



*Contact Details:*

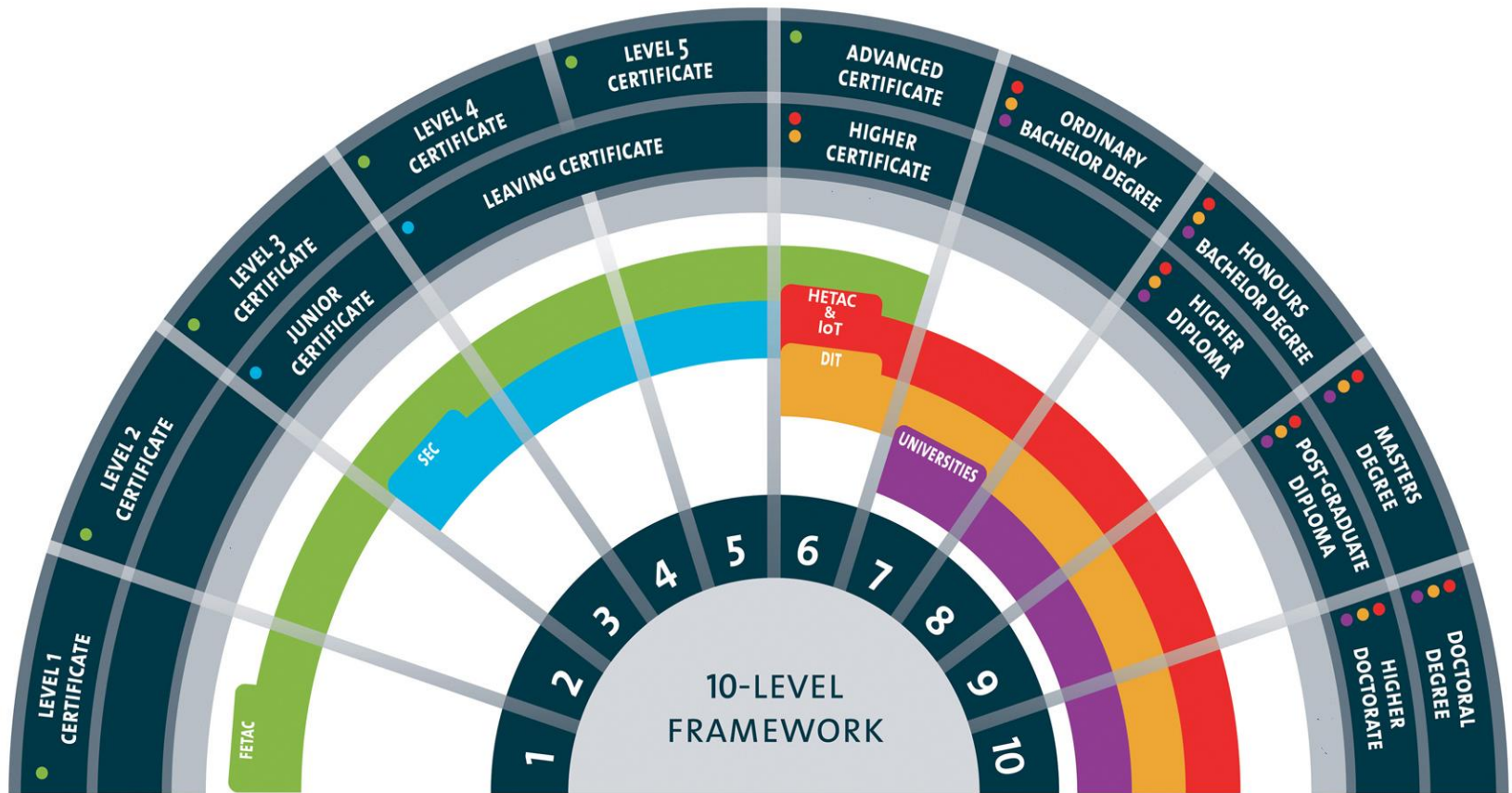
Eleanor Uí Chatháin,  
Guidance Counsellor,  
Abbey Community College,  
Ferrybank,  
Waterford

[ecathain@abbeycommunitycollege.com](mailto:ecathain@abbeycommunitycollege.com)

[www.abbeycommunitycollege.com](http://www.abbeycommunitycollege.com)

[@abbeyccguidance](#)

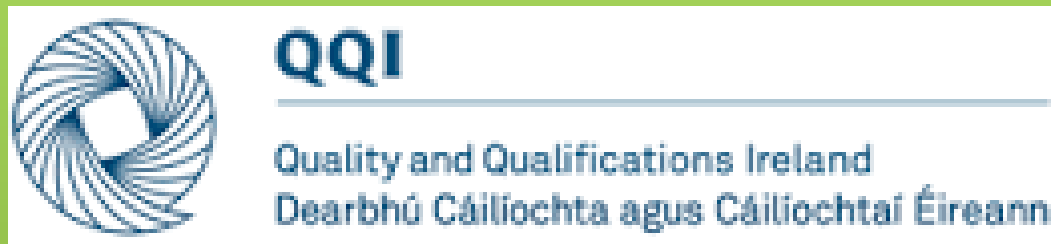
# Qualifications Framework



Most applicants will apply for level 6, 7 and 8 courses.

# Non CAO options

QQI-FET (formerly QQI) Level 5/6 courses (PLC's)



Apprenticeships/SOLAS Training



# Further Education Courses



## What is a PLC course:

- Usually one year in duration
- Preparation for employment
- Specific to a discipline and gives vocational, personal, and general skills
- Includes work placement
- Provides access to third level

## Cost:

- No tuition fees\*
- Grant available by SUSI

\* *Application fee in some Colleges and cost associated with some courses.*

# PLC's - Common Awards System (CAS)

- Progression to Higher Certificate, Ordinary Degrees, and Honours Degrees is possible
- Under this initiative, most college courses are open to QQI applicants along with Leaving Cert students
- Best 8 components are counted:
  - 50 points Distinction
  - 35 points Merit
  - 20 points

