

Technical Schools and Classes. Grants to

MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND,
UNDER SECTION 77 OF THE EDUCATION ACT (NORTHERN
IRELAND), 1923.

1925. No. 50.

(A). CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH SCHOOLS AND CLASSES MAY BE RECOGNISED FOR GRANTS.

1. Grants under these Regulations will be paid only in respect of Schools or Classes recognised for the purpose by the Ministry.

2. The school or class must be under the control of an Education Authority as provided for in the Education Act (Northern Ireland), 1923, or other responsible body of managers, recognised by the Ministry.

3. Instruction given to any class will be accepted for grants, only if provided in compliance with the conditions of Section 22 (2) of the Education Act. Managers, other than an Education Authority must submit to the Ministry a list of the subjects proposed to be taught in the Schools or Classes under their control, accompanied by a representation from the education authority of the district in which the schools or classes are situated, that the forms of instruction included in the list are required by the circumstances of the education area.

4. The premises in which classes are conducted, the accommodation and equipment, and the programme of instruction, must be approved by the Ministry.

5. The qualifications of teachers and assistant-teachers and the time-table must be approved by the Ministry.

6. The managers of a school or class must make accurate returns of such particulars as are required by the Ministry and within the specified times.

7. The Ministry may, from time to time, require from local Education Committees a report as to the needs of their respective areas and as to the provision made therein, either by themselves or other managers, for technical instruction, regard being had to the industries of the district, and the occupations of the inhabitants. The Ministry may, upon consideration of such reports, recognise or refuse to recognise any classes which may be proposed.

8. The schools and classes must be at all times open to the Ministry's inspectors, who will, from time to time, visit with or without notice, and report on the condition and suitability of

the school buildings or class-rooms, the character and quality of the instruction, and its suitability to the needs of the locality ; the adequacy of the teaching staff for the number of students under instruction, the progress of the students, which they may ascertain in such a manner as they may consider necessary ; the method of registration ; and generally as to the organisation of the school work, and the carrying out of the scheme of instruction in accordance with the Ministry's Regulations.

(B). TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

9. A school will not, as a rule, be recognised in any session as a Technical School under the conditions of these Regulations unless there are at least thirty approved Introductory and Specialised Course students in attendance, of whom not less than 50 per cent. are Specialised Course students.

10. The authorities of each recognised Technical School must provide a series of suggested courses of instruction, which, except in the cases of courses designed for teacher-students, have grown out of a study of local conditions, and are made up of allied subjects. These courses should, as a rule, be designed to extend over three or more years, and should be progressive in character. In addition to these, in schools admitting students who do not possess the qualifications necessary for admission to a specialised course, an Introductory Course should be provided.

11. The courses proposed by the authorities of each school must be submitted to the Ministry on or before the 1st June preceding the session, and must be accompanied by Syllabuses (in duplicate) in cases where these have not already been approved. These proposals will require the written approval of the Ministry.

12. The subjects upon which grants will be paid include —
Science (Pure and Applied) and Mathematics.

Under Pure Science will be included such subjects as mechanics, physics, chemistry, botany, zoology, physiology and geology.

Applied Science includes subjects which might be classified under such headings as :—

- Building trades.
- Engineering.
- Naval Construction.
- Electrical Engineering.
- Textile industries.
- Printing and process industries.
- Furniture Industries.
- Leather industries.
- Woodworking industries.
- Carriage building.
- Chemical industries.
- Agricultural industries.

Mathematics includes the treatment of the subject in a practical way and practical plane and solid geometry.

Arts and Crafts.

Drawing (free and mechanical), design, painting, architecture, modelling, and applied art, such as black and white illustration, goldsmiths', silversmiths', and jewellers' work, stained glass work, mosaic, enamelling, wood carving, stone carving, lithographic drawing, repousse work, and any other subject of applied art.

Handicraft.

Manual instruction in wood, metal and any other material.

Any other form of instruction, such as the following, which an Education Authority can show to be required by the circumstances of the education area :—

Modern Languages and Commercial Subjects.

