

Serial Number 278/1937.

**THE FREE PLACE REGULATIONS 1937.**

Enacting authority : His Excellency the Governor-General in Council.
Act pursuant to which the regulations were made : The Education
Act, 1914.

Date on which the regulations were made : 24th day of November, 1937.

Date of notification in *Gazette* : 2nd day of December, 1937.

REGULATIONS.

PRELIMINARY.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Free Place Regulations 1937, and shall come into force on the 1st day of February, 1938.
2. The respective regulations referred to in the First Schedule hereto are revoked, to the extent indicated in the said Schedule.

INTERPRETATION.

3. In these regulations, unless inconsistent with the context,—
 - “Public post-primary school” includes any secondary school, technical high school, combined school, and district high school :
 - Every reference to a secondary school or a technical high school shall be deemed to be also a reference to a combined school :
 - “Unit of work” and “unit” denote one hour a week for not less than thirty-eight weeks regularly throughout the school year : Provided that in the case of subjects (15) and (16) of the Second Schedule hereto two hours a week for half the year may be counted as a “unit”.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR FREE PLACE.

4. A pupil shall be qualified to be a free pupil or the holder of a free place in any public post-primary school if either—
 - (a) He has obtained a Primary School Certificate or equivalent qualification ; or
 - (b) He has not obtained a Primary School Certificate but is over fourteen years of age, and has been in regular attendance at a public or registered private school up to a date not more than six months prior to the date of admission to a free place : Provided that the lapse of a longer period than six months shall not be held to be a bar if the Director of Education is satisfied that the pupil was unable sooner to take advantage of his free place ; or

(c) He is, at the coming into force of these regulations, the holder of a free place under the regulations previously in force and such free place has not expired, lapsed, or been forfeited.

5. As a condition of admission to a free place any candidate may be required to furnish to the Principal of the school to which admission is sought reasonable evidence of good character.

ADMISSION TO FREE PLACE AND TENURE OF FREE PLACE.

6. No pupil shall be admitted to a free place at a public post-primary school after he has reached the age of sixteen years unless the consent of the Director of Education has been previously obtained.

7. A free place shall be tenable at a public post-primary school until the end of the year in which the holder reaches the age of nineteen years: Provided that in any case in which it is shown to the satisfaction of the Minister that special circumstances exist the free place may be extended for such longer period as the Minister may determine.

8. (1) In general a free place shall not be tenable or continue to be tenable in a public post-primary school unless the holder is prepared to attend continuously for full-time instruction.

(2) Pupils who are qualified to hold free places and are engaged in regular employment may attend for part-time instruction in technical high schools, combined schools, and such secondary schools as are approved for the purpose by the Director of Education, provided that such instruction includes not less than twenty hours a year in each subject of the course taken and not less than sixty hours a year in all subjects.

9. Notwithstanding anything in these regulations, the school shall not be required to admit pupils to free places at any other times than the beginning of the school year, unless it shall seem expedient to the governing body of the school to admit such pupils at any other time.

10. In case there shall not be sufficient accommodation at the school for all pupils seeking admission to the school those pupils who have completed the first two years of their post-primary course shall first be admitted, and then the remaining applicants in such order as the Minister, after consultation with the Board controlling the school, shall determine.

INSTRUCTION TO BE GIVEN TO HOLDERS OF FREE PLACES.

11. The course of post-primary instruction that shall be given to a pupil admitted to a free place in a post-primary school shall, subject to the approval of the Director of Education, be determined by the Principal of such school after consultation with the parents of the pupil. The programme of each free pupil shall consist not of a number of disconnected subjects but of a group of subjects duly arranged in accordance with the pupil's capacities, surroundings, and probable future calling, as far as such a programme can be provided for with regard to the general circumstances of the school.

12. (1) The secondary school or district high school shall give to each holder of a free place under these regulations, during the first two years of his course, suitable instruction in subjects (1) English and (2) history and civics of Group I, in one of the subjects (3) or (4)

of Group II, in one subject at least chosen from Group IV, and in not less than two other subjects chosen from Groups III, IV, and V in the Second Schedule hereto in such a way that the total number of units of work in a year is in general not less than twenty.

