

Future Options & CAO Information Evening



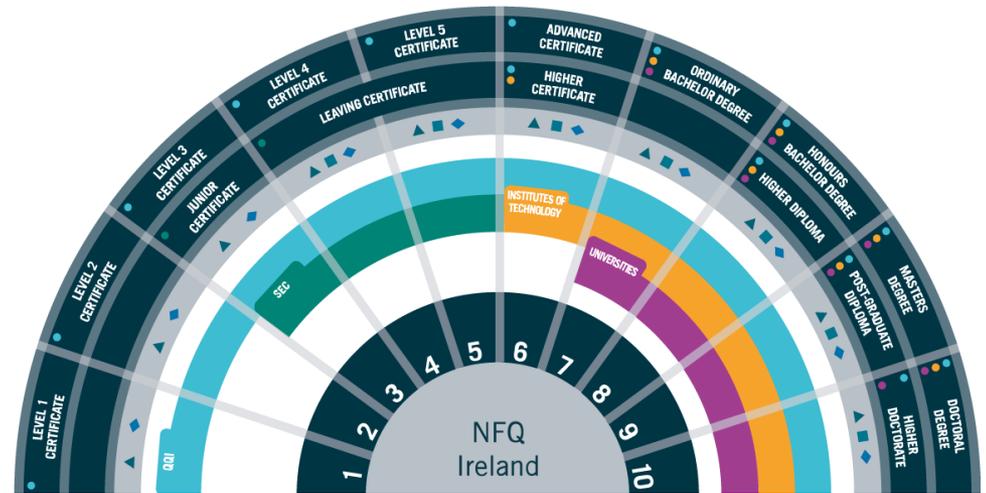
**Leaving Certificate Students
2024/25**

Aim for this Evening:

- What is CAO?
- What are CAO Requirements?
- Importance of Researching Courses
- CAO application, key dates & offer stage
- HEAR & DARE access route to college
- SUSI grant & Scholarships
- Alternative Options to CAO

What is CAO?

(Central Applications Office)



- CAO processes Irish college applications (incl. fee paying colleges)
- Students can complete 2 choice lists (level 6/7 ordinary degrees & level 8 honours degrees)
- Students can apply for up to 10 level 6/7 courses & 10 level 8 courses
- It is possible to receive an offer from both lists

https://careersportal.ie/school/cao_courses.php

CAO Requirements

Minimum Entry Requirements:

- Level 8: typically: 2x H5 & 4x O6/H7*
- Level 7: 5xO6/H7
- (incl. maths, Eng, Irish &/Or 3rd lang.*)

Subject Specific Requirements:

Example:

- Primary teaching Mary I **Irish = H4;**
- Sport & Exercise Science UL **Science = O3/H7;**
- Mathematical Science UG **Maths = H5/O1**

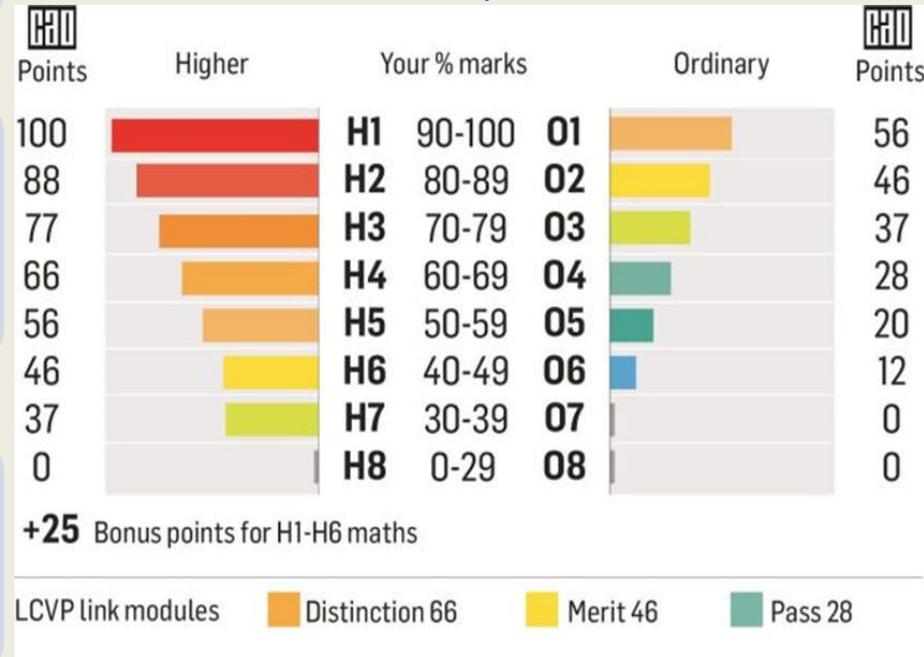
Points Requirement:

