

HAU



Board of Directors

Report 2000



Description & Purpose of the Central Applications Office

The Central Applications Office (Universities & other Higher Education Institutions) is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. It was incorporated on 23 January 1976 and is commonly known under the short title 'CAO'. Its membership is representative of the higher education sector and it is governed by a board of directors drawn from the membership. The Office is financed entirely by application fees and does not enjoy any state support.

The CAO facilitates application for first-year admission to almost the full range of statutorily-recognised undergraduate higher education in the Republic of Ireland. It offers a high degree of convenience and economy to applicants and their advisors. It also offers considerable economies and efficiencies to higher education institutions in filling their course places. Fairness and transparency are the foundations of the system as well as equality of treatment for both applicants and participating higher education institutions.

Higher education institutions participating in the CAO system retain full control over their admission policies and admission decisions. If they wish, they may delegate certain routine assessment functions to CAO under instruction. Over the years since CAO's establishment, a voluntary code of admission practice has grown up which has greatly enhanced the value of the entire system. Higher education institutions, without exception, publish their admission policies in advance and specify the means by which entrants will be chosen. It is also accepted that the position of a particular course in an applicant's order of preference should have no bearing on assessment of the application for admission to that course. These practices have helped to earn a well-deserved reputation for fairness and transparency in the conduct of admission to Irish higher education institutions.





Brief History of the Organisation

CAO owes its origins to the increased participation in higher education which resulted from the free secondary education policy of the 1960s together with the greater availability of student support grants. By 1970 significant difficulties were arising because of multiple application for admission and the introduction of *numerus clausus* in certain professional courses.

A meeting of university representatives was held in Trinity College, Dublin, in 1971 to explore 'the desirability of establishing an Irish Clearing House'. A report was forwarded to the heads of the (five) university colleges who accepted the principle of the establishment of a clearing house for the universities and were "... prepared to envisage the extension of the system to cover admission to all third-level institutions". A working party was established which drew up proposals for a central applications service.

The project gained momentum in the summer of 1975 with a declaration of support by the Higher Education Authority. Final agreement to the establishment of a central applications service was reached in 1975 at a meeting between the university heads and the HEA. Representatives were appointed to finalise the Memorandum and Articles of Association which were signed on 19/12/1975.

The central applications service was first offered for the autumn 1977 intake. The Office was based in temporary premises at 7 Clare Street, Dublin 2, until the end of 1977 when it moved to Tower House, Eglinton Street, Galway, where it has remained since. The service began with 5 participant higher education institutions - the 5 university colleges. Major growth in CAO participation took place in 1991 (the Regional Technical Colleges - subsequently the Institutes of Technology), 1992 (the Colleges of Education) and 1998-99 (NCEA-recognised courses in private colleges). By the year 2000 there were 44 participants.

The clearly-expressed intention of the university founders of the central applications service was that it should expand in time to cover all institutions of higher education. In furtherance of this aim, the CAO Board of Directors has shown a consistently-welcoming attitude towards the participation of additional institutions in the central scheme. The only stipulation which the Board makes is that courses for inclusion in the CAO Handbook should have statutory



recognition in Ireland. In general, this has meant that awards are made either by Irish Universities, Institutes of Technology or the National Council for Educational Awards.

CAO has taken every opportunity to increase operational productivity in order to maintain a high standard of service while controlling costs to applicants. The growth in applicant numbers helped by enabling economies of scale. There were also two highly significant operational developments - the computerisation of Leaving Certificate Examination procedures by the Department of Education in 1989 and the construction of a computer network in 1995 connecting all the CAO-participant higher education institutions. It is no exaggeration to say that the Office could not have supported its current level of activity without these advances. Productivity has been enhanced also by the continuing availability of ever-greater levels of computing power at ever-lower cost. In this regard, the year 1991 was a watershed as affordable computing capacity ceased at that time to be a constraint for CAO.

The growth of the central applications system is illustrated in Table One overleaf. The term 'Degrees' there implies direct entry to degree courses. 'Dip/Cert' refers to direct entry to diploma and certificate courses many of which have subsequent transfer routes to degree awards. 'Nett Acceptances' refers to final acceptances in cases where more than one acceptance was made. In considering the question of income it should be borne in mind that, in addition to basic application fees there are increased fees for late application and penalty charges for the amendment of erroneous applications. In regard to staffing, the policy has been one of maintaining a small core of well-skilled permanent staff augmented as necessary by seasonal staff.