(2) During the first two years of the course subject (12), home science, shall be taken by every girl who is the holder of a free place at a secondary or a district high school, and subject (11), practical agriculture and dairy science, shall be taken by every boy who is the holder of a free place at a district high school with an average attendance of not more than seventy in the secondary department, unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the Minister that adequate provision for instruction in these subjects cannot be made, or that equivalent instruction of a vocational character is otherwise provided for.

(3) The school shall give to each free pupil suitable physical training, including where possible instruction in swimming and life-saving, equivalent to at least one unit annually.

(4) Nothing in this regulation shall be construed in such a way as to limit unduly the discretion of the Principal of a school in determining the programme of a pupil, but any material departure from the course prescribed must be approved beforehand by the Director of Education. The Principal of a school will be allowed considerable latitude in determining the programme of a pupil admitted to a free place under paragraph (b) of Regulation 4 hereof.

13. (1) Every full-time pupil admitted to a technical high school under Regulation 4 hereof shall receive, during the first two years of his course, regular and appropriate instruction in—

- (a) English, or commercial English, including in either case the general study of selected standard works in both prose and verse, reading and recitation, handwriting, composition (both oral and written). The cultivation of correct habits of speech and of facility of expression, both oral and written, must receive special attention :
- (b) History and civics, with special reference to the other subjects of the particular course taken by the pupil and to the rights and duties of citizens ; the subject being so treated as to develop a sense of responsibility with regard to social service in both work and leisure :
- (c) Arithmetic (including household accounts in the case of girls) or elementary mathematics, or practical mathematics or commercial arithmetic :
- (d) Any appropriate branch of free or instrumental drawing :
- (e) Physical training, including, where possible, instruction in swimming and life-saving.

(2) In the case of pupils admitted under paragraph (a) of Regulation 4 hereof the instruction referred to in clause (1) of this regulation must be given regularly throughout the year for not less than three units in the case of the subjects in paragraph (a) thereof, one and a half units in the case of the subject in paragraph (b) thereof, three units in the case of the subject in paragraph (c) thereof, two units in the case of the subject in paragraph (d) thereof, and one unit in the case of the subject in paragraph (e) thereof.

(3) In addition, the pupil must also take at the technical high school a vocational course, approved by the Minister, having a direct bearing on industrial, agricultural, domestic, or commercial pursuits, or, with the approval of the Minister previously obtained, a vocational course of a general character in preparation for one or other of the public examinations. The total time given to the instruction in a year must not, with the time given to the subjects enumerated in clause (1) of this regulation, be less than twenty units.

(4) During the first two years of her course at the technical high school every girl who is the holder of a free place shall take not less than three units each year of an approved course in home science—namely, an elementary course in general science bearing on the home, and in household economics and hygiene, together with one or more of the following subjects: Plain cookery, laundry-work, needlecraft and garment-making, home nursing.

14. The secondary school or district high school shall give to each free-place pupil who has completed the first two years of his course more advanced instruction in the subjects named in the Second Schedule hereto and under the conditions set out in Regulation 12 hereof, except that clause (2) of that regulation shall not be held to apply, and that a pupil may omit either history or a subject from Group IV of the said Second Schedule, but not both, and that when the pupil reaches the standard required for a School Certificate the requirements of the course prescribed may be deemed to be satisfied if the pupil receives instruction for at least four units at a higher standard in English and in each of two subjects selected from the following: Mathematics, Latin, Greek, French, German, geography, mechanics, heat and light, electricity and magnetism, chemistry, geology, botany, zoology, general biology, agriculture, home science, history, economics, accountancy, and any other subject approved for this purpose by the Director before the pupil commences his advanced course, together with instruction in other subjects so selected in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 12 hereof that the total number of units completed each year is not in general less than twenty.

15. The technical high school shall give to each free pupil who has completed the first two years of his course vocational and technical instruction in continuation and advance of the courses prescribed for free pupils during the first two years of their course. Not less than twenty units of work must be completed each year.

TRANSFER OF FREE PLACE.