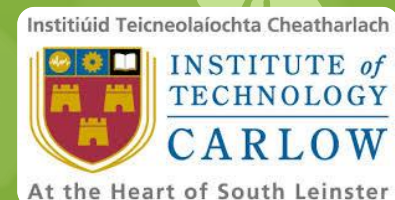
More information can be accessed on

- [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)
- [www.qqi.ie](http://www.qqi.ie)



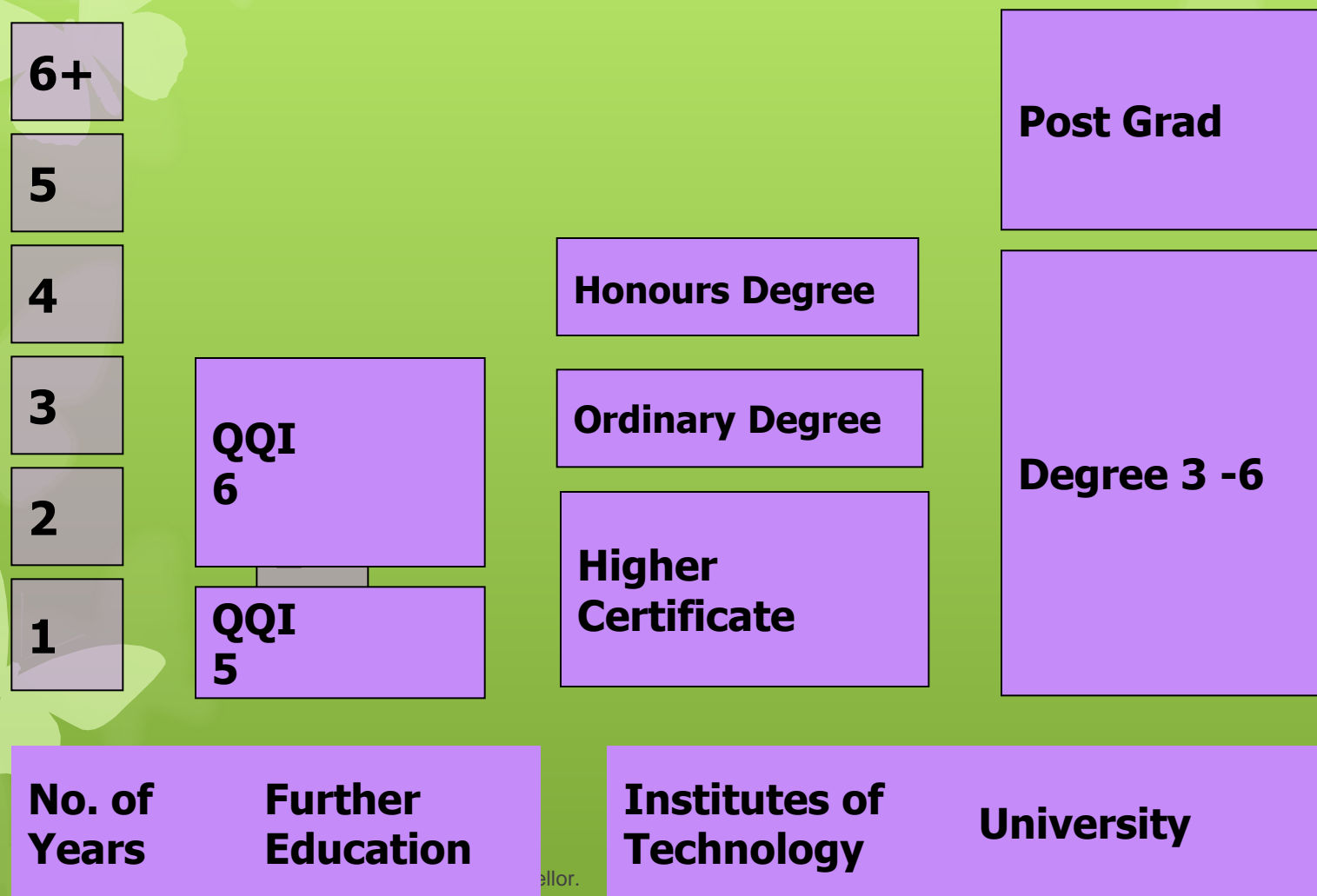


# QQI Progression Routes - Further Education (PLC) QQI level 5 or 6



- There are 40 HEI's offering places to QQI applicants
- Scheme 1: QQI LINKS Scheme:
- Specific QQI level 5 and 6 courses are linked to reserved places on specific higher education programmes
- Scheme 2: PILOT Scheme
- Most courses are open to students to apply for on the PILOT scheme through the CAO process.
- Students can achieve up to 400 **CAS points** from their QQI level 5/6 course to compete for entry alongside the other Leaving Cert applicants (this is calculated on their best 8 QQI modules)

# The 'Ladder' System



# SOLAS (FAS) Apprenticeships/ Training Courses



## Apprenticeships:

- Apprenticeship is a method by which a person works for an employer in a chosen occupation and learns the necessary skills, knowledge and attitudes to become a qualified craftsperson
- Follow a specific course of training and undergo a series of assessments
- Entry requirements: aged 16 and 5 passes in JC (minimum)
- Sponsorship: must be obtained with a registered employer
- Training: 4yrs duration, 7 phases of training
- Training allowances paid for duration of training
- SOLAS currently offer 23 standard based apprenticeships (this number is due to increase)
- Qualification: Level 6 (NFQ)







# Teagasc

## Agriculture, Horticulture, Equine, Forestry

Offers various education and training courses within the NFQ

### Further Education Training courses:

- QQI Level 5/6
- Entry through 8 Ag Colleges and at Local Teagasc Centres Nationwide
- Courses can be taken fulltime/ part-time

### Higher Education Links Scheme:

- Holders of QQI awards can apply for a quota number of higher education courses
- Apply through CAO

### Third Level courses:

- Entry through CAO
- Courses taken at Institutes of Technologies and UCD

### Further information:

[www.teagasc.ie](http://www.teagasc.ie)



UCAS



EUNICAS

**EUNiCAS**

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY  
CENTRAL APPLICATION  
SUPPORT SERVICE

