

**29/08/2018**

## **CAO Press Release**

### **2,337 Round Two CAO offers issued**

The Central Applications Office (CAO) has today (Wednesday, 29 August) issued 2,337 offers to applicants in Round Two of the CAO offers process.

A total of 1,613 Level 8 offers, and 724 Level 7/6 offers, were made to 2,226 CAO applicants in this round. 771 applicants are receiving an offer for the first time.

Of the recipients of Level 8 offers, 743 received an offer of their first preference course; for Level 7/6 offer recipients a total of 486 applicants' first preference offers were received.

Applicants receiving an offer in this round will have until Friday, 31 August at 5:15pm to accept their offer. This acceptance window is shorter than in previous years due to changes introduced by the HEIs to ensure that applicants can receive and accept an offer in advance of registration, which for most institutions commences next week.

CAO communications officer, Eileen Keleghan, advised applicants to carefully consider their options and to be mindful of this Friday's 5:15pm reply date by which an offer must be accepted.

She said; "Many of the applicants receiving a second round offer today may have already accepted an offer in Round One, and it is important that they take the time to decide between these courses and inform CAO before the reply date of this Friday, 31 August, at 5:15pm if they wish to accept the new offer. Accepting the new offer will automatically cancel a previous acceptance.

"If this is an applicant's first offer they can choose to accept this offer and this will not prevent them from receiving a higher preference course in a later offer round if they are deemed eligible. It is important to note, however, that the majority of offers have been issued at this stage and this may be the only offer that they will receive.

"For those who have been unsuccessful in receiving an offer (or their desired offer) there are many options, including further education courses which offer qualifications in their own right as well as opportunities to progress to third-level; apprenticeship schemes; taking a year out and reapplying through CAO next year; or repeating the Leaving Certificate. The Available Places facility also has over 200 courses advertised, and some additional offers will be issued on a weekly basis from 7 September until mid-October" she added.

Applicants can check if they have received a Round Two offer by logging in to their CAO account using the 'My Application' facility. Successful applicants will also receive an offer notification by email and SMS text message if they have selected this option. There will be no paper offer notices for Round Two.

For applicants who have already received an offer in a previous offer round, CAO provides the following advice:

1. Accept the new offer by the 'Reply Date' of Friday, 31 August at 5:15pm if you prefer this course to the one that you have already accepted - this action automatically cancels your previous acceptance.
2. If you do not wish to accept the new offer you can simply do nothing and your previous acceptance will still stand.
3. If you wish to defer your current offer you must contact the Admissions Office of the offering institution immediately by email with the text 'Deferred Entry' in the subject line of the email. See CAO Handbook page 20 or the CAO website for more information.

The CAO Available Places facility remains open, with over 200 courses with available places advertised – this facility is free to existing applicants, and open to new applications for a fee of €45. Available Place offers will be issued from Round Three. Round Three offers will be available to view from 06:00am on Friday, 7 September.

For more information about the Offer and Acceptance process or Available Places visit the CAO Handbook (also available online) and watch the CAO video guides at [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)

**-Ends-**

**For more information e-mail** [ekeleghan@cao.ie](mailto:ekeleghan@cao.ie) or call 091 509884

#### **Notes for the Editor**

**Please find attached the following document:**

- 2018 Offers and Acceptances Summary

After the Round Two reply date, offers will be issued on a weekly basis for any remaining places until mid-October.

The CAO Available Places facility will remain open until early October, or until all available places have been filled. The first round of Available Place offers will issue on Friday, 7 September from 6am.