Modern Languages will include such subjects as French, German, Spanish, Italian, Irish.

Commercial subjects will include those involving mechanical operations such as shorthand, office routine, including copying, indexing, filing and typewriting, and also subjects requiring a wider general knowledge, such as book-keeping and accountancy, methods and machinery of business, economics of industry and commerce, company and commercial law, banking and currency, insurance, statistics, general business administration, economic and commercial history and economic geography.

Domestic Economy and Hygiene

Household subjects, including cookery and hygiene, housewifery, laundry-work, dressmaking, millinery, needlework, home renovations and repairs.

Trades Subjects.

Trades subjects will include the mechanical operations involved in wood, metal, clay, textile and other industries.

Music.

Instrumental and vocal music, aural training, class singing and theory of music.

Physical Training.

Physical exercises with or without apparatus or appliances, gymnastics.

13. In classes in practical subjects not more than one-half of the instruction may be theoretical. Practical instruction must be given under approved conditions of accommodation and equipment and the practical work must be arranged so as to be illustrative of the principles taught.

Introductory Course.

14. Introductory course classes should be of such a nature as to fit students to take up a specialised course of technical instruction. These classes must be distinct from the specialised courses, and must be taught separately.

15. A school providing an Introductory Course must arrange that suitable instruction shall be given in English, Mathematics and one or more of the following :—

Experimental Science.

Drawing.

Manual Training in Wood or Metal.

Domestic Economy.

16. Students registered in an Introductory Course must have received such an education as would entitle them to be placed in the sixth standard of a Public Elementary School under the Ministry.

Specialised Courses.

17. In the case of students registered for specialised courses the following particulars must be submitted in writing to the Ministry's Inspector for his approval :—

(i) The marks obtained at examinations held at the conclusion of an Introductory Course, or at entrance examinations held in the Technical School. (The worked papers should be retained on the school premises); or

(ii) any special reasons for admitting students to specialised courses.

(C.) JUNIOR TECHNICAL AND COMMERCIAL SCHOOLS.

18. Junior Technical and Commercial Schools providing courses of study approved for the purpose may be admitted for grants under this Section.

19. To be eligible for admission to a Junior Technical School students of such schools must, at entrance, have passed an examination based upon the programme of the sixth standard of a Public Elementary School. To be eligible for admission to Day Commercial Schools students must, at entrance, have passed an examination based upon the programme of the seventh standard of a Public Elementary School.

20. Such schools must normally be open for not less than five days per week, not later than 6 p.m., or than 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

21. No school will be recognised for grants under this Section unless there are at least 15 students in attendance, each of whom is following the approved course of study.

22. In exceptional circumstances and especially in the first year of working of any school under the conditions of this Section the Ministry may accept a smaller number of qualified students for purposes of this Regulation.

(D.) REGULATIONS FOR PAYMENT OF GRANTS.

23. The total annual grant payable in respect of Schools and Classes recognised under the conditions of Sections B. and C. of these Regulations on account of the hours of attendance of duly qualified students at instruction in approved classes shall be divided into such number of units as may be necessary for the purpose.

24. The number of units payable in respect of each school or class admitted for grants will be determined by the number of hours of attendance of students, made during the school year in compliance with these Regulations.

25. For the purpose of Regulation 24 one unit shall be assigned for :—

- (1) 25 hours of attendance at instruction in the third and higher years' syllabuses of approved courses of associated subjects beginning at or after 6 p.m. (1 p.m. on Saturdays).
- (2) 50 hours of attendance at instruction :—
 - (a) in the first and second years' syllabuses of approved courses of associated subjects, beginning at or after 6 p.m. (1 p.m. on Saturdays);
 - (b) in approved courses specially designed for apprentices, which are conducted during the day and which terminate not later than 6 p.m. (1 p.m. on Saturdays).
- (3) 75 hours of attendance at instruction in approved Junior Technical Schools (Day Trades Preparatory Schools), Day Commercial Schools and other approved courses of study conducted during the day and terminating not later than 6 p.m. (1 p.m. on Saturdays).
- (4) 100 hours of attendance at instruction :—
 - (a) in an Introductory Course conducted in accordance with the terms of Regulations 14, 15 and 16;
 - (b) in approved subjects other than those eligible for assignment under groups (1)—(3) above.