# UCAS Fees:

Domicile of Student	Location of Institution			
	England	Scotland	Wales	NI
England	Up to 9K	Up to 9K	Up to 9K	Up to 9K
Scotland	Up to 9K	No fee	Up to 9K	Up to 9K
Wales	Up to 9K	Up to 9K	Up to 9K	Up to 9K
NI	Up to 9K	Up to 9K	Up to 9K	Up to £3465.00
EU	Up to 9K	No fee	Up to 9K	Up to £3465.00
Other International	Variable	Variable	Variable	Variable

# NHS Courses:

The following programmes are funded by the NHS and UK and EU students are NOT required to pay fees, subject to EU status:

- ✗ Dentist
- ✗ Chiropodist (including podiatrist)
- ✗ Adult Nursing
- ✗ Children's Nursing
- ✗ Mental Health Nursing
- ✗ Learning Disability Nursing
- ✗ Dietetics
- ✗ Midwifery
- ✗ Physiotherapy
- ✗ Speech and Language therapy
- ✗ Audiologist
- ✗ Radiography
- ✗ Radiotherapy
- ✗ Research Clinical Psychology
- ✗ Occupational therapy
- ✗ Dental hygienist/ or Dental Therapist



# Offers: Two Types of offer Conditional/ Unconditional

## Conditional Offers

**A conditional offer** means that they will offer you a place if you meet certain conditions, which are usually based on your exams.

## Unconditional offers

**An unconditional offer** means that you have met all the entry requirements and the university or college is happy to accept you.

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)



**Students can apply for up to 5 courses through UCAS\***

The logo for EUNiCAS, featuring the word "EUNiCAS" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letter "i" is lowercase and has a red dot. The letters "E", "U", "N", "C", "A", and "S" are uppercase and blue. There are small red horizontal bars above the "E" and the "i".

**EUNiCAS**

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY  
CENTRAL APPLICATION  
SUPPORT SERVICE

2016-2017 ZEMANCE  
CENTRAL APPLICATION

**Some Degree programmes  
in Europe  
are taught in English**



# What Can You Study in Europe?

[through English]

- Biosciences
- Business/Management
- Digital Media/Gaming
- Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Hospitality & Tourism
- International Law
- International Relations/Politics
- IT & Software
- Life Sciences
- Media & Entertainment Management
- Medicine
- Performing Arts
- Physiotherapy
- Psychology
- Sports Management
- Veterinary Science
- And more

There are currently nearly 700 programmes taught through English

[www.eunicas.ie](http://www.eunicas.ie)

# CAO Options



CAO Application Process



Cost of 3<sup>rd</sup> level education

# Who's decision is it?

- It is the APPLICANTS choice
- It is the APPLICANTS responsibility
- It is the APPLICANTS decision
- NOT the Guidance Counsellor
- NOT their parents
- NOT their friends
- *This is the APPLICANTS life*



# CAO - General Information

<b>Paper Application</b>	<b>Fee</b>	<b>Closing Date</b>
Normal	€40	1 February (5.15pm)
Late	€80	1 May (5.15pm)
<b>Online Application</b>	<b>Fee</b>	<b>Closing Date</b>
Early Discounted	€25	20 January (5.15pm)
Normal	€40	1 February 2015 (5.15pm)
<b>Change of Mind</b>	<b>No Fee</b>	<b>1 July (5.15pm)</b>

- Centralised application system for 45 Irish 3<sup>rd</sup> level institutions, including 10 **fee-paying** colleges.
- Every applicant will receive a CAO Application Pack which includes:
  - CAO Handbook – application and course information
  - Paper application form
  - Application fee bank giro form

- ▣ These are applied for on 2 separate lists on a single form:

## Level 6 & 7 Courses

<b>Ordinary Degrees (7) Higher Certificates (6)</b>
Up to 10 Course Choices

## Level 8 Courses

<b>Honours Degrees (8)</b>
Up to 10 Course Choices

- Whether you apply for 1 or 20 courses – same fee.
- The courses are clearly labelled in the CAO Handbook, i.e. Level 6, 7 or 8.
- N.B. – Care must be taken with courses marked '*Restricted*'.
- These courses cannot normally be applied for after February 1<sup>st</sup> due to extra assessments required.

**DUBLIN**

## DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY

**www.dcu.ie**

*(Continued)*

### Honours Bachelor Degrees - Level 8 (HD)

*Apply by inserting the Codes below  
in the Level 8 Section of the Application Form.*

Code	Title (NOT to be entered on Application Form) Honours Bachelor Degrees - Level 8
DC 201	Common Entry into Science (Undenominated Entry)
DC 202	Sport Science and Health
DC 203	Science Education
DC 204	Athletic Therapy and Training
DC 205	Physical Education with Biology
DC 206	Physical Education with Mathematics
DC 208	Psychology
DC 209	Health and Society
DC 211	Music Performance <i>at the Royal Irish Academy of Music</i> <i>(Restricted - see page 4)</i>
DC 212	Composition <i>at the Royal Irish Academy of Music</i> <i>(Restricted - see page 4)</i>
DC 215	General Nursing
DC 216	Psychiatric Nursing
DC 217	Intellectual Disability Nursing
DC 218	Children's and General Nursing (Integrated)

Eleanor Uí Chatháin, Guidance Counsellor.





# Restricted Application Courses

- Some courses have Interviews/ Assessments / Portfolios / Auditions
- Medicine - HPAT Test
- Application must be made by the 1<sup>st</sup> February.
- Details of all restricted entry courses are in the CAO Handbook

# What is required for entry into Third Level?

**C**

1. **The College (or Basic) Requirements.**
  - \* 5 OD in Leaving Certificate for CFE's
  - \* 6 subjects (2 at HC and 4 at OD) for courses in IT's and Universities

**F**

2. **The Faculty (or Course) Requirements**
  - \* e.g. HC in Irish for Primary Teaching, HC in Maths for Engineering