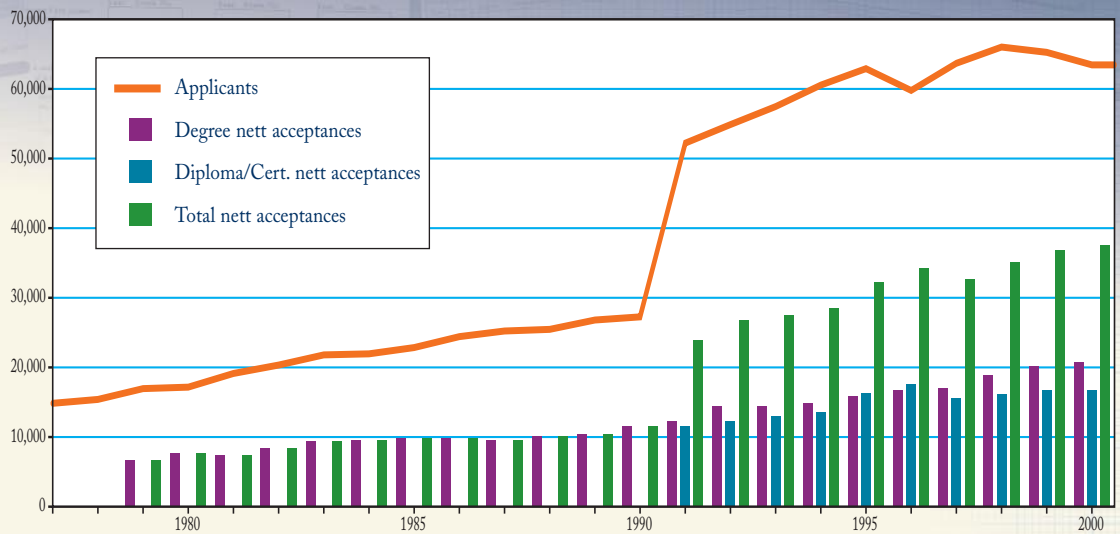


TABLE ONE: THE GROWTH OF THE CAO SYSTEM 1977 - 2000

Year	Applicants	Deg.nett acceptances	Dip/Cert nett acceptances	Total nett acceptances	HEIs	Courses
1977	14845	*	-	*	5	69
1978	15401	*	-	*	7	82
1979	16955	6709	-	6709	7	75
1980	17165	7714	-	7714	7	71
1981	19130	7380	-	7380	8	76
1982	20339	8443	-	8443	9	95
1983	21799	9349	-	9349	9	97
1984	21949	9495	-	9495	9	99
1985	22851	9872	-	9872	9	102
1986	24421	9838	-	9838	9	104
1987	25229	9496	-	9496	9	104
1988	25464	10076	-	10076	9	107
1989	26806	10367	-	10367	10	109
1990	27259	11540	-	11540	10	117
1991	52212	12341	11594	23935	23	152/233
1992	54877	14488	12274	26762	31	176/244
1993	57465	14506	13061	27567	31	188/258
1994	60548	14900	13559	28459	31	203/270
1995	62913	15923	16268	32191	34	225/285
1996	59778	16667	17644	34311	34	246/297
1997	63677	17021	15655	32676	35	261/337
1998	66012	18872	16189	35061	38	325/338
1999	65253	20179	16663	36842	41	365/352
2000	63451	20786	16739	37525	44	387/374

NOTES:

- (i) Columns 3, 4 and 5 give nett acceptances for degrees, diplomas/certificates and total.
 - (ii) HEIs = number of higher education institutions participating.
 - (iii) Courses = no. of course choices available. After 1990 = Degrees/Dip-Certs.
 - (iv) Diplomas and Certificates were introduced in 1991.
 - (v) Colleges of Education joined the system in 1992.
 - (vi) The applicant figure for 1996 reflects the introduction of the Leaving Certificate Transition Year Programme in 1994.
- * = data no longer available.



