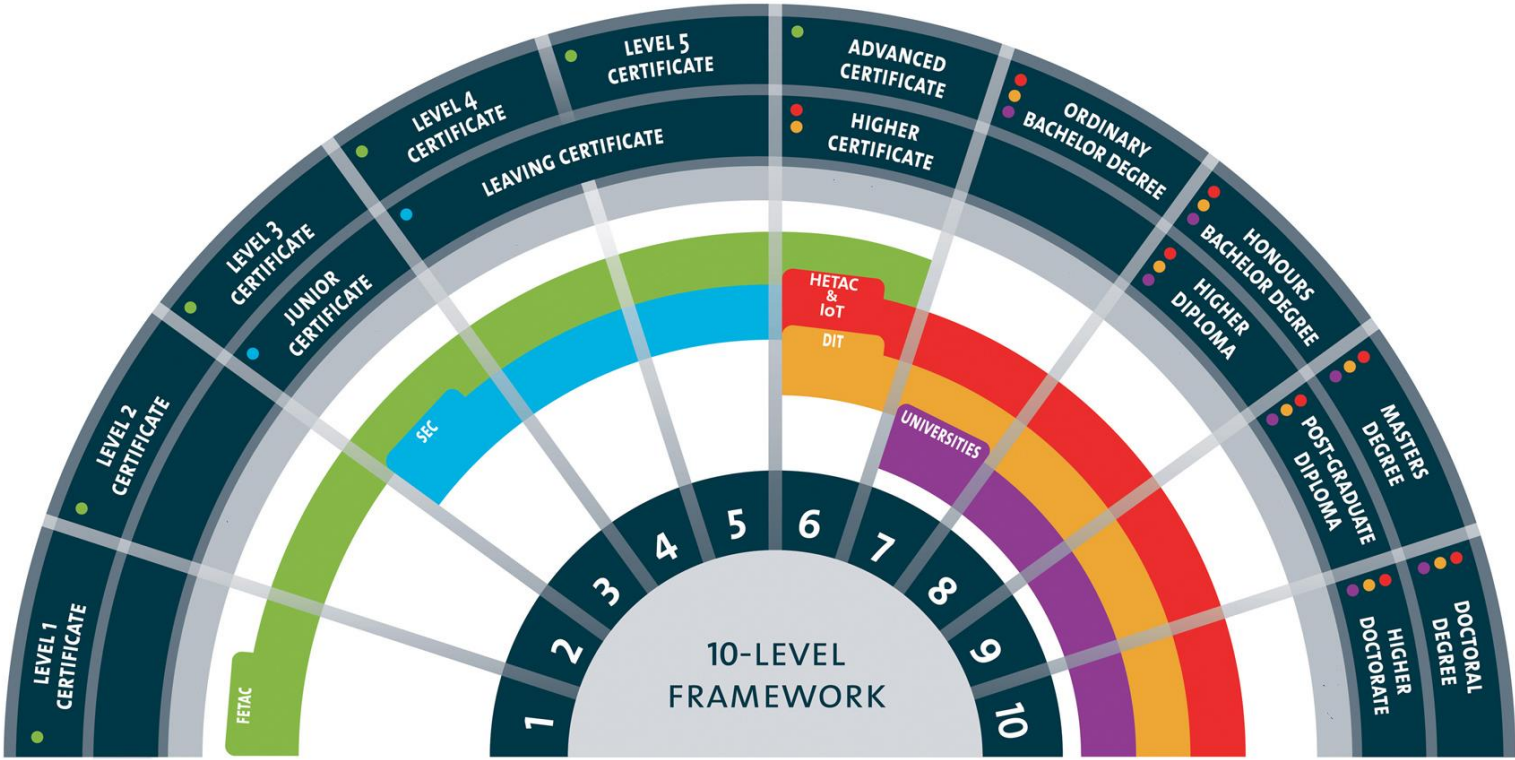


Parents Information Evening

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National Framework of Qualifications NFAQ