**P**

3. **Points**
  - \* Best six subjects in one sitting of the Leaving Certificate



Leaving Certificate

**C**ollege

13 Applicants

**F**aculty

5 Available Places

**P**oints

--	--	--	--	--



## Leaving Certificate

**C**ollege



**F**aculty



550

400

480

320

190

500

290

TOO MANY

**P**oints



320

400

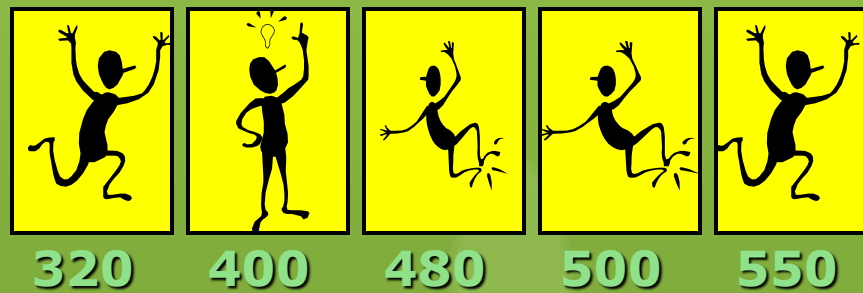
480

500

550

**320** was the lowest points to gain entry

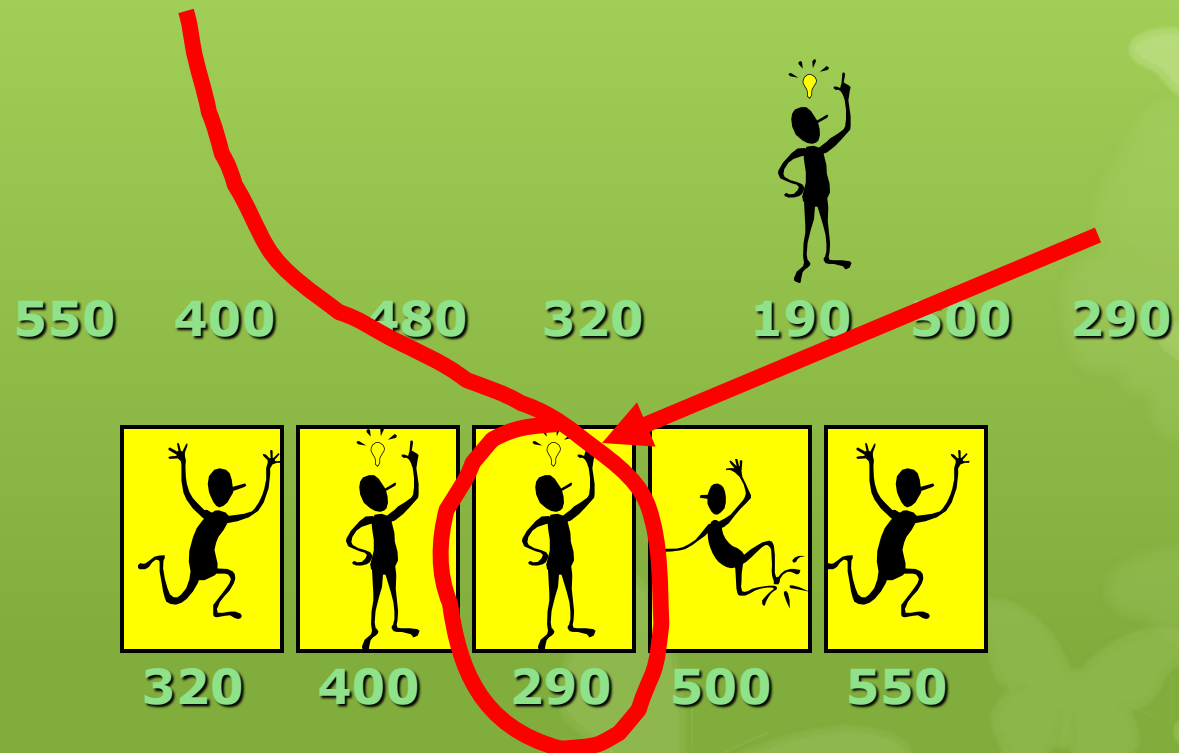
If a place is not accepted ...



320 was the lowest points to gain entry

If a place is not accepted it goes to the next in line

290 is now the lowest points to gain entry





# ROUND ONE



COURSE 1 C F

COURSE 2 C F

~~COURSE 3~~ C F P   OFFER 1

COURSE 4 C P

COURSE 5 C

COURSE 6 F P

COURSE 7 C F P

COURSE 8 C P

COURSE 9 C F P

COURSE 10 C F P



**NO LONGER  
CONSIDERED**

# Order of Preference

**Genuine  
Order of  
Preference**

- 1**
- 2**
- 3**
- 4**
- 5**
- 6**
- 7**
- 8**
- 9**
- 10**



Dream Courses

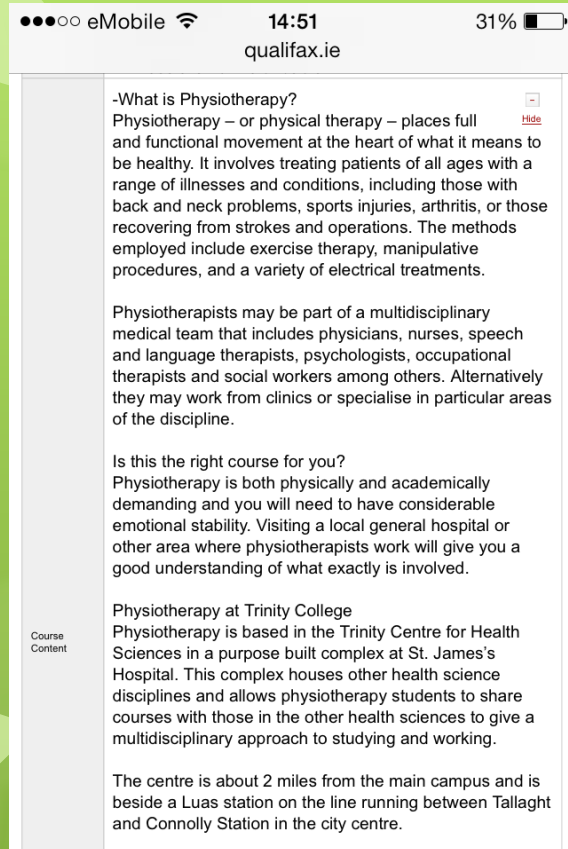


Realistic Courses



Safety Net

# Where to find the right information;



- Deciding the 'Order of Preference' takes time and research.
- Using some key websites makes it easier.
- [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)
- [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)

# Example; Physiotherapy in TCD

Careers or  
Further  
Progression

## -Career Opportunities

Successful completion of the course entitles you to membership of the Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists, the accrediting body for Physiotherapy in Ireland.

