## 18/08/2014

### **CAO Press Release**

### 74013 Round One CAO Offers Issued

The Central Applications Offices (CAO) has today (Monday August 18) issued **74013** Round One Offers to 50848 CAO Applicants. These offers consist of 39398 Level 8 course offers and 34615 Level 7/6 course offers.

CAO Applicants can check to see if they have received an offer by going online at <a href="https://www.cao.ie">www.cao.ie</a> and logging on to their account using the 'My Application' facility from 6am.

Successful applicants will also receive an offer notification via e-mail and SMS text 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.

General Manager of CAO, Joe O'Grady, 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 that they receive 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", he added.

Applicants have until August 25 at 5:15pm to accept Round One offers.

Applicants must accept their offer before the 'Reply Date' on the Offer Notice – if they don't, their offer will lapse. Accepting or not accepting an offer at this stage will not impact on the applicant receiving an offer in a subsequent round for a course higher up on their course choices list if deemed eligible.

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 <u>short video guide</u> explaining the CAO Offer and Acceptance process is available to view on the CAO website <u>www.cao.ie</u>.

To contact CAO during this extremely busy time CAO asks applicants to use the 'Contact Us' 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 August 28. Offers are then issued on a weekly basis up to October 10 for all remaining places.

Applicants who do not receive an offer may wish to check the 'Available Place' facility which re-opens on CAO website on Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> 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 Place facility, applicants should go to <a href="https://www.cao.ie">www.cao.ie</a> or consult the CAO Handbook.

#### -Ends-

For more information or to arrange an interview contact Eileen Keleghan, CAO Communications Officer, on 091 509884 or email ekeleghan@cao.ie

### Note to the Editor

# 2014 Application Statistics (2013 figures are in brackets)

77,977(76,121) applicants

66,318 (64,581) applicants presenting Leaving Certificate (LC) results from 1985 to 2014

53,737 (53,701) candidates entered with the SEC to sit the LC this year and, of these,

45,728 (43,989) applicants to CAO are presenting LC from this year

2,094 (2,290) approx. applicants from Northern Ireland and Great Britain presenting A levels

12,461 (13,020) mature applicants (over 23-years of age)

15,298 (14,974) presenting FETAC (NCVA)

4,322 (4,470) presenting Further Education (FE) awards other than FETAC

3,633 (3,653) presenting school leaving exams other than LC, FETAC, and/or GC(S)E

7,954 (8,295) presenting with previous attendance at Higher Education

Change of Mind: 60,883 (53,182) changes submitted by 42,300 (41,154) applicants

4,027 (3,312) applicants to the DARE scheme (see accesscollege.ie for information)

10,645 (10,061) applicants to the HEAR scheme (see accesscollege.ie for information)