THE YEAR 2000

The years 1989 and 1995 were highly significant in operational terms. The former saw the computerisation of Leaving Certificate Examination procedures and the latter the establishment of a CAO network linking all participant institutions. The year 2000 has been equally significant operationally in that it saw the first availability of some CAO services on the Web (*). Applicants could view their offers of places and their latest acceptances on the CAO Website. There was also a facility for advertising vacancies and enabling interest to be expressed in them. The National Centre for Technology in Education had laid much of the groundwork for this development. For several years past, NCTE and its predecessors had operated an electronic school-based application system - latterly as part of the state-funded Scoilnet. (There were 3000 applications through the Scoilnet system in 2000).

Initial experience of the online facility drew attention to the need for a thorough review of its impact on application and admission procedures as well as related systems within the higher education institutions - particularly the interfaces with registration and fee payment. The CAO Board of Directors has already begun such a review with the intention of being able to advise applicants and schools of any changes by April 2001.

The number of courses advertising vacancies increased still further in 2000. Some 37 Degree courses and 90 Diploma/Certificate courses were still on offer to qualified applicants at end-of-season. Of these, 19 Degree and 17 Diploma/Certificate courses were fee-paying. Some 1256 persons expressed interest in vacancies - 941 of these were already current-year CAO applicants and 315 were appearing for the first time. (It is both interesting and significant to note that, of those expressing interest, a great majority did so via the CAO Website).

The gradual increase in the numbers of courses with vacancies must be viewed against the backdrop of the great increase in higher education course availability in the 1990s (see Table One). This increase cannot be ascribed to any decline in the numbers of acceptances; in 2000, these were greater than ever. A detailed scrutiny indicates that vacancies are distributed unevenly. As might be expected, many of them occur in institutions which are not entitled to the fees concession. Otherwise, the factors appear to be subject-area and level of potential award as well as type and geographical location of institution.

Tables Two, Three, Four and Five overleaf illustrate some of the main parameters of the year 2000 admission cycle.

(*) www.cao.ie



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TABLE TWO **DEGREE LIST 2000**

Applications, first preferences, offers, nett acceptances, % acceptances.

SUBJECT AREA:	A (no.)	B (no.)	C (no.)	D (no.)	E (%)	F (%)
01 Arts/Social Science	90192	13116	9572	6140	64	50
02 Science/Applied Science	48216	5241	5327	3477	65	51
03 Agric/Horticulture	1577	396	305	200	66	68
04 Education	19572	4414	2170	1526	70	70
05 Admin./Business	91661	13458	8045	4550	57	54
06 Engineering/Technology	63874	9743	5483	3160	58	62
07 Architecture	1630	663	150	115	77	80
08 Art & Design	957	356	123	52	42	81
09 Law	12372	2502	952	763	80	65
10 Human Medicine	5868	1650	524	330	63	73
11 Veterinary Medicine	775	512	83	72	87	97
12 Dentistry	1003	194	111	66	59	64
13 Pharmacy	806	325	93	72	77	96
14 Physiotherapy	2457	608	190	110	58	55
15 Other Healthcare	2757	579	254	153	60	51
TOTAL	343717	53757	33382	20786	62	56

Col. A: Total applications.
 Col. B: First preferences.
 Col. C: Total offers issued.
 Col. D: Nett acceptances.
 Col. E: Percentage of offers finally accepted.
 Col. F: Percentage of nett acceptances which were first preferences in the Degree List.

TABLE THREE **DIP/CERT LIST 2000**

Applications, first preferences, offers, nett acceptances, % acceptances.

