

11/09/2020

CAO Press Release - EMBARGO to 11/09/2020 at 2pm

78,950 Round One CAO Offers Issued

The Central Applications Office (CAO) has today (Friday, 11 September) issued **78,950** –Round One Offers to 53,815 CAO applicants. These offers consist of 47,162 Level 8 course offers and 31,788 Level 7/6 course offers.

CAO applicants can check to see if they have received an offer by logging on to their account using the ‘My Application’ facility at www.cao.ie from 2pm.

Successful applicants will also receive an offer notification via email and a text message if they have selected this option on their application form. Separate emails and texts will issue in respect of Level 8 and Level 7/6 offers. There will be no postal offer notice.

Offers must be accepted by 3:00 pm on Wednesday, 16 September.

If an applicant has not received an offer they will receive a ‘Statement of Application’ email.

Eileen Keleghan, CAO Communications Officer, asks applicants to carefully consider any offers received in this round.

“One of the common queries that we receive at the offers stage is around order of preference. Applicants are reminded that if they receive a lower preference offer they can accept this offer and it will not prevent them from receiving an offer of a course higher up on their courses list in a later offer round if a place becomes available and they are deemed eligible.

“Those who have received an offer in this round should consider the current offer as being the only one they may receive.

“It is important that applicants notify CAO immediately using the Correspondence Section of their CAO account if there are any errors or omissions in their CAO account. 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.

Applicants with queries over the weekend are asked to submit them to CAO or the relevant HEIs via the available online platforms. All queries will be reviewed and dealt with when HEIs and CAO re-open on Monday. CAO will be monitoring for urgent account access issues over the weekend, and some HEIs may also offer a limited online communications service during this time. You can contact CAO by sending an email from the Correspondence Section of your CAO account” she added.

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.

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 Correspondence Section of their CAO account giving as much information as possible and including the nature of their enquiry in the subject line. CAO will endeavour to respond to queries, usually within one working day.

Round Two offers will be available to view on the CAO website from 10am on Wednesday, 23 September. The reply date by which Round Two Offers must be accepted is Friday, 25 September at 12:00. Offers are then issued on a weekly basis to fill any remaining places.

Applicants who do not receive an offer may wish to check the 'Available Places' facility which re-opens on CAO website on Monday, 14 September at noon. This facility is also available to new applicants on the completion of the online application form and the payment of a €45 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 Eileen Keleghan, CAO communications officer, on ekeleghan@cao.ie

Note to the Editor

CAO Figures 2020 (2019 figures are in brackets)

- 78,336 (77,706) applicants
- 66,544 (66,305) applicants presenting Leaving Certificate (LC) results from 1985 to 2020
- 57,989 (56,877) candidates entered with the SEC to sit the LC this year and, of these,
- 47,719 (47,624) applicants to CAO are presenting LC from this year
- 2,090 (2,012) applicants from Northern Ireland and Great Britain presenting A levels
- 8,573 (8,943) mature applicants (over 23-years of age)
- 12,619 (12,403) presenting QQI FET/FETAC (NCVA)
- 3,980 (4,035) presenting Further Education (FE) awards other than QQI FET/FETAC
- 4,501 (4,421) presenting school leaving exams other than LC, QQI FET/FETAC, and/or C(S)E
- 7,053 (6,967) presenting with previous attendance at Higher Education
- Change of Mind: 61,043 (57,668) changes submitted by 44,817 (41,500) applicants
- 7,246 (6,977) applicants to the DARE scheme (see accesscollege.ie for information)
- 11,061 (11,233) applicants to the HEAR scheme (see accesscollege.ie for information)