



**north west**  
**regional college**  
Derry~Londonderry • Limavady • Strabane

# QUALIFICATION EQUIVALENTS TABLE

Version 6 - September 2011

# Qualification Equivalents Table - Progression to College HE Programmes

Irish Leaving Certificate – Higher and Ordinary				BTec National Diploma (18 Units)	
Higher Grade	UCAS Tariff Points	Ordinary Grade	UCAS Tariff Points	Grade Profile	UCAS Tariff Points
A1	90	A1	39	D*D*D*	420
A2	77	A2	26	D*D*D	400
B1	71	B1	20	D*DD	380
B2	64	B2	14	DDD	360
B3	58	B3	07	DDM	320
C1	52			DMM	280
C2	45			MMM	240
C3	39			MMP	200
D1	33			MPP	160
D2	26			PPP	120
D3	20				

Access Diploma		A Levels		BTec Diploma (12 Units)	
% Pass Grade	UCAS Tariff Points	Grade	UCAS Tariff Points	Grade Profile	UCAS Tariff Points
		A*	140	D*D*	280
75	360-320	A	120	D*D	260
70	300	B	100	DD	240
65	280	C	80	DM	200
60	260	D	60	MM	160
55	240-220	E	40	PM	120
50	200			PP	80

Equating Foundation and Ordinary ILC Maths				FETAC Award	
Ordinary ILC	CAO Points	Maths Foundation ILC	CAO Points	Entry to HND	Full 8 subject Level 5 Major Award with five subjects at Merit Level and the remaining three at pass level.
C3	20	A1	20		
D1	15	A2	15		
D2	10	B1	10		
D3	5	B2	5		
Key Information Foundation Maths A2 = D1 Ordinary ILC = GCSE Grade C ( College Prospectus)					

## OCR Qualifications

OCR Grade	OCR Points	A Level at the same tariff
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### OCR Level 3 National Certificate (6 unit award)

Distinction	14-18	1 grade A at A level
Merit	10-13	1 grade C at A level
Pass	6-9	1 grade E at A level

### OCR Level 3 National Extended Diploma (12 unit award)

Distinction	28-36	2 grade A at A level (AA)
Merit 1	23-27	2 grade B at A level (BB)
Merit 2	20-22	2 grade C at A level (CC)
Pass 1	18-19	2 grade C at A level (CC)
Pass 2	15-17	2 grade D at A level (DD)
Pass 3	12-14	2 grade E at A level (EE)

### OCR Level 3 National Diploma (18 Unit Award)

Distinction 1	43-54	3 grade A at A level (AAA)
Distinction 2	42	1 grade A and 2 grade B at A level (ABB)
Merit 1	37-41	1 grade A and 2 grade B at A level (ABB)
Merit 2	35-36	2 Grade B and 1 grade C (BBC)
Merit 3	30-34	3 Grade C at A level (CCC)
Pass 1	27-29	2 Grade D and 1 grade C at A level (DDC)
Pass 2	22-26	2 grade D and 1 grade E at A level (DDE)
Pass 3	18-21	3 Grade E at A level (EEE)

For Further information and guidance on these qualifications and equivalents please contact:  
[careers@nwrc.ac.uk](mailto:careers@nwrc.ac.uk)



# Qualification Equivalents Table - Progression to Level 3 FE Programmes

## OCR Qualifications

Level 1 Qualification and GCSE Equivalent		Level 2 Qualification and GCSE Equivalent	
Level 1 First Award	1 GCSE at Grade D- G	OCR Level 2 Award	2 GCSEs at Grades A* - C
Level 1 Award	3 GCSE at Grades D-G	OCR Level 2 Certificate	4 GCSEs at Grades A* - C
Level 1 Certificate	4 GCSEs at Grades D- G		

**Note:**  
Applicants may hold more than one OCR qualification either at the same or different levels ; cognisance needs to be taken of the total qualification profile.

## FETAC Awards

FETAC Qualification	College Course
FETEC Level 4 with Merits in 5 units (mandatory plus electives) remainder at pass level.	BTec Diploma / Extended Diploma.
A minimum of 5 modules at pass level of a FETAC Level 4 Award.	BTec L2 Diploma

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on the options available?*

Make an  
appointment with our  
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to decide your best options:  
**Strand Road: 028 7127 6080/8706**  
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& visit our website for course  
information



# Additional Information on Qualifications

## Irish Leaving Certificate

If a student undertakes and passes five subjects in the Leaving Cert they are deemed to have obtained their Leaving Cert irrespective of the combination of those subjects being at Ordinary Higher or Foundation level. Only two subjects – Mathematics and Irish can be taken at Foundation level. Combinations are normally based on functioning and progression points.