CAO

www.cao.ie

**CENTRAL
APPLICATIONS
OFFICE**

Your role as a parent/guardian



Help your child to research their courses



Encourage your child to apply early



Make sure your child lists their courses in genuine order of preference



Watch out for important deadlines



Remind your child to review all CAO correspondence carefully



Accept offer online by the reply date

CAO - Central Applications office

- * Opens in November
- * Closes February
- * Opens May
- * Closes July

- * 20 spaces

- * 10 x level 8
- * 10 x level 6&7

Level 6 = Certificate
Level 7 = Ordinary Degree
Level 8 = Higher Degree

Level 6 = Technological Universities (mainly)
Level 7 = Technological Universities (mainly)
Level 8 = Universities & TU's

restricted courses
must be applied for
before February 1st i.e
voice/dance/art/architec
ture/medicine.

SUBJECT CHOICE AND COLLEGE ENTRY

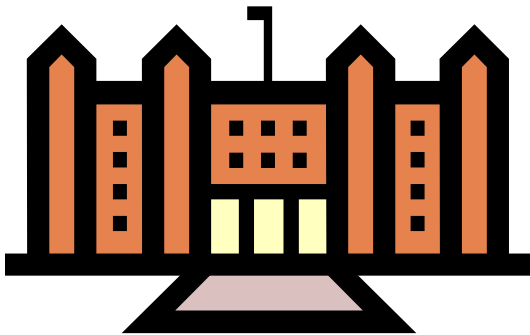
1. BASIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 3RD LANGUAGE?

2. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- SCIENCE(S)? LANGUAGE?

3. SELECTION SYSTEM



APTITUDE TEST/INTERVIEW
PORTFOLIO/PROJECT

LEAVING CERTIFICATE

- POINTS SYSTEM:
- 6 BEST SUBJECTS

Grading System

Grade	Percentage
H1/O1	90 – 100
H2/O2	80 – 89
H3/O3	70 – 79
H4/O4	60 – 69
H5/O5	50 – 59
H6/O6	40 – 49
H7/O7	30 – 39
H8/O8	0 - 29

Points System

Higher		Ordinary	
Grade	Points	Grade	Points
H1	100		
H2	88		
H3	77		
H4	66		
H5	56	O1	56
H6	46	O2	46
H7	37	O3	37
H8	0	O4	28
		O5	20
		O6	12
		O7	0

Points System contd.

- Points are calculated from **ONE** sitting of the Leaving Certificate only.
- Points total is calculated from **SIX** best subjects
- 25 Bonus points are awarded for Honours Mathematics only if the total is part of the best 6

Making an Application

- Applications can be made online. Form is very straight-forward to fill out.
- www.cao.ie

****VERY IMPORTANT****

- Students must fill out both course lists in:
Genuine Order of Preference
- They should **NOT** put down courses on the basis of their predictions of cut off points or their own points scores.
- How does the CAO work?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KhbZOC EiFNk>

Applicant Position	Points Score
1	560
2	535
3	525
4	520
5	510
6	510
7	505
8	500
9	490
--	--
--	--
15	455
16	445
17	440
18	435
19	420
20	410
21	405
--	--
--	--
98	340
99	335
100	330
101	325
102	315
103	310
104	305
105	295
--	--
--	--
182	265

← Last place to be filled

Applicant Position	Points Score
1	560
2	535
3	525
4	520
5	510
6	510
7	505
8	500
9	490
--	--
--	--
15	455
16	445
17	440
18	435
19	420
20	410
21	405
--	--
--	--
98	345
99	340
100	335
101	335
102	335
103	315
104	310
105	305
--	--
--	--
182	265

← Random Selection to be used

1
AL020
600
595
590
580
**
**
**
**
**
495
480
470
465
460
460
460
455
455
450
450
450
450
445
435
**
**
**
**
280
275
275
270

