

Change to entry requirements for the

Garda Siochana (Valid March 2015 – see www.garda.ie for future changes in requirements ,as these changes are **not** communicated to schools)

Current recruitment drives for the Garda Siochana no longer accept Foundation level Irish to satisfy their language entry requirement.

The educational requirements are as follows:

(6) (A) (i) Have obtained an Irish Leaving Certificate with a grade D3 minimum in five subjects at ordinary level, or

(ii) a Level 5 Certificate (Major award) on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), or

(iii) a qualification that, in the opinion of Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) is of a standard in terms of both level and volume of learning that is not lower than the standard of the qualification specified at (i) and (ii) above.

AND

(B) Must have a proven proficiency in two languages; one of which must be Irish or English. Such competency may be proven by achieving the relevant grades or qualifications specified in (A) above, or for English or Irish through such assessments as set out by the Public Appointments Service

The Public Appointments Service (PAS) will verify the validity of qualifications other than the Irish Leaving Certificate with Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI), applicants should not contact QQI directly.

It is not necessary to have 3 languages. The applicant should have 2 languages, one of which must be English or Irish. If the applicant does not have the necessary qualification in Irish, they are then required to have a second language along with English.

Applicants who are exempt Irish (eg Dyslexia) will now have to present English & another language (eg Pass Irish/French/German) etc for entry

Entry to Garda Reserve

- A grade not lower than B3 at Foundation Level or D3 at another level in Mathematics, and
- A qualifying grade in 2 languages, 1 of which must be English or Irish, as follows: English: a grade not lower than D3 at Ordinary Level, Irish: a grade not lower than C3 at Foundation Level or D3 at another level, Other language: a grade not lower than D3 at Ordinary Level, and
- A grade not lower than D3 at Ordinary Level, in not less than 2 other subjects
Or
The Merit Grade in the Applied Leaving Certificate,
Or
Like Grades in another examination, that, in the opinion of the Minister for Justice, Equality & Law Reform, is not of a lower standard than the above.
Or
A former member who, on retirement, received an *exemplary, very good or good* discharge from An Garda Síochána is deemed to meet the requirements.
Or
The Garda Commissioner may exempt a person from meeting these requirements if satisfied that the person has personal attributes which otherwise render him or her suitable to be admitted as a reserve trainee. (This only occurs in exceptional circumstances).