

SCHOOL-LEAVING EXAMINATIONS, FINALS AND ENTRANCE EXAMINATION: How will it be this year?

Ministry of Education press conference, March 23, 2020

In connection with the current coronavirus spread situation, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS, MŠMT in Czech) presented a plan on how united secondary school entrance examinations, final examinations and school-leaving examinations could take place. The main information is that the date of the above examinations will depend on the date on which the government crisis measure concerning the closure of primary and secondary schools is abolished. Uniform entrance examinations will take place no earlier than 14 days after allowing students to return to schools, and in the case of a school-leaving examination, it will be three weeks.

“If the proposal is approved by the government today, the Ministry of Education will send it to the Chamber of Deputies for consideration as soon as possible. Deputies will likely look into it tomorrow,” says Education Minister Robert Plaga.

Thus, uniform entrance examination to the secondary schools for the 2020/2021 school year, could take place no earlier than 14 days from the date of the pupils' will be a presence on secondary education schools.

“Compared to previous years, the deadlines for evaluating exam results will be shortened so that candidates can learn the outcome as soon as possible due to the circumstances,” explains Minister of Education Robert Plaga.

The headmasters who decided to make also the school part of the entrance examination will set their new dates by the time table set by the MŠMT.

The school-leaving examination would then take place no earlier than 21 days after the reopening of secondary schools. “The school-leaving exam would be evaluated by the school itself and not by CERMAT, as in standard mode. CERMAT will provide schools with documentation and materials for evaluation,” says the Minister of Education. After consultation with the Association of Headmasters of Grammar schools and representatives of other associations with concerning the time aspect, this year the written part of the Czech and foreign languages will be removed from the common part of the school-leaving exam.

“For secondary school leaving examinations, it will be crucial whether schools open till 1 June 2020. If so, the school-leaving exams will be in a simplified but similar form as every year. If schools do not open by 1 June 2020, the proposal contains a substitute solution for the sake of certainty of graduates,” says the Minister of Education. The proposal says that if secondary school attendance is not reopened by 1 June, the school-leaving certificate will be issued based on the student's results from the last three school certificates. If a pupil has failed in the last year of the half-semester, the school will allow doing a commission examination so that a pupil can also successfully receive a school-leaving certificate.

According to the proposal, the final examinations for apprenticeships would be carried out under similar conditions as the school-leaving examinations, including an identical alternative solution if the schools were not reopened by 1 June 2020.

Source: <http://www.msmt.cz/ministerstvo/novinar/msmt-pripravilo-reseni-pro-prijimaci-zaverecne-a-maturitni>