NO

2
GY004
560
535
525
520
**
**
**
**
**
485
480
475
465
460
455
445
440
435
420
410
405
405
405
405
400
**
**
**
**
325
315
310
305

NO

3
CR105
595
595
590
580
**
**
**
**
**
475
475
470
465
460
460
460
455
455
455
450
445
440
435
430
430
**
**
**
**
280
275
275
270

YES

All Lower Preference Courses Disappear From Students Preferences

YES

NO

YES

NO

YES

YES

YES

Students Points Total = 445

Cut Off Points for Course

1
AL020
600
595
590
580
**
**
**
**
**
495
480
470
465
460
460
460
455
455
450
450
450
445
435
**
**
**
**
280
275
275

7 round one places
not accepted

← Last place to
be filled - Round 1

← Last place to
be filled - Round 2

Round 2 cut off points - 455

2
GY004
560
535
525
520
**
**
**
**
**
485
480
475
465
460
455
445
440
435
420
410
405
405
405
400
**
**
**
**
325
315
310

3 round one places
not accepted

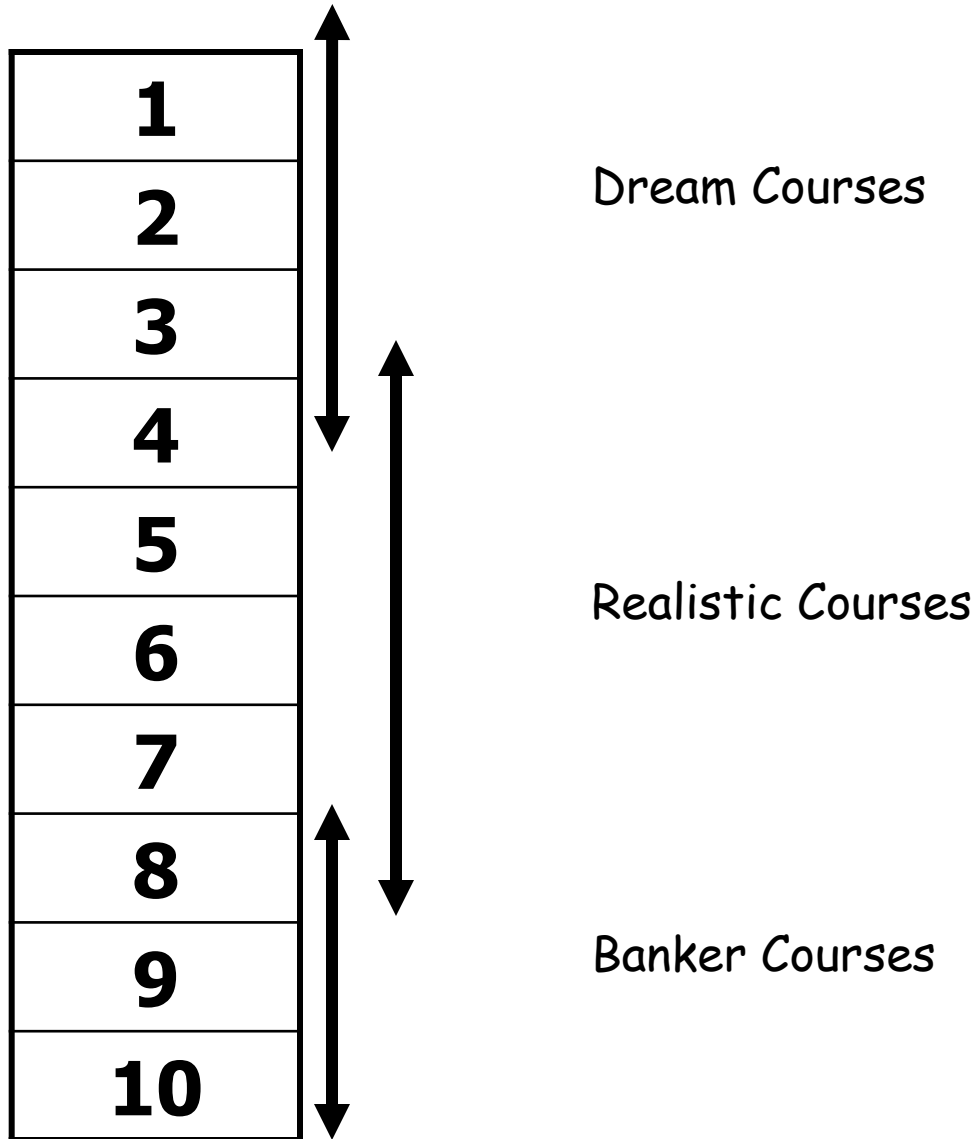
← Last place to
be filled - Round 1

← Last place to
be filled - Round 2

Round 2 cut off points - 460

ROUND 2

How to fill out CAO form



Level 8

Pref	Code
1	CK101
2	CK102
3	CK107
4	CK203
5	CR105
6	CR126
7	CR660
8	CR565
9	CW168
10	CW468

Level 7/6

Pref	Code
1	CR011
2	CR620
3	WD151
4	WD164
5	CR021
6	CR031
7	WD184
8	
9	
10	

CAO Form

* Places Allocation

Note:

- They will get the **highest they are entitled to by their results**
- The exact same procedure takes place for both lists on the form, hence students may **get 2 offers in August** – one from each list, may **accept only one**.