Many students undertake more than five subjects (seven in some instances) but for calculation of points for progression to HE only the best six subject grades are considered.

## Leaving Certificate Vocational Program

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Program (LCVP) was designed to enhance the vocational dimension of the Leaving Certificate. The LCVP combines the academic strengths of the Leaving Certificate with a focus on self-directed learning, innovation and enterprise. This two-year program is part of an expanded provision that aims to cater for the diversity of participants' needs at senior cycle.

The primary goal of the LCVP is to prepare young people for adult life by ensuring that they are educated in the broadest sense, with an ability to cope and thrive in an environment of rapid change. Participants in the program are encouraged to develop skills and competencies fundamental to both academic and vocational success.

The strong vocational focus of the LCVP is achieved by arranging Leaving Certificate subjects into Vocational Subject Groupings and through the provision of additional courses of study in work preparation and enterprise known as the Link Modules.

Students undertaking the LCVP will be required to undertake at least five Leaving Cert subjects in addition to the two link modules of the LCVP

The LCVP Certificate is graded as D = 80 -100%; M=65 – 79%; P = 50 -64%. In terms of UCAS tariff points these grades equate to 26 16 and 0 respectively. For further information on the LCVP visit – <http://www.ncca.ie/uploadedfiles/JuniorCycleReview/LCVPProgrammeStatement.pdf>

The skills and qualities developed through the LCVP are equally relevant to the needs of those preparing for further education, seeking employment or planning to start their own business.

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Program is not a qualification in its own right but compliments the Leaving Certificate.

## Irish Leaving Cert Applied.

The Leaving Certificate Applied is a distinct, self-contained two-year Leaving Certificate program aimed at preparing students for adult and working life.

The program sets out to recognize the talents of all students and to provide opportunities for developing personal responsibility, self-esteem and self-knowledge. The program focuses on the talents of each student and helps students apply what they learn to the real world. .

LCA Courses are offered in three main areas:

- Vocational preparation, involving work experience, enterprise and communication.
- General education, offering lifeskills, the arts, social education, leisure and language.
- Vocational education.

The final examination includes examination in - English and communication and mathematical application.

Students who successfully complete the program are awarded a Leaving Certificate. The certificate is awarded at three levels:

- Pass 60 – 69% Merit 70 - 84% Distinction 85 – 100%
- A Pass in the Leaving Certificate Applied is the equivalent of 6 Grade Ds ( level unspecified) at Ordinary Level Leaving Certificate
- A Merit or Distinction grade pass is accepted for progression to L3 study programmes.
- The ILCA is not perceived as an entry qualification to HE study programmes

## Irish Leaving Certificate Foundation Subjects

Two subjects may be taken in the Irish Leaving Certificate at Foundation level; these are Irish and Mathematics.

A Foundation A2 pass equates to a D1 Leaving Cert Ordinary grade which in turn equates to a GCSE grade C pass. The Foundation A2 pass is not recognised by university as an acceptable entry qualification.

## FETAC Awards

Further Education Training Awards Certificates (FETAC) encompass a ten sector spectrum covering awards from Level 1 Certificates to Doctoral Degrees. For further information : [www.fetac.ie/PDF/NCAI\\_Fan-2009\\_text](http://www.fetac.ie/PDF/NCAI_Fan-2009_text)

There are four types of awards in the National Framework of Qualifications-

- Major Awards: are the principal class of awards made at any level.
- Minor Award: are for the partial completion of the outcomes for a Major Award.
- Supplementary Award: are for learning that is additional to a Major Award.

- Special Purpose Awards: are for relatively narrow or purpose specific achievements.

## Key Points.

It is important to note that Major Awards at the appropriate level are considered for progression purposes.

Modules are graded as Pass 50 -64% Merit 65- 79% Distinction 80 – 100%

It is not appropriate to accept a FETAC Level 5 as being generically applicable as an entry qualification to all courses – it will be necessary to research the applicability of the nature and contents of the units comprising the Award and their relevance to the course applied for.

Depending on progression route it may be necessary for the students to undertake GCSE English and Mathematics.

Where a GCSE entry requirement in English or Mathematics is required a qualification in a Mathematics or English related unit is also required.

## AS Qualifications

AS grades attract 0.5 of the UCAS tariff of the A2 equivalent grade e.g. AS grade D = 30 UCAS points A combination of AS level grades to the value of the equivalent A2 will be accepted as an appropriate entry qualification.

## BTec National Diplomas

BTec National Diploma grades attract the following UCAS tariff points – D\* = 140 D=120 M=80 P = 40



this is ...  
the place to be 

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**Greystone**

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**Glendermott**

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