[Hide](#)

Physiotherapists are sought throughout the world and you will be able to work with a wide range of conditions or to specialise, as you wish. There is also great scope for you to continue to develop your skills and expertise in areas such as manipulative therapy, sports injuries, neurology, cardiology, respiratory, research, education, management or private practice.

Further  
Enquiries

[www.medicine.tcd.ie/physiotherapy](http://www.medicine.tcd.ie/physiotherapy)  
Tel: [+353 1 896 2110](tel:+35318962110) / 1

International  
Students

[Web Page - Click Here](#)

## Points History

Year	Points	
2013	535	* (Not all on this points score were offered places)
2012	550	* (Not all on this points score were offered places)
2011	535	* (Not all on this points score were offered places)

**\*\*RANDOM  
SELECTION\*\***

[back to top](#)

## What is Physiotherapy?

eMobile

14:51

31%

qualifax.ie

CAO Application and

Normal Application (online or paper): Fee €40 Closing Date: 1 Feb 2013 (5:15 pm)  
Online discounted rate: Fee: €25 Closing Date: 20 Jan 2013 (5:15 pm)  
Late online application: Fee: €50 Closing Date: 1 May 2013 (5:15 pm)  
Late paper application: Fee: €80 Closing Date: 1 May 2013 (5:15 pm)  
Change of Mind: Fee: Nil Closing Date: 1 July 2013 (5:15 pm)  
All Fees are non-refundable

-What is Physiotherapy?  
Physiotherapy – or physical therapy – places full and functional movement at the heart of what it means to be healthy. It involves treating patients of all ages with a range of illnesses and conditions, including those with back and neck problems, sports injuries, arthritis, or those recovering from strokes and operations. The methods employed include exercise therapy, manipulative procedures, and a variety of electrical treatments.

Physiotherapists may be part of a multidisciplinary medical team that includes physicians, nurses, speech and language therapists, psychologists, occupational therapists and social workers among others. Alternatively they may work from clinics or specialise in particular areas of the discipline.

Is this the right course for you?  
Physiotherapy is both physically and academically demanding and you will need to have considerable emotional stability. Visiting a local general hospital or other area where physiotherapists work will give you a good understanding of what exactly is involved.

Physiotherapy at Trinity College

[Hide](#)

## Course Content

The centre is about 2 miles from the main campus and is beside a Luas station on the line running between Tallaght and Connolly Station in the city centre.

### Course Content

The major objective of this four-year course is to enable you to become a competent professional with the ability to work independently with patients.

There are two components to Physiotherapy: theory and clinical practice. In the first year the emphasis is on laying a foundation of theoretical knowledge and the second year introduces students to the clinical skills and procedures used by physiotherapists. Clinical sciences are taught mainly in the second and third years. In the third and fourth years students spend up to fifty percent of their time on clinical placement. In the fourth-year students have an opportunity to develop specialist knowledge in a particular area of physiotherapy and undertake a research project.

### -The Freshman Years

As a Freshman (first and second year) student you will have approximately 20 hours of teaching each week divided between lecture and practical classes.

Courses covered in the first two years include:

- \* Physiology
- \* Anatomy
- \* Physics
- \* Chemistry
- \* Pathology
- \* Biomechanics and movement – includes procedures to improve strength, mobility and balance
- \* Electrotherapy procedures – includes the use of electrotherapy to alleviate pain, improve circulation and



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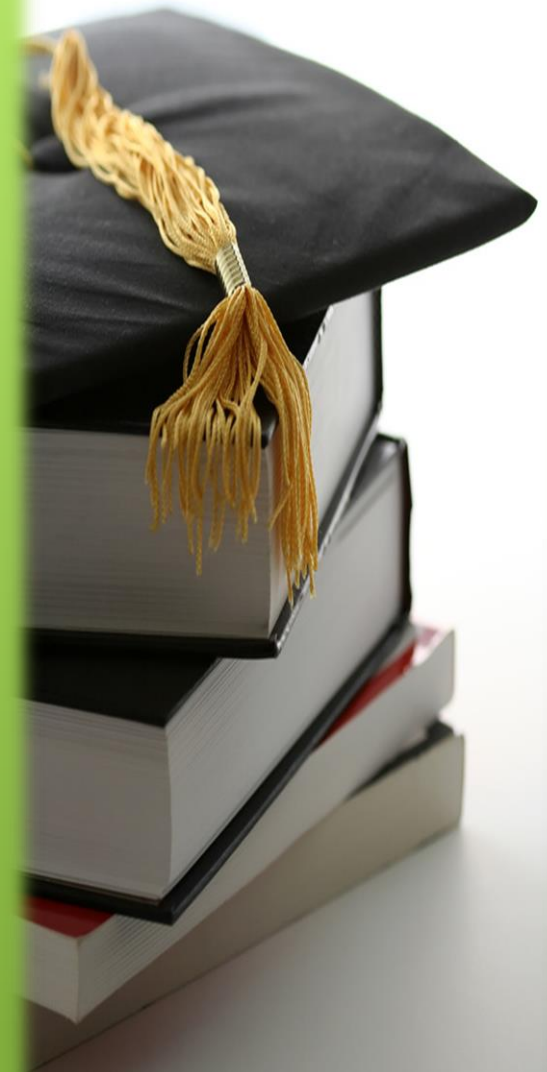
## Assessment & Placement Course Content

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qualifax.ie		
<p>You will also start to study various conditions and specialties frequently seen in physiotherapy such as respiratory conditions and musculoskeletal conditions.</p> <p>At the end of second year you will start clinical placements under the supervision of skilled and experienced tutors. These may be taken in hospitals, clinics, day centres or within private and community practice.</p> <p>The Sophister Years</p> <p>In the Junior Sophister (third) year half of the time is spent on academic studies and the other half on clinical placements in a variety of settings both within and outside the Dublin area.</p> <p>In the Senior Sophister (fourth) year, you will undertake an investigative project on a topic related to physiotherapy in conjunction with advanced study in an area of your choice. Examples of subject choices available include care of the elderly, paediatrics, women's health, sports injuries and pain.</p> <p>End-of-year written examinations and tests in certain subjects, such as anatomy, make up the theoretical assessment structure.</p> <p>In addition, you will be continuously assessed during your clinical placement and will have practical exams on the skills element of the course, including your assessment of a patient while on a clinical placement.</p> <p>Did you know?</p> <p>All students will have clinical placements at Trinity College's associated teaching hospitals of St. James's and AMNCH in Tallaght where there is an established expertise in most areas of physiotherapy. These placements allow students to gain experience in some of the specialist areas of physiotherapy including neurology.</p>		