SUBJECT AREA:	A (no.)	B (no.)	C (no.)	D (no.)	E (%)	F (%)
01 Arts/Social Science	18753	4887	2991	751	25	70
02 Science/Applied Science	31794	4270	5235	1500	29	66
03 Agric/Horticulture	838	220	197	41	21	95
04 Education	-	-	-	-	-	-
05 Admin./Business	145331	22543	20970	6557	31	63
06 Engineering/Technology	107633	16973	15362	6231	41	67
07 Architecture	4492	1078	698	300	43	77
08 Art & Design	15159	3055	2129	948	45	72
09 Law	4695	909	878	273	31	77
10 Human Medicine	-	-	-	-	-	-
11 Veterinary Medicine	-	-	-	-	-	-
12 Dentistry	-	-	-	-	-	-
13 Pharmacy	-	-	-	-	-	-
14 Physiotherapy	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 Other Healthcare	5903	2471	1597	138	9	93
TOTAL	334598	56406	50057	16739	33	66

Col. A: Total applications.
 Col. B: First preferences.
 Col. C: Total offers issued.
 Col. D: Nett acceptances.
 Col. E: Percentage of offers finally accepted.
 Col. F: Percentage of nett acceptances which were first preferences in Dip/Cert List.



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TABLE FOUR

Number of nett acceptances for 2000 admission by age at 1st January 2000.
(Figures in brackets are percentages)

DEGREES

AGE AT 1st JAN:	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
23 or more	352 (4)	460 (4)	812 (4)
22	34 (1)	39 (1)	73 (1)
21	55 (1)	83 (1)	138 (1)
20	148 (2)	169 (2)	317 (2)
19	616 (7)	643 (5)	1259 (6)
18	2766 (31)	3700 (31)	6466 (31)
17	4039 (45)	5618 (47)	9657 (46)
16	848 (9)	1216 (9)	2064 (9)
TOTAL	8858 (100)	11928 (100)	20786 (100)



DIP/CERTS

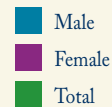
AGE AT 1st JAN:	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
23 or more	371 (4)	318 (4)	689 (4)
22	74 (1)	33 (1)	107 (1)
21	121 (1)	72 (1)	193 (1)
20	276 (3)	170 (2)	446 (3)
19	763 (8)	562 (7)	1325 (8)
18	2699 (30)	2323 (31)	5022 (30)
17	3858 (42)	3220 (42)	7078 (42)
16	984 (11)	895 (12)	1879 (11)
TOTAL	9146 (100)	7593 (100)	16739 (100)

TABLE FIVE

Nett acceptances for 2000 admission by stated home address.

DEGREES

ADDRESS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Rep. of Ireland	8677	11630	20307
N.Ireland	90	153	243
Rest of UK	63	83	146
Other EU	17	52	69
Non-EU	11	10	21
ALL	8858	11928	20786



DIP/CERTS

ADDRESS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Rep. of Ireland	9129	7569	16698
N.Ireland	9	11	20
Rest of UK	3	6	9
Other EU	3	5	8
Non-EU	2	2	4
ALL	9146	7593	16739



FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The period 1995 - 2000 saw the establishment and consolidation of a computer network connecting CAO with all the participating higher education institutions. This was accompanied by the development of a large range of software enabling admissions offices to use CAO data in a real-time interactive mode. By 2000 it could be said that the CAO system operated on an integrated location-independent basis from the admissions office viewpoint.

Ambitions for the period 2001 - 2005 centre on the extension of the CAO website to the point where applicants may conduct their entire business with CAO online. It is hoped to bring applicant facilities to the level of advancement which admissions offices now enjoy as a result of network development.

For the 2001 admission year all 'standard' applications (principally those based on Leaving Certificate only) can be conducted online with the sole exception of payment of application fees. This will include initial application, inspection of application, change of data (including course choices), receipt of offer of place and recording of acceptance. The facility will be extended in later years to cover all applications.

While the website development is based on the CAO policy of a continuous search for improvements in service, there is also a particular impetus at present. The number of applicants who are abroad at the offer stage has increased dramatically over the past several years. It will save much confusion and anxiety, particularly for parents, when offers can be looked up and acceptances recorded from almost any location in the world.

Another major development for 2001 is the introduction of a Nursing Application System based on the recommendations of the Carroll Commission on Nursing. This will operate alongside the existing Standard Application System and will cover admission to Diploma courses in General, Psychiatric and Mental Handicap Nursing. There are 40 Schools of Nursing in the scheme, affiliated to 13 higher education institutions.

The Standard and Nursing Application Systems will operate separately but with shared data where appropriate. At offer acceptance stage there may be only one current acceptance in the combined systems. The particular requirements of nursing admission necessitate this separate treatment, at least initially. When some experience has been gained, the question of amalgamation may be revisited.