- Total points from Students' best six subjects
- (*bonus maths)

***Additional Requirement:

- Certain courses are Restricted-Application Courses
- They have early assessment procedures
- (must apply by 1st Feb)
- E.g. HPAT; Art portfolio; Interview
- Check cao.ie

How points are calculated



NB Research is crucial (rash decisions re subjects/ levels can be costly)

[https://cc.careersportal.ie/courses/calculator/pointsCalculator.html/#/](https://cc.careersportal.ie/courses/calculator/pointsCalculator.html#/)

RESEARCH!
Make an Informed Decision



Don't assume knowledge of a course by its title!

Don't choose a course / college based on friend's choices!

Research the modules across the 3 / 4 year degree

Are there work experience or year abroad options?

How will you be examined (group work / lab/ presentations)?

Get the college prospectus / Check college websites

Go to the Open / Taster Days

Consider the subjects you enjoy and excel in

Talk to students and friends who have completed the course

Discuss it with Guidance Counsellor

Use college websites to research modules

Year 1

CODE	SEMESTER 1	CODE	SEMESTER 2
NM4131	Shared Module: Promoting Safety within a Healthcare Context	CP4171	Practice Placement 1
NM4121	Shared Module: Foundations for Engaged Learning	NM4092	Shared Module: Introduction to Health and Health Promotion
NM4091	Philosophies Underpinning Person Centred Nursing	NM4181	Person Centred Medical Nursing
NM4141	Fundamentals of Nursing Practice	NM4152	Shared Module: Biological Sciences applied to Nursing & Midwifery 2
NM4151	Shared Module: Biological Sciences applied to Nursing & Midwifery 1	PS4062	Shared Module: Introduction to Psychology applied to Nursing and Midwifery
NM4161	Shared Module: Communication and interpersonal Relationships in Nursing & Midwifery		

Module list per
semester: Nursing
in UL (LM 150)

Visit the Book of Modules page and type the module code to access a detailed description of credit weighting, learning outcomes, form of assessment etc.

<https://bookofmodules.ul.ie/Default.aspx>

← → ↻ https://careersportal.ie/website/careerguidance/home?school_id=638 🔊 ☆ ⚙️ ⬇️ ⋮

 **Borrisokane Community College**
Guidance Counselling Dept.

 Home
 Events
 News
 Articles
 Useful Links
 Contact



Borrisokane Community College

Welcome to our Guidance Counselling Website

Weekly Checklists 



Apprenticeships closing for applications from Monday 21st October 2024
October 17, 2024



Senior Cycle Weekly Checklist Monday 21st October 2024
October 17, 2024

Articles 

[View All >](#)

Career Guidance and Counselling is at the heart of our Pastoral Care System at Borrisokane Community College. Our Guidance Counsellors have a caring and supportive role in the school where students can get advice and supports about a range of issues. From relationships to study skills and family difficulties to college advice and information, the Guidance Counsellor is on hand to meet with students in a confidential environment where they can be cared for and supported throughout their time in the school.

