

18/04/2023

Dear Guidance Counsellor/Principal,

I hope you enjoyed the Easter break.

Please see below some timely updates, and a request for your assistance with our stakeholder survey.

### 1. CAO Stakeholder Survey

We are currently in the process of developing our strategic plan for the next five years, and we would very much welcome your views.

Below you will find a link to a dedicated web page which contains a survey for Guidance Counsellors, as well as separate surveys for current and former CAO applicants. We would really appreciate if you could complete this survey, and encourage your students/clients to participate in the process by sharing the survey link with them.

[www.cao.ie/survey](http://www.cao.ie/survey)

The survey should take no longer than 2 minutes to complete, and the themes which emerge will be considered as part of our strategic planning process. We will also be engaging with stakeholder organisations, including the IGC, at a later date in the consultation phase.

### 2. Statement of Application Process

The expected date for commencement of the Statement of Application emails is Friday, 5 May (subject to change) for those presenting Leaving Certificate qualifications. Those presenting other qualifications will receive emails in the following day/weeks. Applicants who have opted to receive text messages will be sent a notification by text and email to the number/address that they have supplied on their application form. As always, we ask for your assistance in reminding your students of the importance of following the instructions in this email and at [www.cao.ie/soar](http://www.cao.ie/soar)

A video guide explaining the Statement of Application process can be viewed here:  
[www.cao.ie/video](http://www.cao.ie/video)

### 3. Change of Mind Deadline/Order of Preference

The CAO Change of Mind facility will also open on Friday, 5 May at noon and closes on 1 July at 5pm. As a result of feedback received at the Autumn Conferences, we have put together an `Order of Preference` infographic which would appreciate your help in

sharing, either via your school's social media channels or by email. You can find the poster in the Guidance/Schools section under `Guidance Counsellor Resources`

#### 4. 2023 Offers and Acceptances Schedule

At time of writing, the date for the release of the Leaving Certificate results has not been confirmed, therefore, we are unable to provide any update on the dates for Round One and subsequent rounds. We will update our website and communicate with applicants and guidance counsellors as soon as the schedule has been confirmed.

#### 5. 2023 Autumn Conferences

The provisional dates and locations for the 2023 Autumn Conferences are as follows:

7 November - Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny

8 November - Radisson Blu Hotel, Limerick

10 November - Online Conference

14 November - Hillgrove Hotel, Monaghan

15 November - Johnstown Estate, Enfield

The Autumn Conferences registration page will open on 6 October at noon, and closes on 27 October at midnight.

Kind regards,

Eileen Keleghan

Head of Communications