Work is also underway to eliminate entirely the transfer of documents between CAO and the participant institutions. At present, 'standard' applications are transferred electronically. However, 'non-standard' applications may have documents attached, copies of which must be forwarded to admissions offices. A pilot project in the using of document-scanning technology was conducted in the 2000 admission year. It is intended to have a full parallel service for 2001 and to abandon document-copying for 2002.



STAFFING AND BUDGET OF THE CENTRAL APPLICATIONS OFFICE

CAO derives its income from application fees and, since its inception, the policy of keeping the fee at the lowest level consistent with a reasonable standard of service to applicants and higher education institutions has been maintained. From 1987 through 1999 (the latest audited accounting period) the basic application fee remained at or below £18. Under its Memorandum and Articles of Association the company may neither remunerate its Directors nor distribute any surplus to its Members. Any surpluses generated go towards a contingency reserve and a provision for equipment replacement.

The CAO has a permanent staff of ten of whom one is on secondment to the Postgraduate Applications Centre - a similar though much smaller organisation which deals with applications for some postgraduate courses. The number of permanent staff has remained constant since 1981. Up to 30 seasonal staff are engaged for about 3 months of the year to deal with labour-intensive clerical work. The amount of paper-based activity is decreasing steadily as operations become more online.

The audited Financial Statements of the company are published separately. An abridged summary of Income and Expenditure Accounts for the five most recent audited periods has been extracted and is shown in Table Seven. The Balance Sheet from the 1999 audited accounts is reproduced in Table Six.

DIRECTORS OF THE CENTRAL APPLICATIONS OFFICE

At 31 December 2000 the list of Directors was as follows:

Dr Patricia Barker,
Prof. Peter Carr,
Mr P.Leo Colgan,
Mr Paul Hannigan,
Mr John Hayden,
Dr Caroline Hussey,
Prof. Michael Laver,
Mr James P. MacDonagh,
Dr Frank McMahan,
Prof. Aidan Moran (Chairman).

Secretary: Dr Martin Newell.



TABLE SIX

BALANCE SHEET

31 December 1999

Current Assets	1999 IR£	1998 IR£
Cash on hand	3,924	3,924
Bank current accounts	33,490	44,355
Bank deposit accounts	300,105	201,803
Debtors	78,539	89,595
	416,058	339,677
Current liabilities		
Creditors	(64,352)	(41,373)
Nett current assets	351,706	298,304
Tangible assets	76,168	95,334
	427,874	393,638
Represented by:		
Accumulated surplus	427,874	393,638

On behalf of the Board:

P.L.Colgan

J.L.Hayden

PricewaterhouseCoopers,

Limerick,

Auditors.

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TABLE SEVEN

CENTRAL APPLICATIONS OFFICE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995
INCOME	1,281,695	1,261,447	1,210,120	1,146,000	1,122,786
EXPENDITURE	-1,246,308	-1,259,786	-1,206,033	-1,101,596	-1,069,218
TAXATION CHARGE(-)/CREDIT	-1,151	NIL	500	-14,824	-27,428
SURPLUS/DEFICIT(-)	34,236	1,661	4,587	29,580	26,140

YEAR	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995
INCOME					
Application Fees	1,274,844	1,251,669	1,201,361	1,140,034	1,113,320
Interest	6,851	9,778	8,759	5,966	9,466
Other	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL INCOME	1,281,695	1,261,447	1,210,120	1,146,000	1,122,786

EXPENDITURE					
Salaries, PRSI, Pensions	588,880	550,947	537,282	518,092	479,999
Meetings, travel, subsistence	40,038	38,703	38,785	37,129	33,007
Data Processing	81,161	93,327	74,868	69,365	65,279
Office equipment rental & leasing	1,203	926	762	315	0
Printing, stationery & courier serv's	133,926	149,139	145,605	128,221	131,876
Rent, rates & insurances	54,206	49,757	51,068	43,048	41,892
Postage	114,581	120,853	125,472	116,229	114,573
Telecomm	22,157	29,695	23,725	24,715	20,254
ESB	6,496	5,774	5,676	5,489	6,439
Advertising	14,144	13,980	14,681	13,738	14,101
Equipment Maintenance	48,070	33,807	25,988	30,074	32,614
Depreciation	43,858	52,771	42,988	42,241	51,009
Interest and charges	4,849	4,393	4,107	4,500	8,175
Auditors	12,957	12,173	12,416	12,792	11,843
Cleaning and security	9,384	6,683	6,529	6,209	6,178
Other miscellaneous costs	70,398*	96,858+	96,081+	49,439+	51,979+
Taxation charge/credit(-)	1,151	0	-500	14,824	27,428
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,247,459	1,259,786	1,205,533	1,116,420	1,096,646
SURPLUS/DEFICIT(-)	34,236	1,661	4,587	29,580	26,140