Counselling helps pupils explore their thoughts and feelings and the choices open to them. It gives care and support to pupils learning to cope with the many aspects of growing up and school life and with their individual personal circumstances. Borrisokane Community College endeavours to offer a comprehensive guidance and counselling service to all our students. The Guidance Counsellors liaise with Year Heads, Class Teachers, Learning Support Teachers, Subject Teachers, Deputy Principal and Principal. They also have regular contact with parents, psychologists, employers, colleges, social services, counsellors and the Department of Education

The Career Guidance and Counselling Dept within Borrisokane Community College provides support for all students in three main areas:

- Personal and Social Guidance

Career Guidance Noticeboard 

06

CAO Parents Talk
Wednesday, November 06, 20:43

[View All >](#)

Useful Tools 


Course Finder


Career Explorer


Career Sectors


Points Calculator


Apprenticeships


Subject Choice for LC

Be Informed
<https://www.borrisokanecce.ie/>

Keep checking our school Careers webpage for regular updates on open days & deadlines

Why Research is Crucial

Zurich Cost of Education Survey 2023

The Cost of College Education in Ireland 2023

If you're planning to support your children when they reach university, it might be wise to start saving now. The Zurich Cost of Education Survey 2023* reveals the staggering costs for college students living at home and in rented or student accommodation.

Third
Level



- Cost of college
- Cost of repeating



Use our CourseFinder to search for Further & Higher Education courses in Ireland. Use the filters to narrow down your preferences. Click on the star to add a course to your favourites. Your favourites will be saved to your Career File if you are logged in.

<https://careersportal.ie/>

- CourseFinder Help
- Progression Routes →
- Fetchcourses.ie →

Course Name or Code

★ My Favourites

Course Type

PLC (Further Education - FET)

CAO (Higher Education - HET)

Tertiary Education Programmes

[More options*](#)

nursing × CAO (Higher Education - HET) ×

QQI link: a level 5/6 PLC course offering an alternative entry route to the course

Found 46 courses

View Sort by

Course	Course Title	College	NFQ Level	Duration	QQI Links	Points (r2)
CK712 CAO	Children's and General Nursing (Integrated)	University College Cork - UCC	8	4 Years		520 ▼ -34
DC218 CAO	Children's and General Nursing (Integrated)	Dublin City University - DCU	8	4.5 Years		487 ▼ -22
DN451 CAO	Children's and General Nursing (Integrated)	University College Dublin - UCD	8	4 Years		499 ▼ -29
TR911 CAO	Children's and General Nursing (Integrated)	Trinity College Dublin - TCD	8	4 Years		474 ▼ -58

Narrows search to type of course provider

CAO Course Code

NFQ Level of Degree

CAO Points & indication of increase/ decrease from previous year

Course Code

US877

Zone

1 2 3 4 5



Level

8

NFQ Type

Major

Duration

4 Years

Attendance

Full Time

CAO Points 2023 (Round 2)

370

Points Change

-50

Course Summary

Language Options

Entry Requirements

QQI / FET Links

The Student

Career Progression

Further Research

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Points History

370

Minimum Subjects

2 H5 & 4 O6/H7

* Garda Vetting

✓ F2/O6/H7 IN Irish OR A ✓ O6/H7 IN English

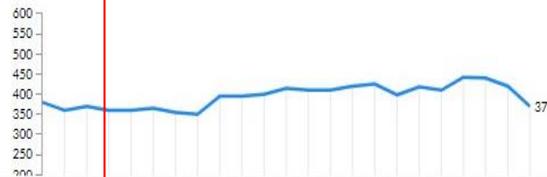
✓ O6/H7 IN Maths

✓ O6/H7 IN Agricultural Science OR Biology OR Chemistry OR Physics

OR Physics/Chemistry

Disclaimer: Details subject to change - If this is a course you are considering applying for you should check on the Colleges' website to ensure you have the latest entry requirements information.

