

## Points of Information – April 2013

### CAO

In the next couple of weeks all 6<sup>th</sup> Year students should receive the following information from CAO directly:

#### ●● STATEMENT OF APPLICATION RECORD

This contains a summary of all your applicant information, ID, Course Choices, Examinations/Qualifications. Please check this information carefully and follow the instructions given.

- Do not assume course choices are correct – check the course codes against the CAO handbook and ensure they are in the desired order of preference.
- Ensure that you provide the details of any exams taken this year or if repeating last year also.
- Is your examination number correct? Check it against the number you have been provided with by the school.
- If you are seeking exemption from minimum entry requirements such as Irish or a Modern language you should contact the admissions office of the Higher Education Institutions you are applying to (in the case of NUI institutions see [www.nui.ie](http://www.nui.ie) for details.)
- If you have been granted exemption from NUI Irish and/or third language requirement and there is no reference to it on the Statement of Application record please notify CAO immediately.
- If all of the information on the Statement of Application Record is correct you need take no action.
- If there is **any** error or omission on the Statement, notify CAO **immediately**.

#### ●● CHANGE OF MIND

- The Change of Mind facility becomes available from 5<sup>th</sup> May at 12.00 to 1<sup>st</sup> July at 5.15pm. CAO request the students make any changes online at [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie) in preference to the paper form.
- Please consider all of your choices carefully.
- You must list **all** of your course choices for the particular category (level 8 and level 7/6) in which you are making changes.
- If you use the Change of Mind facility you will receive a revised Statement of Course Choices to enable you to verify your new list of course choices. If you do not receive this by 7<sup>th</sup> July please contact CAO immediately.

#### ●● OFFERS

- Round one offers will appear on the CAO website from 6am on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August.
- The reply date for acceptance of Round One offers will be Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August.
- Please note that some HEI's will contact you if they have offered you a place rather than waiting on the reply date. This is because registration and orientation will commence as early as September 1<sup>st</sup> in some HEI's. Further details regarding individual college opening arrangements will be available on their own websites in the summer. Please keep an eye on them.
- Round two offers will be available online from 6am on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August. The reply date for acceptance of Round two offers will be Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

#### ●● CONTACTING CAO AT THE OFFER STAGE

- At the offer stage it can be very difficult to contact CAO by telephone. Enquires should be made by email using the Contact Us facility on the CAO website. You will also be provided

with an Enquiry Form which you can use if you want to submit your query by post. Normally, all email enquiries are responded to within one working day.

- **IMPORTANT CHANGES**

- You will also receive a list of important changes of courses, including Courses not in the 2013 CAO handbook but for which application can be made, courses in the 2013 CAO handbook which have been cancelled and other miscellaneous changes. Please check all details carefully. These changes are also available on [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie) in the alert lists section as shown in class.

- **NUI MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY DAY**

NUI Maynooth are providing their annual University Days on Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> and Saturday June 29<sup>th</sup>. These days allow applicants gain a valuable insight into the experience of studying in the University, through information sessions on all aspects of academic and student life, as well as dedicated sessions for parents on the cost of college and the transition to third level. Information on the range of sport scholarships (the closing date for which is May 1<sup>st</sup> 2013 ) will also be available. For further information including timetables please see [www.gomaynooth.ie](http://www.gomaynooth.ie).

- **UCAS**

All students in 5<sup>th</sup> Year have received a detailed presentation on the opportunities to study in the UK or Northern Ireland and the UCAS application process.

Any 5<sup>th</sup> Year student who is interested in applying to UCAS must begin the process now and begin working on their personal statement and organising relevant work experience for this summer (if not already completed.) Some courses require separate registration for aptitude tests which may be completed during the summer holidays, so careful research must be undertaken in order to avoid missing deadlines. For any further information please see Ms Foley.

- **STUDENT GRANTS**

You will be able to make online application for your student grant via SUSI on [www.studentfinance.ie](http://www.studentfinance.ie) from mid May.

- **5<sup>th</sup> YEAR UCD AND WIT VISITS**

5<sup>th</sup> Year students will be attending UCD Student Ambassador Day on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April and WIT on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. These visits will allow students to get a closer look at the facilities and courses that each institution offers as well as meet students studying in each HEI.