16. Except as provided for in Regulation 17 hereof, the holder of a free place at one school shall not be allowed to transfer his free place to another school:

Provided, first, that, in special cases where it is shown to the satisfaction of the Director of Education that the free pupil is unable to obtain at the school he is attending instruction in the subjects required for the course of study he desires to follow, or that it is necessary in the interests of the pupil that he should be transferred to another school, such free pupil may, with the consent of the Director previously obtained, continue his free place for the unexpired period thereof at another school; and, secondly, that a free pupil

who leaves a secondary school, or a district high school, or a technical high school to take up employment at any time before the completion of the tenure of his free place shall be eligible to continue his free place at a technical school for the unexpired period thereof or until he has held his free place for five years altogether, whichever is the longer period.

17. (1) Any free pupil may on the termination of the second year or at the beginning of the third year of his free place transfer such free place to another post-primary school.

(2) Any free pupil whose parents, after his admission to one school, shall remove more than five miles from the school at which his free place is held may, subject to any limitations imposed by these regulations continue to hold his free place at another school nearer his home, and such other school shall admit him accordingly on the same terms as if he had remained at his former school.

18. Any pupil who has held a free place at a school that has been disestablished by the Minister, or that for any other reason has ceased to exist, may, subject to any limitations imposed by these regulations, continue to hold his free place at another school, and such school shall admit him accordingly on the same terms as if he had remained at his former school; nevertheless, a school may decline to admit such pupil if he can attend another school nearer his home.

LAPSE OF FREE PLACE.

19. Except as hereinafter provided or as the Director of Education may decide, any intermission of attendance exceeding a period of thirteen school weeks in duration shall be deemed to determine the free place; further, the free place held by a pupil whose attendance during any term falls below 50 per cent. of the possible total of attendance at the school shall, with a like exception, be deemed to have lapsed as at the close of the period specified.

20. The Principal of the school shall report regularly to the Director of Education with regard to the attendance, conduct, diligence, and progress of free-place pupils.

21. If, on a report from the Principal of the school or from an Inspector of Schools, it shall appear to the Director of Education that the attendance, conduct, diligence, or progress of any free pupil is not satisfactory, he may forthwith, or after due warning, determine the free place. In any case under review a special report may be required.

22. Any free pupil who has forfeited his free place shall not be eligible for a free place at any other post-primary school.

23. If any free pupil fails on account of illness to fulfil the conditions of his free place, his free place may, with the approval of the Minister, be continued provided that the limit of age stated in Regulation 7 hereof is not thereby exceeded. The fact of illness must be proved by evidence satisfactory to the Director of Education.

GENERAL.

24. (1) The annual returns of free pupils under these regulations shall be made on forms provided or approved by the Director of Education, and shall be sent to him not later than the 1st April in

each year. Supplementary returns showing the new entrants and removals, and the Principal's report on the attendance, conduct, diligence, and progress of pupils, shall be sent at the end of each term.

(2) The Principal of every secondary school or technical high school and the Headmaster of every district high school shall keep record-cards, on the forms provided or approved by the Director of Education, showing such information with respect to the course pursued and progress made by each free pupil as may be required; and in the case of transfer from one school to another the free pupil who is entitled to a transfer under these regulations shall be given his record-card duly filled up and signed, and no secondary school, district high school, or technical high school shall admit such pupil to a free place until he has produced his record-card. A record-card duly completed so as to form a certificate should be given to every pupil who has satisfactorily completed his course as the holder of a free place. The pupil's record-card must accompany every application for the transfer of a free place under the first proviso to Regulation 16 hereof, or for the extension of a free place under Regulations 7 or 23 hereof.

25. Free railway tickets will be granted, in terms of the Railway Regulations relating to Free School Season Tickets, to holders of free places.

FREE PLACES AT TECHNICAL CLASSES OTHER THAN CLASSES AT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

26. Subject to these regulations, any person shall be qualified to hold a free place at technical classes other than classes at technical high schools who has qualified for but has not held a free place in a post-primary school, and such free place shall be tenable during five calendar years, of which the first two shall be consecutive for pupils under fifteen years of age at the end of the first year, but if special merit is shown the tenure of the free place may be extended to a sixth year on the recommendation of the Principal of the technical school or classes.

27. Every pupil admitted to a free place at technical classes other than classes at technical high schools must attend in each year approved classes in two or more related subjects of technical or continuation instruction for not less than sixty hours, including not less than twenty hours in each subject counting towards this total.