- Students should think carefully about not accepting one of these offers, as they may not receive any further offers.
- Regardless of whether or not they accept a course in round 1, they will still be offered a higher preference course in subsequent rounds if they become entitled one.

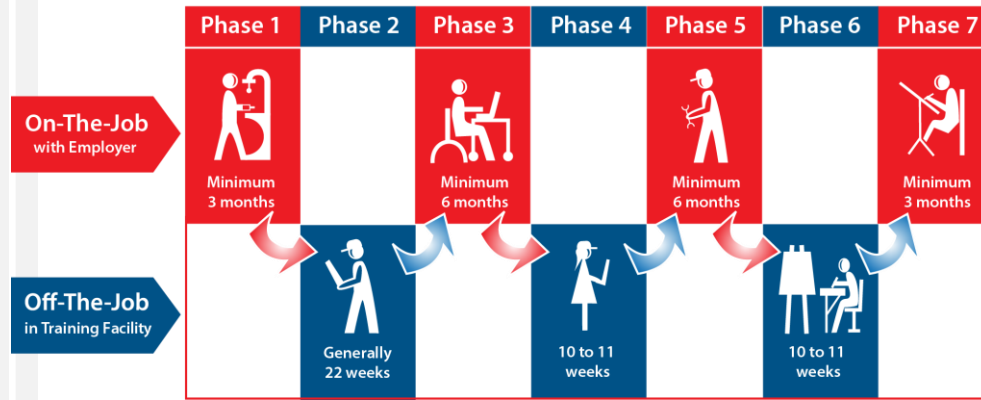
* After Making Application

- * Receive CAO number and Statement of Course Choices – **check this carefully.**
- * Some students may be called for extra assessments.
- * Always read correspondence from CAO
- * Change of Mind facility becomes available – **use sparingly and carefully.**
- * Places are allocated and offered online.
- * Students accept, ignore or defer offered places.
- * Further rounds of offers are made until all course places are filled.

Apprenticeships



APPRENTICESHIP PHASES



7 phases across 4 years for construction related apprenticeships

Or 2 years split between work and college

WHAT IS AN APPRENTICESHIP?

- Alternative route to Education
- Suits a practical learner that learns while doing
- Combines both on the job training and off the job training

Apprentice Pay Rates

	From 05 August 2024 to 31 July 2025	From 01 August 2025 to 31 July 2026	From 01 August 2026	
Year 1	€7.41	€7.66	€7.91	33.33% of Craft rate
Year 2	€11.12	€11.50	€11.87	50% of Craft rate
Year 3	€16.68	€17.25	€17.80	75% of Craft rate
Year 4	€20.02	€20.70	€21.36	90% of Craft rate

RESEARCH



What industry would you like to work in?