+ includes special contributions to enhance pension fund as approved by CAO Board in December 1993.
 * backpay arising from special award in higher education service.



Application System

Note: From 1988 to 1998, applications for the Pontifical University of Maynooth were grouped with applications for National University of Ireland, Maynooth

NETT ACCEPTANCES 2000 BY SECTOR (1999 figures in brackets)

Type of institution:	Total	%
Colleges of Education	1203 (1171)	3.2 (3.2)
Dublin Institute of Technology	3345 (3427)	8.9 (9.3)
Other Institutes of Technology	15722 (15483)	41.9 (42.0)
Universities (*)	15714 (15146)	41.9 (41.1)
Others (+)	1541 (1615)	4.1 (4.4)
TOTAL	37525 (36842)	100.0 (100.0)

(*) Excluding Colleges of Education

(+) Colleges of Philosophy & Theology (All Hallows, Carlow, Milltown), Independent Colleges (American College Dublin, Burren College of Art, Dublin Business School, Griffith College Dublin, LSB College, Portobello College), Nat. College of Art & Design, Nat. College of Ireland, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Shannon College of Hotel Management, Tipperary Rural & Business Development Institute.

NETT ACCEPTANCES BY TYPE OF QUALIFICATION 2000

(1999 figures in brackets):

Degrees	20786 (20179)	55.4 (54.8)
Diplomas/Certificates	16739 (16663)	44.6 (45.2)
TOTAL	37525 (36842)	100.0 (100.0)



OFFER/ACCEPTANCE figures

ENTIRE SYSTEM	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Applicants accepting one or more offers	34311	32676	35061	36842	37525
Applicants offered one or more but not accepting any	13180	16165	16867	17378	15583
Applicants eligible but receiving no offer	5992	8245	7177	4744	4092
Ineligible or unassessed applicants	6295	6591	6907	6290	6251
Total Applicants	59778	63677	66012	65254	63451

DEGREE LIST	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Applicants accepting one or more Degree offers	16667	17021	18872	20179	20786
Applicants offered one or more Degrees but not accepting any	6593	7886	9623	11218	10521
Applicants eligible but receiving no Degree offer	11877	12025	10033	9077	8041
Ineligible or unassessed Degree applicants	12760	14103	15662	14594	14409
Total Degree Applicants	47897	51035	54190	55068	53757

DIP/CERT LIST	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Applicants accepting one or more Dip/Cert offers	17644	15655	16189	16663	16739
Applicants offered one or more Dip/Cert offers but not accepting any	25223	28569	30410	31509	29991
Applicants eligible but receiving no Dip/Cert offer	4768	6822	6059	3807	3946
Ineligible or unassessed Dip/Cert applicants	5113	5750	6053	5505	5730
Total Dip/Cert Applicants	52748	56796	58711	57484	56406



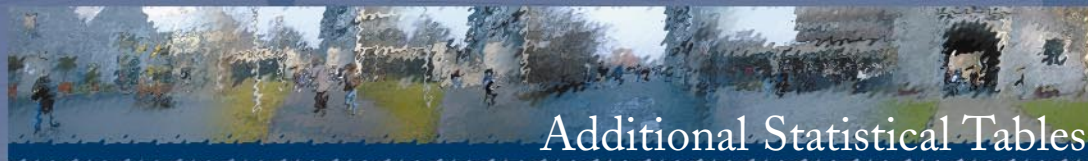
Application System

First Preference Applications By Subject Group (Degree List)