CAO Points History



COLLEGE PROFILE



TUS Midlands - Athlone
Institute of Technology

Visit College Profile

View Prospectus

View Scholarships

View Courses

CAO Points Requirements

Subject Specific Requirements

Minimum Entry Requirements

**Nursing TUS
Athlone L8
4 years**

Making an Application

Applicant's Personal Details

Surname

Other names

Title (Mr,Ms,Mrs,etc.)

Date of Birth

Sex Male Female I'd prefer not to say

Please Note: You should enter your name and date of birth as it appears on your Birth Certificate or Passport. If you wish to apply under a different name, HEIs will require proof of identification at registration.

As stated in the CAO Handbook, an applicant may only present one application in any one year (either online or paper). There will be no refunds given to applicants who make more than one application.

Home address Rep. of Ireland Other Country

Address Line 1

CAO online application facility opened on 5th November at 12:00 noon

****Spring is a busy period for LC students – mocks, orals, practical/ projects so try to get an account open before Christmas**

- Applications are made online via www.cao.ie
- Students receive their CAO number after paying their fee.
- Always keep proof of application: print screen receipt
- Indicate Leaving Cert. student
- Students must fill out course lists in:
Genuine Order of Preference
- It is a mistake to put down courses on the basis of points predictions

A personalised CAO Handbook is available. Users can search courses & read handbook instructions & save to their phone

<https://www.cao.ie/index.php?page=demo>

CAO closing Date and Fees

	Fee	Closing Date
Normal Closing Date	€45	1st Feb 2024 (5pm)
Discounted Application Date	€30	20th Jan 2024 (5pm)
Change of Mind Facility 6th May 2024 12pm	Free	1st July 2024 (5pm)

Change the order of choices or introduce/delete courses

**** Does NOT include restricted entry**

Be Responsible: Check emails sent to all applicants before end of May & confirm details

[Central Applications Office](#) (link to CAO important dates)

How offers are issued

Example:

The applicant's leaving Certificate results are released to CAO.



CAO checks if the applicant meets the minimum entry requirements for each of their chosen courses.

CAO calculates a points score for all of the courses that the applicant is eligible for.



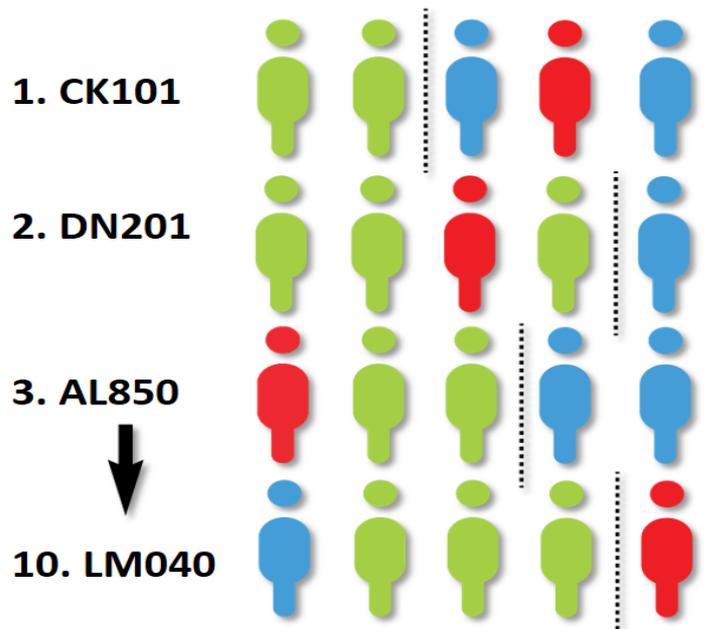
The applicant is placed on a list for each of their eligible courses. Their position on the list is determined by their points score relative to the other eligible applicants for that course. The list is commonly referred to as the 'Order of Merit list'.

The colleges instruct CAO to make X number of offers for each course.