# HEI's in the CAO

- Universities
- Institutes of Technology
- Teacher Training Colleges
- N.C.A.D.
- Religious Institutes
- N.C.I.
- Private Colleges





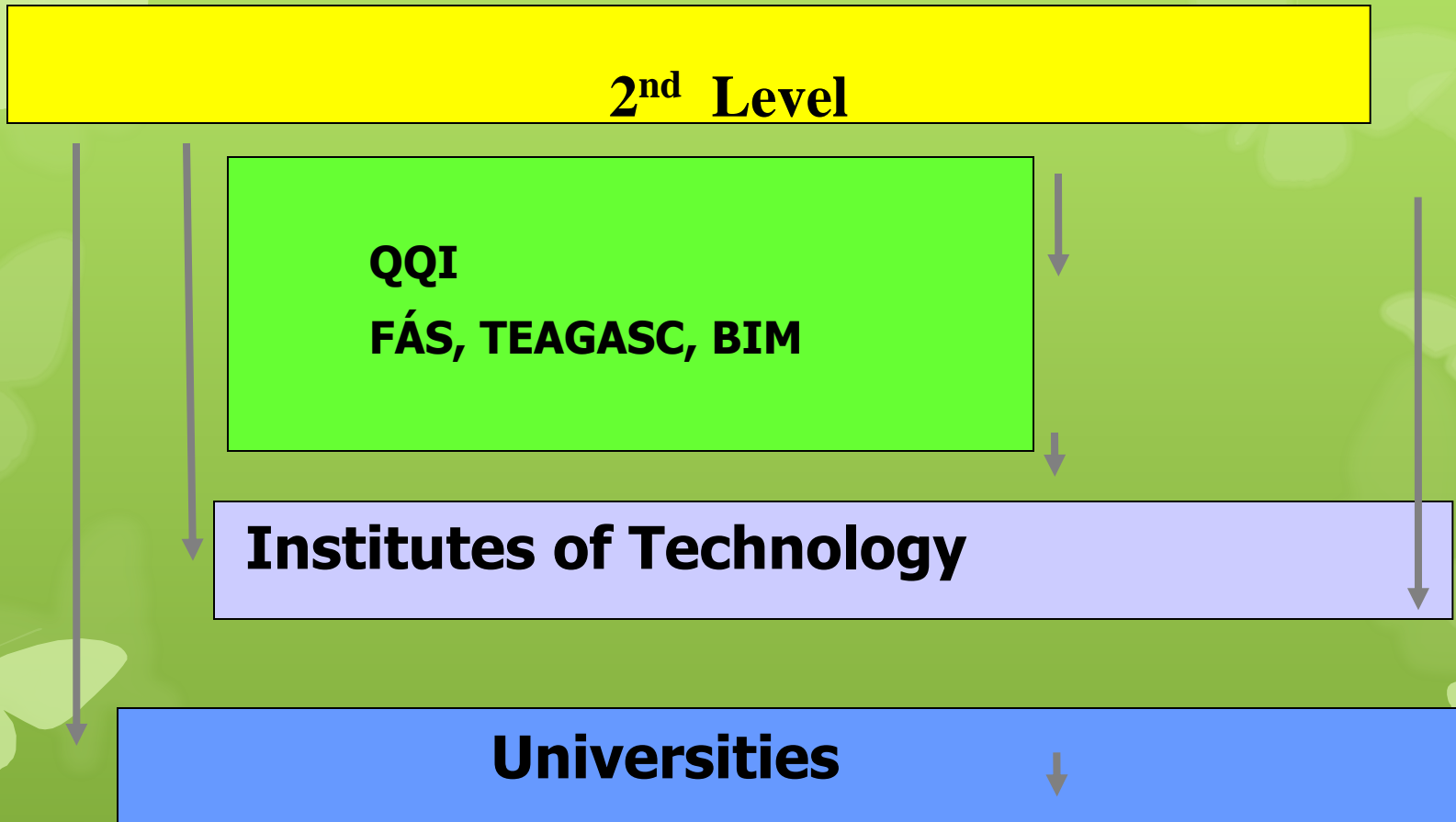
# Choice...

1977 - 5 Colleges with 69 courses

Now - 45 Colleges with over 1300 courses and growing

Commercial Modern Music, Creative & Cultural Industries, Sustainable Building and Renewable Energy, Sport & Exercise, International Development & Food Policy, Religions & Global Diversity, International Relations, Physical education with Mathematics, Genetics & Cell Biology, Design for Stage & Screen, Sport Management & Coaching, DNA & Forensic Science, Creative Digital Media, Deaf Studies, Earth Sciences, Human & Animal Toxicology, Jewish & Islamic Civilisations, Dairy Business, Community Youth Work, Applied Freshwater & Marine Biology, Forest Management, Arts with Global Women Studies, Arts with Creative Writing, Astrophysics, Ceramics, Ocean Sciences & International Culinary, Timer Product Technology. Enterprise, Marketing with Digital Media & Cloud Computing, Voice & Dance, Sports Strength & Conditioning.