Subject Grouping	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
01 Arts/Social Science	12646	13491	13247	13391	13116
02 Science/Applied Science	5352	5411	6027	5559	5241
03 Agriculture/Horticulture	596	557	525	457	396
04 Education	4841	4710	4903	4224	4414
05 Administration/Business	10488	10880	12340	14053	13458
06 Engineering/Technology	6491	8219	8952	9515	9743
07 Architecture	682	774	689	663	663
08 Art and Design	126	122	361	370	356
09 Law	1755	2126	2476	2483	2502
10 Human Medicine	1813	1988	1940	1910	1650
11 Veterinary Medicine	695	675	642	528	512
12 Dentistry	333	271	253	240	194
13 Pharmacy	520	438	430	393	325
14 Physiotherapy	810	675	625	632	608
15 Other Health Care	749	698	780	650	579
All Courses	47897	51035	54190	55068	53757

First Preference Applications By Subject Group (Diploma/Certificate List)

Subject Grouping	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
01 Arts/Social Science	5336	6264	6510	4847	4887
02 Science/Applied Science	5124	4649	4352	4538	4242
03 Agriculture/Horticulture	471	433	374	258	220
05 Administration/Business	20505	20772	21235	22642	22529
06 Engineering/Technology	12565	15910	18200	17473	16199
07 Architecture	1029	1142	1251	1281	1078
08 Art and Design	2840	2965	2857	2853	3056
09 Law	678	722	874	917	909
15 Other Health Care	4200	3939	3058	2675	2471
All Courses	52748	56796	58711	57484	55591



Nett Acceptances By Subject Group (Degree List)

Subject Grouping	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
01 Arts/Social Science	5622	5455	5859	6080	6140
02 Science/Applied Science	2931	2963	3258	3306	3477
03 Agriculture/Horticulture	209	223	218	209	200
04 Education	756	951	1115	1257	1526
05 Administration/Business	3300	3535	3966	4520	4550
06 Engineering/Technology	2457	2419	2870	3258	3160
07 Architecture	87	103	95	103	115
08 Art and Design	26	20	49	57	52
09 Law	599	650	694	655	763
10 Human Medicine	295	325	336	323	330
11 Veterinary Medicine	70	64	67	68	72
12 Dentistry	67	66	64	69	66
13 Pharmacy	69	74	72	72	72
14 Physiotherapy	64	63	70	68	110
15 Other Health Care	115	110	139	134	153
All Courses	16667	17021	18872	20179	20786