- **STUDENT SUMMER EXPERIENCE @ MAYNOOTH**

Student Summer Experience @ Maynooth (SEM) – is NUI Maynooth’s new summer school. They aim to give students a great insight into their degree courses and what it’s like being a student at Maynooth. The SEM is open to all year groups; the earlier students consider their options, the better informed they’ll be when it comes to the CAO.

They have a range of five daily *experiences* for you to choose from. The link below will give you more details.

<http://admissions.nuim.ie/studentssummerexperiencemaynooth.shtml>

Please speak to Ms Foley if you are interested in taking part.

- **UCD SUMMER SCHOOL**

This is a reminder to any student who is interested in attending the UCD Summer School to please apply ASAP.

## **Points of Information – March 2013**

### **IT CARLOW EASTER REVISION PROGRAMME 2013**

IT Carlow's Easter Revision Programme is designed to offer extra support in English, Mathematics and Irish for Leaving Certificate students who have applied for the IT Carlow Access Programme or students who would fit the socio-economic profile for the Access Programme. (please see [www.wexfordcampus.ie](http://www.wexfordcampus.ie) for criteria for this profile.)

The Revision Programme will run for three days, from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March to Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March. It will be held at the Wexford Campus, Summerhill Road. It will cover Ordinary Level Maths on 25<sup>th</sup> March, Ordinary Level Irish on 26<sup>th</sup> and both Higher and Ordinary Level English on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>.

There is a nominal charge to students of €5 to cover materials/hand-outs. There is a limit of 5 places per school. Students who wish to attend must let Ms Foley know before Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March.

### **UCC BA INTERNATIONAL – INFORMATION SESSION**

The College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences at University College Cork is introducing a new BA International programme which is listed as CK108 on the CAO system. The programme includes a year abroad, where students spend a year at a foreign university, such as in the US and Canada, in Asia, such as China, Singapore, Japan or in a European country. A number of international scholarships to support students will be offered, while students who attend a European university will be eligible for Erasmus funding during their year abroad. This is a four year programme where students choose 4 subjects in their first year from the full range of subjects available on the BA and two subjects following first year. Students spend the 3<sup>rd</sup> year at a foreign university. The programme is available to students of all subjects within the BA.

The college of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences will host an information afternoon for prospective students on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm-4pm. Any student who would like to attend with their parents must let Ms Foley know before Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March.

### **COLAISTE AN ATHA, KILMUCKRIDGE**

Colaiste an Atha, Kilmuckridge are offering two courses from September 2013 for students interested in pursuing a course of study in the field of agriculture.

- » Certificate in Agriculture – FETAC level 5
- » Higher Certificate in Agriculture – FETAC level 6.

Closing date for receipt of applications for Level 5 Certificate in Agriculture is Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013 and for Level 6 is Friday August 16<sup>th</sup> 2013. Students who have any questions relating to the above courses should speak to Ms Foley.

### **DCU ACCESS SUPPORTS**

This scheme offers students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds the opportunity to apply to DCU Access Service for additional Access Supports. Two types of support are available:

1. Subsidised Accommodation with Access Supports
2. Reduced point entry with financial scholarship and Access supports.

Students are asked to select ONE type of support on the application form.

The scheme is aimed at students who due to their socio-economic background and low family income would find it difficult to gain entry to, or take up their university. The eligibility criteria are **different from those of the HEAR scheme**. Further details are available from Ms Foley. The deadline for completed applications is **5.00pm Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2013**.

### **GAINFORT ACADEMY**

Gainfort Academy is an award winning independent private college and ITEC accredited training centre located in the Ardcavan Business Park, Wexford. They have specialised in the hair and beauty industry for over twenty years. Their centre is fully equipped with the latest facilities and teaching technology as well as having award-winning stylists and beauticians among their tutoring team.

They offer a large range of courses. While the courses are fee-paying, many may find it cost-effective as there would be no travel or accommodation costs involved. Courses are all part-time which would allow students to work while they study.