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Level in Ireland



# CAO HANDBOOK

# 2016

*This Handbook (which is supplied free of charge) gives information on application and admission procedures only.*

*Application should not be made for any course without first consulting the information literature of the institution offering that course.*

Published by  
Central Applications Office,  
Tower House, Eglinton Street, Galway.  
Phone (091) 509800. Fax (091) 562344.  
Website: [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)

Printed by KPW Print Ltd, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

# Accompanying Conditions:

- Bonus points for Leaving Certificate Higher Level Mathematics were introduced in 2012.
- The six best results, in recognised subjects, in **one Leaving Certificate Examination** will be counted for points computation.
- LCVP points awarded: Distinction - 70, Merit - 50, Pass - 30

# CAO Application Form

[Home](#)
[My Application](#)
[Apply](#)
[CAO Handbook](#)
[Course Search](#)
[As Gaeilge](#)

## Other Information

- [Downloads](#)
- [HEI contact details](#)
- [Applicant Scoring](#)
- [FETAC Information](#)
- [Entry to Medicine](#)
- [Points](#)
- [HEAR/DARE/SIF](#)
- [About Change of Mind](#)
- [Garda Vetting](#)

- [Alert Lists](#)
- [College Open Days](#)
- [Test & Interviews Calendar](#)
- [School / Reports / Stats](#)
- [Web Links](#)
- [FAQ](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

## Applicant's Personal Details :

Surname : Other names : Title (Mr,Ms,Mrs,etc.) :  Leave title blank if none.

As stated in the CAO Handbook, an applicant may only present one application in any one year (either online or paper). If you think you may have already submitted an online application, please check using the ["My Application"](#) facility.

There will be no refunds given to applicants who make more than one application.

☐ I have NOT already received a 2012 CAO Application Number nor have I applied by post.

Sex : ☐ Male ☐ Female Date of birth :  /  /  dd/mm/yyyyHome address : ☒ Rep. of Ireland ☐ Other CountryAddress Line 1 :  You may use commas asAddress Line 2 :  separators in address lines,Address Line 3 :  if necessary.Address Line 4 :  Select City or County...  Do not enter this in Line 3Telephone Number : 

Postal Address: (created from name and address entered above)

Tick the following box if the postal address looks correct.

Otherwise, change your name and address above.

☐ The postal address is correct.

Mobile Phone Number :  Select International dialling code: +  (  ) Do you wish to receive sms text messages from CAO and the HEIs you apply to? ☐ Yes ☐ NoCountry of Birth :  Country of Nationality :  E-mail address : Confirm e-mail : 

If you do not have an e-mail address you must enter "none" in both boxes. However, it is recommended that you include an e-mail address.

Eleanor Uí Chatháin, Guidance Counsellor.

### Qualifications & Assessment Summary :

Please tick the qualification/assessment section(s) that are relevant to you.

1. ☐ Irish Leaving Certificate Exams (1985-2012)
2. ☐ 2002-2012 FETAC Level 5/6 (NCVA Level 2/3)
3. ☐ 2001 or earlier FETAC Level 5/6 (NCVA Level 2/3) Exams [Help?](#)
4. ☐ GCE/GCSE (England, Wales, and Northern Ireland Exams) [Help?](#)  
CCEA, UCLES, WJEC, OCR, EDEXCEL, AQA, AEB examination boards only.  
GCE/GCSE from OTHER boards MUST be entered  
under "Other School Leaving Exams"
5. ☐ Other School Leaving Exams [Help?](#)  
(e.g. Baccalaureate, Scottish Exams, pre-1985 Irish & UK exams,  
Leaving Exams outside of UK & Ireland, Leaving Cert Applied, GNVQs,  
VCEs, Irish Matric Exams, etc.)
6. ☐ Further Education [Help?](#)
7. ☐ Third-Level Higher Education [Help?](#)  
(required regardless of whether you passed, failed,  
or did not take examinations)
8. ☐ Mature Applicants [Help?](#)  
(those 23 years of age on or before the 1st of January 2012)

### Payment Options :

☐ Credit or Debit Card



☐ Fee Payment Form



(Republic of Ireland applicants only)

### Terms & Conditions :

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

#### GENERAL

You should be very clearly aware that, in submitting an online application, you accept all the directions and conditions set out in it and in the 2012 CAO Handbook. This Handbook sets out clearly the procedures, dates and

Eleanor Uí Chatháin, Guidance Counsellor.

# After Completing the Application

- Receive CAO number and Statement of Course Choices.
- Receive Statement of Application Record.
- Some students may be asked to attend extra assessments.
- Change of Mind facility becomes available (May 5<sup>th</sup>)
- Leaving Cert. Results are sent to CAO.
- Places are allocated and offered by post and online (August)
- Students accept, reject or defer offered places.
- Further rounds of offers are made until all course places are filled.



# Financial Support



SUSI (Student Universal Grant System)



General College Supports

# Grants



- Detailed information on [www.studentfinance.ie](http://www.studentfinance.ie)
- [www.susi.ie](http://www.susi.ie)
- Student grants are divided into 2 classes – maintenance grants and fee grants.

## **Maintenance grants**

- ✘ A maintenance grant is a contribution towards the student's living costs.

## **Fee grants**

- ✘ A fee grant can cover any of the following 3 elements:
  - 1) All or part of the student contribution
  - 2) Costs of essential field trips
  - 3) All or part of a student's tuition fees
- ✘ In general, if you qualify for a maintenance grant you will qualify for all elements of the fee grant.



- Students doing Post-Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses do not get fee grants, but if you qualify for a maintenance grant you will be exempt from the PLC participant contribution.



# Qualifying for a student grant



## **Maintenance grant**

- To qualify for a maintenance grant, you must fulfil the conditions of the scheme as regards:
  - \*Nationality and immigration status
  - \*Residence
  - \*Means
- You must also be attending an approved course in an approved institution

# Fee grant

- If you qualify for a maintenance grant, you will qualify for all relevant elements of a fee grant.





# Residence

- You must have been legally resident in the State for 3 of the previous 5 years to qualify for a maintenance grant.



# Basis of Means Test

- The means test for a student grant is based on your family's income for the previous full tax year.
- However, if you or your family have a change of circumstances (which is likely to be permanent) 31 December, your changed circumstances may be taken into account.