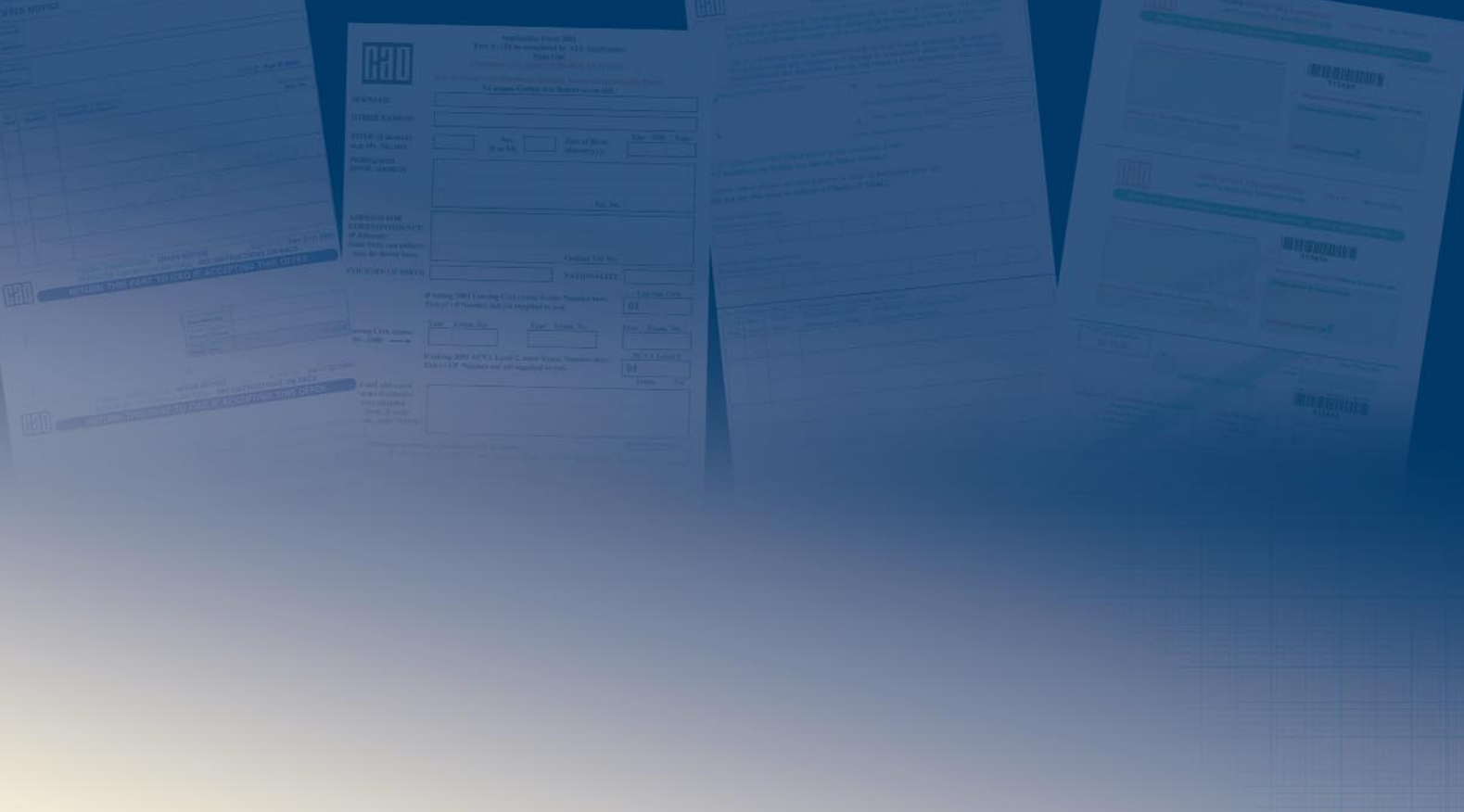
Nett Acceptances By Subject Group (Diploma/Certificate List)

Subject Grouping	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
01 Arts/Social Science	651	627	629	546	751
02 Science/Applied Science	2268	1740	1591	1533	1500
03 Agriculture/Horticulture	75	60	40	52	41
05 Administration/Business	6861	5379	5830	6673	6557
06 Engineering/Technology	5998	6206	6549	6080	6231
07 Architecture	262	250	302	377	300
08 Art and Design	1043	1006	886	949	948
09 Law	293	256	235	271	273
15 Other Health Care	193	131	127	182	138
All Courses	17644	15655	16189	16663	16739



Institutions participating in the CAO System in 2000

LOCATION	INSTITUTION
Athlone	Athlone Institute of Technology
Ballyvaughan	Burren College of Art
Carlow	Carlow College Institute of Technology, Carlow
Cork	Cork Institute of Technology University College Cork (NUI)
Dublin	All Hallows College American College Dublin Church of Ireland College of Education Coláiste Mhuire, Marino Dublin Business School Dublin City University Dublin Institute of Technology Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design & Technology Froebel College of Education Griffith College Dublin Institute of Technology, Blanchardstown Institute of Technology, Tallaght L S B College Mater Dei Institute of Education Milltown Institute of Theology & Philosophy National College of Art and Design National College of Ireland (NCI) Portobello College Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland St Catherine's College of Education St Patrick's College of Education, Drumcondra Trinity College Dublin University College Dublin (NUI)
Dundalk	Dundalk Institute of Technology
Galway	Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology National University of Ireland, Galway
Letterkenny	Letterkenny Institute of Technology
Limerick	Limerick Institute of Technology Mary Immaculate College, Limerick University of Limerick
Maynooth	National University of Ireland, Maynooth St Patrick's College (Pontifical University), Maynooth
Shannon	Shannon College of Hotel Management
Sligo	Institute of Technology, Sligo St Angela's College of Education
Thurles	Tipperary Rural & Business Development Institute
Tralee	Institute of Technology, Tralee
Waterford	Waterford Institute of Technology



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