Gainfort Academy is holding an open day on the 21<sup>st</sup> March, where students will get a chance to meet current students, ask questions, view the facilities and make course enquiries. There will also be hair and beauty demos on the day. Any student interested in attending must speak to Ms Foley before Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March to book their place.

## **Points of Information – February 2013**

### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

- » National College of Ireland (NCI) – Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February @ 11.08am
- » Enniscorthy VEC – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March @ 12.30pm – rescheduled

### **HPAT IRELAND**

We wish best of luck to the Sixth Year students who are sitting the HPAT on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

### **INTERVIEWS AND AUDITIONS**

Best of luck is also extended to 6<sup>th</sup> Year students who are preparing for PLC or UCAS interviews or preparing for upcoming CAO Auditions.

### **DARE/HEAR FORMS**

1<sup>st</sup> March is the closing date for final completion of online HEAR and DARE forms. The supporting documentation must arrive in CAO offices before 1<sup>st</sup> April.

### **UCAS APPLICATIONS**

Students who have made applications through UCAS can make Extra applications to universities and colleges through UCAS for free from 25<sup>th</sup> February on [wwwucas.com/extra](http://wwwucas.com/extra).

It is a service for applicants who have used all five choices on their application but are holding no offers – they may have been unsuccessful or they may have declined their offers. Extra gives those applicants the chance to add additional choices, one at a time, before Clearing. Extra is applicant driven and all choices are made through the online Track service. Last year nearly 8,000 applicants obtained a place in higher education through Extra. Students should note that not all courses are available in Extra and research is required. For more information and a UCAStv guide on how to use extra please see [wwwucas.com/students/offers/extra](http://wwwucas.com/students/offers/extra).

### **ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE, THURLES – THE STUDENT TEACHER EXPERIENCE –APRIL 6TH**

Would you like to be a post-primary teacher? – “the student teacher experience” will be held in St. Patrick's College on Saturday April 6th from 11am to 2pm

St. Patrick's College offers teacher education programmes, accredited by the University of

Limerick that qualify students to teach in post-primary schools in the areas of Business, Accounting, Irish and Religious Education.

This event will give prospective students an insight into life in the College and will provide in-depth information on the teacher education programmes. Attend "taster" lectures and participate in a demonstration of micro-teaching to experience life as a St. Patrick's College student.

To find out more visit:

[http://www.stpats.ie/news/detail/the\\_student\\_teacher\\_experience\\_april\\_6th](http://www.stpats.ie/news/detail/the_student_teacher_experience_april_6th)

To register email [sdempsey@stpats.ie](mailto:sdempsey@stpats.ie) or call 0504 21201.

### **PLC COURSES**

Many PLC colleges continue to enrol for 2013/2014 academic year. Applications can be made on each individual college's website while some also provide paper application forms.

As you are aware, PLC courses are an excellent preparation for work as well as offering an alternative route to further study at third level through the Higher Education Links Scheme.

Interviews for PLC courses will usually be held in March, with some requiring students to bring samples of work with them. Please see individual course outline on the college website for specific details.

A number of PLC colleges continue to hold open days or information days over the coming weeks. Please see individual websites for specific dates and times.

### **'NEW TRINITY EXPLORE' WEBSITE**

Over the past few months Trinity College Dublin has invited their students to become ambassadors, so that prospective students could hear honest, genuine accounts of life in Trinity from students from every county. Their contributions can be found at [www.tcd.ie/explore](http://www.tcd.ie/explore).

### **SCHOLARSHIPS – DIT GAEILGE ACCOMODATION 2013/2014**

Scholarships for DIT students with Irish to share an apartment with others through the medium of Irish are available. This is open to Current and Prospective full-time DIT students. Closing date is Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2013. Information and application form is available

[www.dit.ie/services/gaeilge](http://www.dit.ie/services/gaeilge) or phone 01 - 4027043.

