

30/09/2020

CAO Statement on errors in Leaving Certificate calculated grades system

The role of the Central Applications Office is to process applications for undergraduate courses in Irish Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). All decisions on admissions to undergraduate courses are made by the HEIs who instruct CAO to make offers to successful candidates.

For applicants presenting with current year Leaving Certificate examinations, CAO receives the state-issued results and communicates these results to the Higher Education Institutions in order to allocate offers to eligible applicants.

When an examining authority sends CAO upgraded results, CAO subsequently updates this information on applicant accounts and communicates these updates with the HEIs. If an applicant is deemed entitled to a place on a course based on upgraded Leaving Certificate results, they will receive either an offer or a deferral of the offer for the following academic year if all of the places for that course have already been allocated. The decision to offer a place is made by the HEI in question and not the CAO.

When the Department of Education confirms the date by which CAO will receive the upgraded results data, CAO and HEIs will discuss the impact on the existing offers and acceptances schedule.

In light of today's news about errors in the calculated grades process, CAO Round 3 offers - due to issue at 10am tomorrow (1 October) - will now issue at the later time of 5pm.