26. The arrangements regulating the admission of students must be such as to exclude from a class any student who, from want of sufficient preliminary training, or other cause, is not qualified to take advantage of the instruction given in it. The attendances of any student whom the Inspector reports to be thus unqualified may be disallowed.

27. The Ministry may, at its discretion, disallow the attendances of any student who, in its opinion, has not followed a satisfactory course of study.

(E). GENERAL RULES.

(Applicable to all Schools and Classes conducted under Sections B. and C. of these Regulations.)

28. Each school or class working under these Regulations must keep a register, showing for each student :—

- (1) full name and date of birth ;
- (2) business, trade, or occupation ;
- (3) School or College at which the student received his general education, and standard of education attained, with particulars of highest examinations passed ;
- (4) qualifications to enter a technical school or class ;
- (5) classes attended each session in the school, and the number of hours of attendance made at instruction in each subject.

29. The attendances of students must be recorded in accordance with the instructions set out on the official registers supplied by the Ministry.

30. Laboratory or workshop practice, or practical instruction in Cookery, must be given in lessons of not less than one-and-a-half hour's duration.

31. Instruction in the First Year Syllabus of a subject of a Specialised Course may not, as a rule, be given concurrently by the same teacher with instruction in any other Syllabus or subject, but sanction to give such concurrent instruction may be granted, when the number of students in attendance at the combined class is small. In cases in which the Ministry sanctions such concurrent instruction it may require that First Year students shall receive some separate instruction in the subject.

32. Not more than thirty students may be taken at a time by one teacher in a Junior Technical or Day Commercial School, or for instruction in Mechanical Drawing in any of its various forms, unless an assistant recognised by the Ministry is provided, in which case the number may be increased to forty-five. Not more than forty students may be taken at a time by one teacher for theoretical instruction, and, for practical instruction in any subject, not more than twenty, unless an assistant, recognised by the Ministry, is provided, in which case the number may be increased to thirty.

33. If any of the conditions on which the grant is awarded are not fulfilled, the Ministry may, at its discretion, pay the grant in full, withhold the grant, or reduce the number of units upon which the grant is payable.

34. Grants will not be paid in respect of the attendances of any student under fourteen years of age, except in the case of those attending recognised Junior Technical (Trades Preparatory) Schools or Day Commercial Schools.

35. Grants will not be paid on account of the attendances of any student in respect of whom any grant is paid by the Ministry under any other Regulations.

36. Grants will not be paid on account of the attendances of any student whose name is on the roll of a Public Elementary School (day or evening) under the Ministry.

(F.) DEFINITIONS, INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL.

37. For the purposes of these Regulations the expression Education Authority includes a Technical Instruction Committee appointed under the provisions of Section 14 of the Agriculture and Technical Instruction Act (Ireland), 1899.

38. For the purposes of these Regulations the school year is the year beginning on the 1st August and ending on the 31st July of the following year.

39. The Interpretation Act, 1921 (2 Geo. 5, Ch. 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

40. In any case of doubt or difficulty as to the construction of these Regulations or as to any claim, right or liability thereunder the decision of the Ministry shall be final.

(G.) REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE PAYMENT OF GRANTS IN RESPECT OF INSTRUCTION IN DRAWING AND MANUAL TRAINING GIVEN IN CERTAIN PRIMARY SCHOOLS, NOT BEING PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

41. Grants in respect of instruction in Drawing and Manual Training given during the academic year 1924-25 in certain Primary Schools, not being Public Elementary Schools, will be made by the Ministry in the same manner as in previous years. Such grants will, however, be discontinued as from the 1st August, 1925.

Given under the seal of the Ministry of Education for Northern Ireland this 6th day of March, 1925.

L. M'Quibban,

(L.S.)

Secretary.