28. Every pupil admitted to a free place at technical classes other than classes at technical high schools shall, until the end of the term in which he reaches fifteen years of age, attend approved classes in English, and history and civics, each occupying not less than one hour weekly throughout the technical school year.

29. On the recommendation of the Minister of Labour the Minister of Education may grant a free place in a technical school or class to any person, whether or not he is entitled to a free place under these regulations, for such period being not longer than three calendar years and on such conditions as the Minister may in his discretion determine.

30. The provisions of Regulations 5, 17 (2), 20, 21, 24, and 25 hereof shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to the tenure of free places held under Regulation 26 and the second proviso of Regulation 16 hereof.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

Date of Order in Council.	Date of Publication in Gazette.	Published on Page	Extent of Revocation.
19th December, 1922	11th January, 1923	29	Whole Order in Council.
9th July, 1923	12th July, 1923	1871	Whole Order in Council.
10th September, 1923	13th September, 1923	2409	Part X.
1st September, 1924	4th September, 1924	2107	Part III.
1st November, 1926	4th November, 1926	3121	Part I.
22nd August, 1927	25th August, 1927	2743	Part IV.
13th December, 1927	15th December, 1927	3671	Part XI.
14th October, 1929	17th October, 1929	2656	Whole Order in Council.
2nd March, 1931	12th March, 1931	561	Whole Order in Council.
11th February, 1935	14th February, 1935	287	Clause 4.
22nd July, 1936	30th July, 1936	1479	Whole Order in Council.

SECOND SCHEDULE.

Group I :—

Units.

- (1) English, including the general study of a fairly wide range of selected standard works in both prose and verse, reading and recitation, composition (both oral and written), and grammar (so far as it bears directly on composition). The cultivation of correct habits of speech and of facility of expression, both oral and written, must receive special attention 4, 5, or 6.
- (2) History and civics, including the history of the British Commonwealth of Nations in outline and the rights and duties of citizens so treated as to develop a sense of responsibility with regard to social service, and embracing generally more advanced instruction based on the course in civics, recommended in the Syllabus of Instruction for public schools preparatory to a course in the elementary principles of economics to be taken at a later stage . . . 1½ to 3.

Group II :—

- (3) Arithmetic (including the arithmetic of business transactions) 2½ to 3.

Or—

- (4) Mathematics—viz., arithmetic, algebra, and geometry . . . 4, 5, or 6.

Group III :—

- (5) Latin 3, 4, or 5.
- (6) Greek 3, 4, or 5.
- (7) French 3, 4, or 5.
- (8) German 3, 4, or 5.

Group IV :—

- (9) Physical science—*i.e.*, one or more of the following : General experimental science, mechanics, heat and light, magnetism and electricity, chemistry 2, 3, or 4.
- (10) Natural science—*i.e.*, one or more of the following : Physiology and hygiene, botany, general biology 2, 3, or 4.
- (11) Practical agriculture and dairy science (one or both) 2, 3, or 4.
- (12) Home science, including elementary general science, relating to the home and domestic hygiene (not less than 1 unit), together with one or more of the following in conjunction with economical household management : Plain cookery, laundry-work, needlecraft and garment-making, home nursing 2, 3, or 4.

NOTE.—In subjects (9) to (12) each pupil must give to individual practical work in that subject at least half the time devoted to instruction, and such individual practical work must not occupy less than thirty minutes in any one lesson.

Group V :—

	Units.
(13) Geography, physical and political	2 or 3.
(14) Geography, commercial (not to be reckoned if (13) is taken)	1 or 2.
(15) Plain cookery and laundry-work, if not included under (12)	1 or 2.
(16) Needlework and garment-making, if not included under (12)	1 or 2.
(17) Commercial correspondence and shorthand	1 or 2.
(18) Bookkeeping	1 or 2.
(19) Woodwork or metalwork	1 or 2.
(20) Drawing, one or more branches	1 or 2.
(21) Typewriting	1 or 2.
(22) Singing	1.
(23) Physical training	1.
(24) Any other subject approved by the Minister	1 or 2.



Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act, 1936.
 These regulations are administered by the Department of Education.