Check out the type of work being done in the apprenticeship areas of interest to you



See the work first hand – **ask questions/ do work experience**



Find out about the potential career opportunities at the end of the apprenticeship



FIND AN EMPLOYER

1. Investigate apprentice job opportunities with **local employers**
2. Look for apprenticeship job vacancies
3. Follow companies on **social media** to learn more about them and opportunities that may arise
4. Register for notifications on job websites
5. Inform your local Employment office

APPRENTICESHIPS

<https://apprenticeship.ie/>

Dornan Group

Radleys

Dungarvan Transport

Apprenticeship Ireland



PLC OPTIONS

Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses are full-time courses for people who have finished post-primary school (second-level education). PLC courses usually last one to 2 years.

PLC courses take place in your local Education and Training Board (ETB) schools, colleges and education centres.

PLC courses develop your technical and practical skills for an industry-recognised qualification. They can also offer you a way into higher education and can give you the opportunity to try out a subject of interest to you.

Students can now apply for one of 23 courses that will guarantee you entry to a third level degree programme. The new programme allows you to start your degree at an Education Training Board and complete it in a university – these are called Tertiary Degree Courses.

PLC Options

- Option 1 - PLC courses develop your technical and practical skills for an industry-recognised qualification. This can then lead to employment in the industry related to the PLC course!
- <https://www.dungarvancollege.ie/PLC-Courses/Index.html>

PLC Options

- Option 2
- You can use the qualification you obtain during your PLC course to apply to university through the Higher Education Links Scheme. The amount of places reserved for QQI applicants can vary widely depending on the institution and the course but many courses set aside up to 10% of their places for QQI applicants. This can mean that there are some surprisingly large amounts of places available for PLC students on the popular courses that have the largest intake of students (e.g. Arts or Social Science courses). Other smaller-intake courses (e.g. Nursing) may only have a couple of HELS places.
- Students can also apply to university courses using their QQI points (Max 390 Points) in the Open CAO Competition.

https://www.cao.ie/index.php?page=fetac_search

TERTIARY DEGREE PROGRAMMES

Option 3:

The tertiary education programme is a new way to get a degree at third level.

How the programme works:

You start your course in a further education college, usually an Education and Training Board (ETB). You will attend the ETB for 1 to 2 years depending on your course. There are no fees when you attend an ETB.

You then progress to third level to complete your degree in a higher education college or university. There are course fees when you move to third level, but you may qualify for free fees and a student grant.

<https://www.dungarvancollege.ie/Page/Business-Studies/41589/Index.html>

- <https://nto.heia.ie/courses/>

How to apply to a PLC course

- <https://www.fetchcourses.ie/>

DARE

- DARE is a third level alternative admissions scheme for school-leavers whose disabilities / conditions have had a negative impact on their second level education. DARE offers reduced points places to school leavers who, as a result of having a disability, have experienced additional educational challenges in second level education.
- <https://accesscollege.ie/dare/>

DARE

**DISABILITY
ACCESS
ROUTE TO
EDUCATION**

SUSI GRANTS

Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) is Ireland's national awarding authority for further and higher education grants. SUSI offers funding to eligible students in approved courses at PLC, undergraduate and postgraduate levels in Ireland and in some cases, to students studying in the UK or EU.

- <https://www.susi.ie/>
- <https://www.susi.ie/eligibility-criteria/income/full-time-undergraduate-income-thresholds-and-grant-award-rates/>



SCHOLARSHIPS

- <https://www.setu.ie/study/undergraduate-study/admissions/admissions-schemes/rising-stars>
- <https://www.ul.ie/sportsscholarships>
- <https://www.mtu.ie/scholarships/sports-scholarships/cork-campus-sports-scholarships/>
- <https://www.ucc.ie/en/quercus/>



QUESTIONS?