The offers are issued to applicants based on their position on the list. The applicant with the highest points score will be offered the first place, the second highest will be offered the second place, and so on until all places have been offered.

Offers

When applicants decline/defer offers this results in subsequent places becoming available in the next round of offers in order of merit



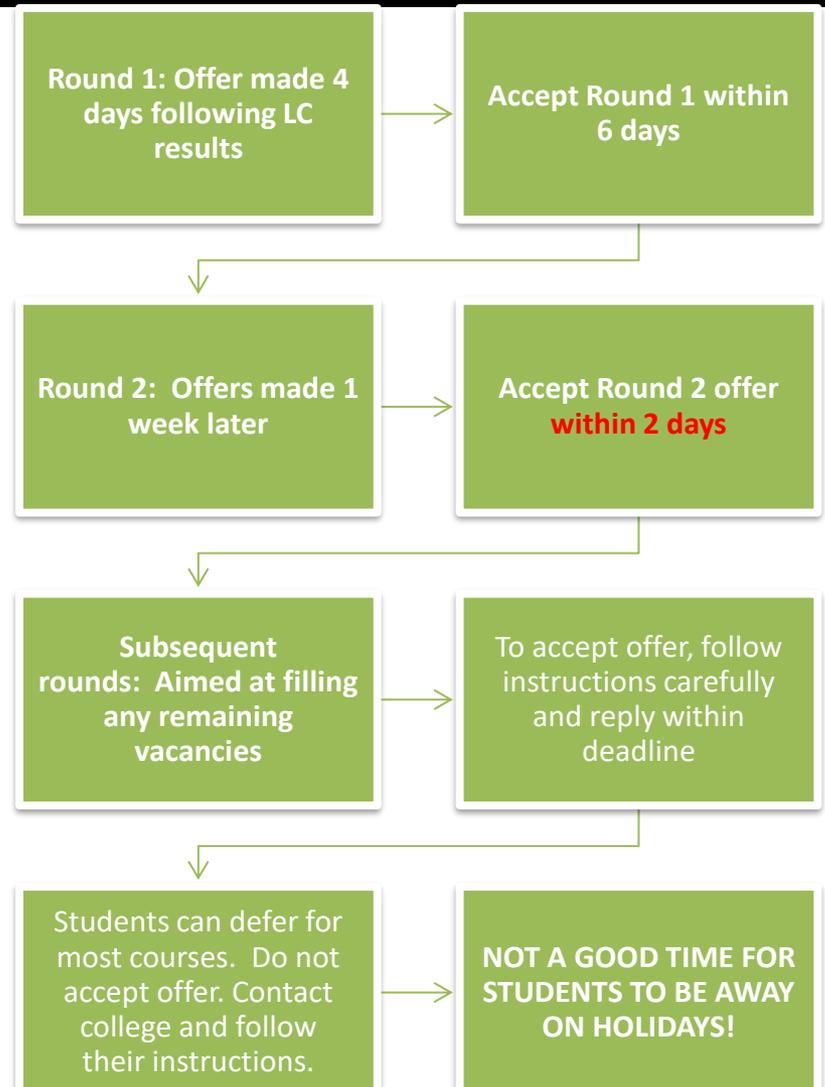
EXAMPLE
 – HEIs issue R1 offers

- The applicants marked in **GREEN** have enough points to be offered places.
- The applicant marked in **RED** has enough points for her second preference.