# Average Cost of College

## Average monthly cost:

Rent (Shared House/Flat)

€ 370

Light/Heat/Power

€ 40

Food

€ 186

Travel

€ 60

Books/Stationery

€ 48

Clothes/Laundry/Medical

€ 100

Social Life/Mobile/Misc

€ 150\*

**Total:**

**€ 954**



*Ruairi Quinn confirmed that  
the student contribution will  
increase to €3,000 by 2015.  
(Feb, 2012)*

**Annual (8½ Months) Total:**

**€ 8,109**

# Maintenance Grant Rates

Levels of Grant	Maintenance Non-adjacent Rate	Maintenance Adjacent Rate
Special rate* of maintenance grant	€5,915	€2,375
Standard rate <b>100% maintenance</b>	€3,025	€1,215
Standard rate <b>75% maintenance</b>	€2,270	€910
Standard rate <b>50% maintenance</b>	€1,515	€605
Standard rate <b>25% maintenance</b>	€755	€305

- ◎ For students who live 45 kilometres or less from the college being attended, the adjacent rate of maintenance grant is payable. This rate applies to all students living within this distance, including all mature students, both dependent and independent.
- ◎ The non-adjacent rate applies to everyone else.

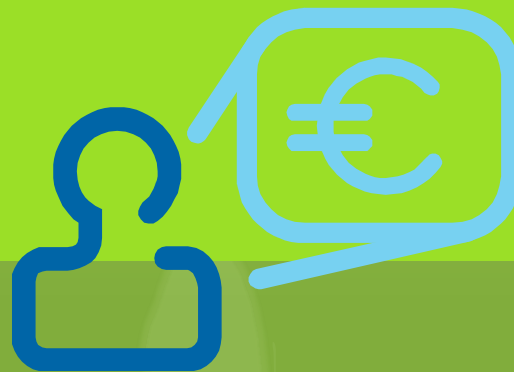
# Income Thresholds

- <http://www.susi.ie/How-is-my-income-assessed-/Income-Thresholds-for-Undergraduate-Students.aspx>



# Where to apply

- Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI)
- [SUSI's helpdesk](#) will handle email and telephone queries.





# Contact Details

- × **Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI)**

- × **Tel:** 0761 08 7874

- × **Email:** [support@susi.cdvec.ie](mailto:support@susi.cdvec.ie)

- × **Higher Education Equity of Access**

- × Department of Education and Skills  
Portlaoise Road  
Tullamore  
Co. Offaly  
Ireland

- × **Tel:** +353 (0)57 9325317

- × **Fax:** +353 (0)57 9325435

- × **Homepage:** <http://www.education.ie/>



# Step by Step Guide to SUSI



- Go to the Guidance and Counselling website at [www.abbeycommunitycollege.com](http://www.abbeycommunitycollege.com) and watch the 15 minute tutorial video.

[www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie)



Eleanor Uí Chatháin, Guidance Counsellor.

# Supplementary Entry Systems

**HEAR** – Higher Education Access Route - third level admissions scheme for school leavers from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

**DARE** – Disability Access Route to Education - third level admissions scheme for school leavers with disabilities.

- Very important to indicate on CAO form the applicants wish to be considered for either of the above schemes.

# What is DARE?

- The Disability Access Route to Education (DARE) is a supplementary admissions scheme which offers college places on **reduced points** to school leavers with disabilities.



Disability Access Route To Education

# Who Should Apply?

- Applicants whose disability had a significant impact on educational performance in school
- Applicants who may not be able to meet the points for their preferred course due to the impact of disability.
- Applicants under 23 years as at 1st January



# Disabilities eligible for consideration

- Autistic Spectrum Disorders (including Asperger's Syndrome)
- ADD/ADHD
- Blind/Vision Impaired
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing
- DCD – Dyspraxia/Dysgraphia
- Mental Health Conditions
- Neurological Conditions (Brain Injury, Epilepsy, Speech & Language Disabilities)
- Significant Ongoing Illness
- Physical Disability
- Specific Learning Difficulty (Dyslexia & Dyscalculia)

# DARE Supports in College

- You don't have to be eligible for DARE to get support in college
- A needs assessment is conducted to identify your specific support requirements.
- Supports may include:
  - Orientation Programmes
  - Learning Support
  - Assistive Technology
  - Library Support
  - Exam Support
  - Note-taking/Support Worker
  - Academic Tuition

# More Information...

- [www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie)
- [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)
- DARE Flyers and Application Guides
- DARE & HEAR Application Advice Clinics
- **The Woodlands Hotel, Waterford,  
19<sup>th</sup> January 7 - 9 p.m.**
- Individual college websites



Student  
Support

# College Supports

## Scholarships and Award

- In recent years there has been an increase in the number of Scholarships available to students. Scholarships are awarded for high academic achievement, sporting excellence, etc.
- There are some scholarships that you must apply to but there are others that are awarded to students who fulfill certain criteria;
  - Entrance Scholarships to Third Level: 525+ points (check college website)
  - Sport Scholarships: check college website

And many more!



# REACH PROGRAMME (WIT Only)

- This is an access programme run by WIT.
- Its objective is to increase participation rates at WIT by students who may lack economic or social supports.

## Criteria:

- Applicant is in State care (e.g. foster/residential/ward of court/under care of HSE)
- Applicant is a single parent with no support from immediate family
- Applicant is a young carer
- Applicant's family is a member of an ethnic minority (where English is not the first language)
- Applicant/Applicant's family is a member of other minority groupings (e.g. traveller community or of traveller extraction, GLBT)
- Other extenuating circumstances (e.g. applicant's suitability has been flagged by the School Care team (or equivalent); applicant's family is on the School Completion Programme target list; applicant's family income is extremely low)

## • Student Supports:

- Induction course
- Additional tuition
- Mentoring
- Financial assistance
- Book vouchers
- Travel/childcare subsidy

- Students must get 200 points (minimum) and fulfil the entry requirements for the course of choice
- Students must have applied to SUSI for financial support also

# Sources of Information

- CAO Handbook
- Internet
- College Prospectus
- Guidance Counsellor
- Subject Teachers
- Current students / graduates / employers
- Open Days - College visits



# In Summary

- ▣ Research courses/options thoroughly
- ▣ **Talk to the Guidance Counsellor**
- ▣ Apply as early as possible
- ▣ Apply online through CAO/directly to CFE's
- ▣ Tick the SUSI/DARE etc box when applying
- ▣ Put courses in genuine order of preference
- ▣ Obtain / retain proof of application
- ▣ Research financial supports
- ▣ Be careful with change of mind (CAO)
- ▣ Visit the Abbey Community College Guidance Website regularly and follow us on Twitter @abbeyccguidance.

Thank  
you



Questions