### **MUSICAL THEATRE IRELAND**

Musical Theatre Ireland set up since September 2013 in Cork provides an Advanced Preparation Course in Musical Theatre. This is the first of its kind in Ireland and is designed to build solid technical foundations across the disciplines of Singing, Dance and Acting. It is for students who are considering entry to the UK Drama Schools as well as the Musical Theatre Industry. For further information please log onto [www.musicaltheatreireland.ie](http://www.musicaltheatreireland.ie)

## **Points of Information – January 2013**

### **DATES TO NOTE**

- 15<sup>th</sup> January - UCAS application deadline for 2013 Entry
- 20<sup>th</sup> January – Discounted Fee deadline for CAO

- 20<sup>th</sup> January – HPAT Standard Registration closing date 2013
- 26<sup>th</sup> January – SAT Test Date – Examinations to enter US University (Available in Waterford and Dublin)
- 31<sup>st</sup> January – Closing Date for Free Online Change of CAO Course Choices
- 1<sup>st</sup> February – Normal Closing Date for CAO Applications
- 1<sup>st</sup> February – HPAT Late Registrations Closing Date 2013
- 5<sup>th</sup> February – Online Facility to Amend Course Choices becomes available

### **COLLEGE OPEN DAYS**

- Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art Design and Technology (IADT) – 16<sup>th</sup> January (Evening)
- Senior College Dun Laoghaire – 16<sup>th</sup> January
- Shannon College of Hotel Management – 16<sup>th</sup> January (Evening)
- Dublin Business School – 16<sup>th</sup> January (3 – 7pm)
- Sallynoggin College of Further Education – 17<sup>th</sup> January
- Bray Institute of Further Education – 18<sup>th</sup> January
- Crumlin College of Further Education – 22<sup>nd</sup> January
- Ballsbridge College of Further Education – 23<sup>rd</sup> January
- Dun Laoghaire College of Further Education – 23<sup>rd</sup> January
- National College of Ireland (NCI) – 23<sup>rd</sup> January
- Whitehall College of Further Education – 23<sup>rd</sup> January
- Colaiste Dhulaigh College of Further Education – 24<sup>th</sup> January
- Rathmines College of Further Education – 24<sup>th</sup> January
- Inchicore College of Further Education – 29<sup>th</sup> January
- Dunboyne College of Further Education – 30<sup>th</sup> January
- Marino College of Further Education – 30<sup>th</sup> January

### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Enniscorthy VEC – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 12.30pm

DIT – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 1.20pm

### **BOOKING ON- CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION**

Booking and accommodation allocation arrangements vary, and in some cases applications are or soon will be accepted. Deposits may be sought and may or may not be refundable.

- **DCU** will be accepting applications from Monday, March 4, on [www.dcu.ie/accommodation](http://www.dcu.ie/accommodation). First years who apply before the deadline and have received 500 points are guaranteed a place.
- **NUI Galway** advises incoming students wishing to book a place in any of its 10 self-catering student residences to do so as early as possible, preferably at the same time as filling the CAO form.

All information is available on [www.nuigalway.ie/accommodation](http://www.nuigalway.ie/accommodation) or directly from the respective residences. It also has two residences that provide full-board accommodation, Ros Geal for female students and Gort Ard for males.

- **NUI Maynooth**'s online application facility is open. Places are offered following a random selection process. Email [residence.office@nuim.ie](mailto:residence.office@nuim.ie)
- **TCD**'s incoming students are mainly accommodated in college residences at Trinity Hall, Dartry, a few miles from the college. Applications will be accepted once CAO offers are made in August.
- **UCC** will open for online applications at the end of February. Information is available on [www.uccaccommodation.ie](http://www.uccaccommodation.ie)
- **UCD** opens applications in May for its residences, including a new complex of catered accommodation which includes meals. Spaces are allocated on a first come, first served basis. See [www.ucd.ie/residences](http://www.ucd.ie/residences).
- **UL** will open online applications at the beginning of February for first years. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, and students can be confident of a room on campus if they apply before the end of May. See [www.studentliving.ul.ie](http://www.studentliving.ul.ie).
- **Waterford IT** accepts applications online and accommodation is allocated on a first come, first served basis.
- **Griffith College** Halls of Residence on South Circular Road, Dublin, is open to students from other colleges and convenient for the city center. See [www.gcd-accommodation.ie](http://www.gcd-accommodation.ie).
- **Colaiste Mhuire, Marino** student residences are open to students from other colleges and are particularly convenient to St Patrick's College, Drumcondra, and DCU.

