

21/08/2017

CAO Press Release

76,651 Round One CAO Offers Issued

The Central Applications Office (CAO) has today (Monday August 21) issued 76,651 Round One Offers to 52,374 CAO applicants. These offers consist of 43,113 Level 8 course offers and 33,538 Level 7/6 course offers.

CAO applicants can check to see if they have received an offer by going online at www.cao.ie and logging on to their account using the 'My Application' facility from 6am.

Successful applicants will also receive an offer notification via email and SMS text message if they have selected this option on their application form.

Paper offer notices will reach the majority of applicants today; if an applicant has not received an offer they will receive a 'Statement of Application Record' in the post.

Joseph O' Grady, CAO General Manager, asks applicants to carefully check all CAO correspondence at this crucial stage in the application process.

He said, "It is extremely important that applicants notify CAO immediately if there are any errors or omissions in any of the correspondence received from CAO. They must make sure to do this well in advance of the next offer round to allow any corrections to be considered in subsequent offer rounds".

When accepting an offer CAO advises applicants to use the online system stating that it is "easier, safer and faster than returning the paper offer notice. Last year over 99 per cent of applicants accepted their offers online, and we expect that this figure will be similar this year.

"If you accept an offer in Round One this will not prevent you from receiving an offer of a course higher up on your courses list if you are deemed eligible in a later offer round. This is an important point to note, and one of the common queries that we receive at this stage in the CAO process" he added.

Applicants have until 28 August at 5:15pm to accept Round One offers.

Applicants must accept their offer before the 'Reply Date' on the offer notice – if they fail to do so their offer will lapse.

It is possible that applicants may receive two offers at the same time: one from the Level 8 list and one from the Level 7/6 list. Applicants must choose between these lists and can only accept one offer - if they accept both offers the last recorded acceptance received by CAO by the reply date is the one that will be counted.

A [short video guide](#) explaining the CAO Offer and Acceptance process is available to view on the CAO website www.cao.ie.

To contact CAO during this extremely busy time CAO asks applicants to use the 'Contact' form on the website and to include their CAO application number and the nature of their enquiry

in the subject line - giving as much information as possible in the message will help CAO to respond to their query in detail, usually within one working day.

Round Two offers will be available to view on the CAO website from 6am on Thursday 31 August. Offers are then issued on a weekly basis up to mid-October for all remaining places.

Applicants who do not receive an offer may wish to check the 'Available Places' facility which re-opens on the CAO website on Tuesday, 22 August at noon – this facility is also available to new applicants on the completion of the online application form and the payment of a €40 fee.

For more information on the CAO Offer and Acceptance Process or the Available Places facility, applicants should go to www.cao.ie or consult the CAO handbook.

-Ends-

For more information or to arrange an interview contact Sinéad Farrell, CAO communications officer, on sfarrell@cao.ie

Note to the Editor

2017 CAO Application Statistics (2016 figures are in brackets)

- 80,766 (80,887) applicants
- 68,094 (69,037) applicants presenting Leaving Certificate (LC) from 1985 to 2017
- 56,569 (56,587) candidates entered with the SEC to sit the LC this year and, of these,
- 47,656 (47,654) applicants to CAO are presenting LC from this year
- 2,469 (2,549) applicants from Northern Ireland and Great Britain presenting A levels
- 10,918 (11,555) mature applicants (over 23-years of age)
- 15,866 (16,064) presenting QQI FET/FETAC (NCVA)
- 4,606 (4,869) presenting Further Education (FE) awards other than QQI FET/FETAC
- 4,449 (4,180) presenting school leaving exams other than LC, QQI FET/FETAC, and/or GC(S)E
- 7,775 (8,052) presenting with previous attendance at Higher Education
- Change of Mind: 62,143 (62,178) changes submitted by 43,424 (43,857) applicants
- 6,395 (5,402) applicants to the DARE scheme (see accesscollege.ie for information)
- 11,476 (11,528) applicants to the HEAR scheme (see accesscollege.ie for information)