- Red applicant got 486 points
- Their number 1 choice CK101 was 488 points
- Their number 2 choice DN201 was 470 points
- Their number 3 choice AL850 was 477 points
- *Red applicant got offered their number 2 choice therefore they can not be offered number 3 - 10.*
- *They MAY get offered number 1 in a later round.*

Approximate outline of Offer Stage

*Dates to be Confirmed

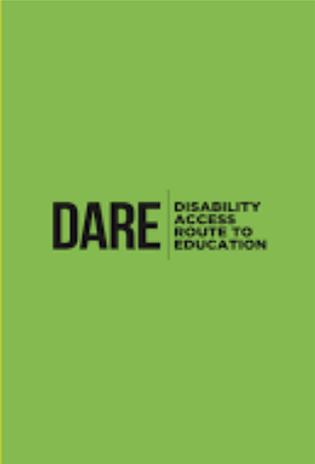


Access Routes to Education: HEAR/DARE

- **HEAR** (Higher Education Access Route) a college and university access scheme which offers places on reduced points to school leavers from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds
- **DARE** (Disability Access Route to Education) offers reduced points places to school leavers who as a result of having a disability have experienced educational challenges in second level education
- Indicate on CAO form; online forms completed by March 1st & supporting documentation posted to CAO by March 15th



HEAR | HIGHER
EDUCATION
ACCESS
ROUTE



DARE | DISABILITY
ACCESS
ROUTE TO
EDUCATION

HEAR

<https://accesscollege.ie/hear/>

(HEAR Application Information Session 2025 will take place in January keep an eye on the website)

- Each HEAR applicant is assessed in relation to six indicators (criteria)
- Each applicant must meet at least 3 of the indicators (certain combinations allowed)

Indicator 1: Income

Indicator 2: Medical/GP Card

Indicator 3: Social Welfare

Indicator 4: Socio Economic Group (Employment & occupation status)

Indicator 5: DEIS school

Indicator 6: Area Profile – concentrated disadvantage

Use www.pobal.ie
to check

Combinations for
eligibility are:

Indicator
1 + 2 +
4 or 5 or 6

Indicator
1 + 3 +
4 or 5 or 6

Indicator
1 + 4 +
5 or 6

Indicator
1 + 5 + 6

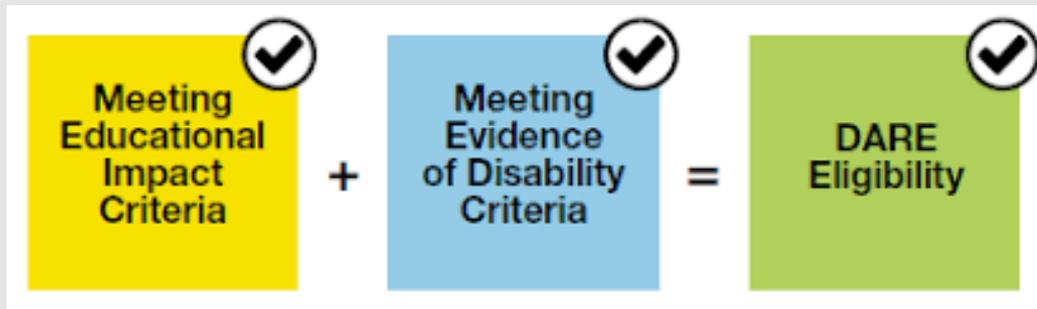
DARE: What disabilities are eligible?

<https://accesscollege.ie/dare/>

(DARE Application Information Session 2025 will take place January – keep an eye on accesscollege.ie for webinar dates.)

- Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)/Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Autism Spectrum Disorder including/Asperger's syndrome
- Blind/Vision impaired
- Deaf/Hearing impaired
- Developmental Co-ordination Disorder (DCD) –Dyspraxia
- Mental Health conditions
- Neurological conditions (incl. Brain injury, epilepsy)
- Speech and Language Communication Disorder
- Significant on-going illness
- Physical disability
- Specific learning difficulty (incl. Dyslexia)





DARE Eligibility

✓ Section A: Personal Statement

experience of being in school and the challenges you faced

✓ Section B: Educational Impact Statement completed by school

school to provide detail of how your disability has impacted on your second level experience

