's Sligo, NCAD) require a 3 rd language-(1=English, 2=Irish and 3=another language). This is true with the exception of most Science, Engineering, Nursing and IT/Computer courses. Needed for Medicine, Architecture, Veterinary Med UCD, Radiography, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy (apart from in UL).
Maths	O4 or H7 req. for Primary teaching. Check individual courses & college prospectuses to verify where higher level maths is required. Foundation level maths is not accepted for entry to most CAO courses	Good grades in ordinary or higher Maths is desirable for the study of Engineering, Maths or Science related fields (including Electrical & Engineering Apprentices)	For the Institute of Accounting Technicians in Ireland (IATI) passes must be obtained in English and at least one subject from Mathematics or Accountancy.

Points to note: In addition to these requirements students who go on to do their Leaving Certificate and want to go on to college have to have enough honours subjects and passes to do so. See below for further details-

To do an Honours Degree (Level 8) students must (usually) have done six subjects for the LC and must obtain 2xH5 & 4xH6/O7 or better. O6/H7 or higher in Maths & English or Irish. **So effectively the basic absolute minimum that you need is 2 higher and 4 ordinary levels.**

To do an Ordinary Degree (Level 7)- 5 X O6/H7 or better. Subjects required: O6/H7 or higher in English or Irish. Foundation Level Mathematics is accepted on some level 7 courses to satisfy the minimum entry requirements but not for points usually.

To do a Higher Certificate (Level 6)-O6/H7 in English or Irish. For most courses you need O6/H7 in Maths or higher. Some will accept foundation Maths.

Please note that as well as having enough pass and honours subjects the points system is also used to help colleges to choose which students they let in. This is necessary as there may be 100 students competing for 25 places

To do a level 5 programme or PLC Course you need- to have a Leaving Certificate standard or Level 4 QQI

To join the Gardaí-

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS ****CHANGE FROM 2022****. You need to be proficient in either or i) the Irish language ii) the English language

Naval/Army Cadet- must have Irish & another language

Must possess a minimum of Grade H4 in 4 Higher Level papers, and, Grade 02 in 2 Ordinary Level Papers or Grade H7 in 2 Higher level papers.

A candidate's educational qualifications must include a minimum of Grade 06 at

- Ordinary level or H6 at Higher Level in the following subjects: (i) Mathematics (ii) Irish. NUI matriculation exemptions apply. (iii) English. Candidates whose first language is not English must satisfy the English language requirements in accordance with NUI Matriculations Regulations.

General recruit in Army - *Subjects taken at Foundation Level Leaving Certificate are not considered equivalent for entry to this competition.

For SOLAS or apprenticeships you need- to be at least 16 years of age and have a minimum of grade D in any five subjects in the Junior Certificate or equivalent. However, employers may require additional minimum qualifications- ***especially maths for Electrical Apprenticeships***

10 good reasons to do a PLC

1. **Cost-** usually around 400 with a few exceptions e.g. beauty therapy where you need to spend up to €800 on a kit
2. **A year to make choices definite**
3. **Another route into college-** for Leaving Certs & Level 4 QQI
4. **Work experience opportunities**
5. **Extra certs-** e.g. SAFEPASS, FAI, HACCP, Water Safety
6. **Learn to study and complete assignments**
7. **Grant available for PLC**
8. **Less likely to drop out-** 1 in 6 students who go from Leaving Cert to 3rd level drop out, just 1 in 12 going from PLC drop out.
9. **Smaller classes**
10. **Not as academic as 3rd Level**