CAO
www.cao.ie

CAO Application Process Opens
5 November 2025 at 12:00pm

Early Online Application Closing Date
20 January 2026 at 5:00pm (€35 fee)

Normal Application Closing Date
1 February 2026 at 5:00pm (€50 fee)

Late Application Closing Date
1 May 2026 at 5:00pm (€65 online fee)

Statement of Application
Sent to all applicants by the end of May

Change of Mind Closing Date
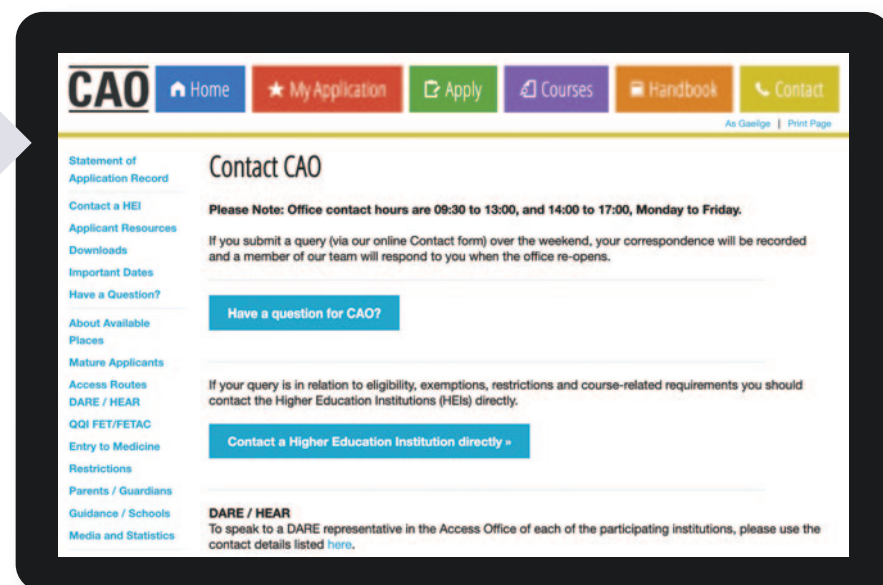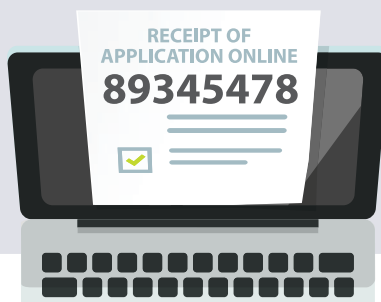1 July 2026 at 5:00pm

All correspondence from CAO should be checked carefully to ensure that there are no errors or omissions. Make sure to check and confirm that all personal details, examination numbers and qualifications are recorded correctly to avoid any disappointment at the offers stage.

Statement of Application Record

This is your last chance to change your course choices. You may not be able to apply for some of the restricted courses listed in the handbook, so please refer to HEI literature and the CAO Handbook before introducing a restricted course code.

CAO
CHANGE OF MIND

When contacting CAO, please send your query via the Correspondence Section of your CAO Account. Include your CAO application number and as much information as possible to help us answer your query.

RECEIPT OF APPLICATION ONLINE
89345478

CAO
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About Available Places
Mature Applicants
Access Routes
DARE / HEAR
QQI FET/FETAC
Entry to Medicine
Restrictions
Parents / Guardians
Guidance / Schools
Media and Statistics

Contact CAO

Please Note: Office contact hours are 09:30 to 13:00, and 14:00 to 17:00, Monday to Friday.

If you submit a query (via our online Contact form) over the weekend, your correspondence will be recorded and a member of our team will respond to you when the office re-opens.

Have a question for CAO?

If your query is in relation to eligibility, exemptions, restrictions and course-related requirements you should contact the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) directly.

Contact a Higher Education Institution directly »

DARE / HEAR
To speak to a DARE representative in the Access Office of each of the participating institutions, please use the contact details listed here.

Handbook

CAO
www.cao.ie

2026

Applicant's Personal Details

Surname

Forename(s)

Title
(Mr,Ms,Mrs,etc.)

Date of Birth   dd   mm   yyyy

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). 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 CAO Application Number nor have I applied by post.

Download your copy of the

CAO 2026 Handbook

at www.cao.ie/handbook

Create your personalised CAO Handbook here

SCAN ME

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