✓ Section C: Evidence of Disability Form

completed by approved Medical Consultant/Specialist/GP

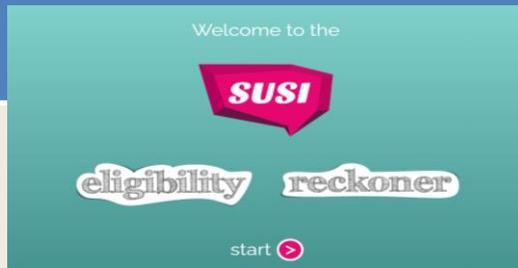
SUSI Grant

Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) is the single awarding authority for all grant applications

www.susi.ie

Generally opens in April

Can complete Grant Eligibility Reckoner as a guide



Criteria:

- ✓ Nationality
- ✓ Residency
- ✓ Income
- ✓ Previous Education & Progression
- ✓ Approved Course in Approved Institution

Scholarships

- Entrance
- All-Ireland
- Sports
- Performing/Creative Arts
- Active Citizenship
- Innovation & Entrepreneurship
- Academic
- Subject Specific : studying in a particular sector e.g. *Accounting, Science, Engineering, Languages*

Enter your college of interest under the 'Sponsor' section to identify Scholarships and criteria

The screenshot shows the 'Scholarship Explorer' website. At the top, there is a search bar with the text 'Search for any title'. Below the search bar are three filter boxes: 'Subject Area' with a dropdown arrow, 'Sponsor' with a dropdown arrow, and 'TUS Midwest (formerly LIT)'. Below the filters, it says 'Found 11 Result(s)'. The first result is the 'EI Electronics Ascent Scholarship' by 'TUS Midwest (formerly LIT)'. To the right of the title is the TUS logo. Below the title is a table with the following columns: TYPE (Scholarship), APPLY (Check Full Details), LEVEL (Undergraduate), and SUBJECT AREA(S) (STEM). Below the table, there is a paragraph of text: 'The Ei Electronics Ascent Scholarship will award €2,500 per annum for 3 years to an outstanding TUS student who is studying an eligible course in any of the qualifying disciplines.'

Use careersportal to check scholarships available in colleges of interest

<https://careersportal.ie/scholarships/index.php>

Other Options

UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) – colleges in the UK. Closing date 6pm 31st January 2024 (***MEDICINE, VETERINARY MEDICINE/SCIENCE, AND DENTISTRY = MID OCTOBER*)

EUNICAS (European Universities Central Application Support Service) – colleges in Europe (study through English).

Post Leaving Certificate, obtain FETAC (QQI) level 5/6 qualification with which student can reapply through the CAO system (alternative to repeating the Leaving Certificate). Links to Universities and TU's. Note: Some courses require specific grades for entry purposes e.g. Nursing.

Some Universities & TU's offer a **Special Maths exam** (students who missed a maths requirement)

Army, Navy, Air corps more info at: www.military.ie



APPRENTICESHIP



- Huge expansion of apprenticeships in recent years
- Possible to do apprenticeships in areas such as Construction, Electrical, Engineering, Finance, Motor, IT, Accountancy and Hospitality.
- Information available on www.apprenticeship.ie and www.careersportal.ie
- On the job and college training (earn & learn!).

Further Considerations...

FEES: Student Registration fee: €3000. (if receiving the full grant students don't pay this). If a student drops out they may be liable for fees; check cut-off dates with individual colleges. Tuition fee paid by the government (will only be paid for each college year once – not for repeating a year)

ACCOMMODATION: Keep abreast of individual accommodation circumstances through their websites (lottery system/ online booking etc.)

Deferral: All the colleges & universities have different policies regarding deferrals and most expect a specific reason. If you received a CAO offer & decide to defer, do not accept the offer. Contact the College Admissions mark “DEFERRED ENTRY” clearly in the email. If you have successfully deferred & want to take your place, you will need to apply for the course through the CAO again the following year. You will need to put down your deferred course as your first and only choice; additional entries will forfeit your place and enter you back into the CAO lottery.

Thank you for listening

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