- **St Angela's** Student Residences are also open to students at Sligo IT.

### **SENIOR COLLEGE DUN LAOGHAIRE - APPLICATIONS TO THEATRICAL AND MEDIA MAKE-UP ARTISTRY FOR SEPTEMBER 2013**

Due to a large volume of applications SCD will not be accepting any further applications for the above course for 2013. However, they are continuing to accept applications to all other courses in their Beauty Department.

### **ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS**

Please note that some colleges have changed the points requirement for awarding an academic scholarship. This change varies from 500 to 550 points. Students should consult each individual college website to see the specific changes and note that some faculties within the same colleges have different thresholds. Anyone with further queries please speak to Ms. Foley.

### **DC211/DC212 BA IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE / BA IN VOCAL STUDIES (PERFORMANCE) / BA IN COMPOSITION**

From September 2013, the above courses taught at the Royal Irish Academy of Music will be accredited by Trinity College Dublin (Previously DCU). Consequently applications should be made directly to RIAM and not to CAO. All applicants who applied up to 20<sup>th</sup> December 2012 on CAO have been advised of this. Application forms may be downloaded at [www.riam.ie](http://www.riam.ie). Closing date for application is 1<sup>st</sup> February 2013.

## **Points of Information – December 2012**

### **ROTARY LEADERSHIP COMPETITION**

Congratulations to Aisling Busher 5<sup>th</sup> Year who won the school level of the Rotary Leadership Competition, went on to win the Wexford final and take part in the South East Regional Final. Well done also to the other four participants in the school final; Aisling Riordan, Keerthi Ramesh, Aoibheann Maxwell and Eva Farrell. The judges commented on the high standard of participants and how the future looks bright with such strong leaders among our school community.

### **UCAS APPLICATIONS**

This is a final reminder for any 6<sup>th</sup> Year student who wishes to complete a UCAS application to please make yourself known to Ms Foley before Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December. Any student who is in the process of completing their UCAS application must have all sections complete and sent to Ms Foley via 'UCAS Apply' by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

### **STRESS MANAGEMENT**

On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November a talk on Stress Management was given to 6<sup>th</sup> Year parents by Peadar Maxwell, Registered Psychologist.

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November a Stress Management Day was held for all 6<sup>th</sup> Year students. A two hour talk and workshop was provided by Peadar, along with three other workshops on Yoga, Mindfulness and Art Therapy provided by members of staff. We hope that students continue to practice the techniques that they learned and can enjoy a stress free approach to their study in 6<sup>th</sup> Year and beyond.



## **STUDY SKILLS**

During the last week all First Year Students received a Study Skills workshop given by Ms Foley and Ms Schous. Students learned about developing good time management, planning and organising their study, effective listening, reading for learning and note writing skills. It is hoped that all students put these valuable skills into practice in order to make their study time effective.

## **NATIONAL CAREER SKILLS COMPETITION**

Application is open to any Transition Year or Leaving Certificate student to enter into a National Career Skills Competition run by [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie). Students are required to complete a career investigation and have relevant work experience. Closing date for submission is 12th April. Prizes include an iPad, Nikon Camera and iPod Touch. Entry forms are available online on the careersportal website. Please speak to Ms Foley in class for further information.

## **COLLEGE OPEN DAYS**

- » Limerick IT – Tipperary – Saturday 1st December
- » NCI- Saturday 1st December
- » St. Patricks College Thurles – Saturday 1st December
- » Trinity College Dublin – Saturday 1st December
- » DIT – Friday 30th November and Saturday 1st December
- » Church of Ireland College of Education – Saturday 1st December
- » NCAD – Thursday 6th December
- » UCC Drama and Theatre Studies Course Open Day – Saturday 8th December 11am – 2pm
- » Waterford College of Further Education (PLC) – Tuesday 11th December
- » Waterford IT – Tuesday 11th December
- » RCSI - Thursday 3rd January (Please note that you should register online on [www.rcsi.ie](http://www.rcsi.ie) to attend the open day.)

Please note that individual colleges may have specific career events/talks for specific course areas outside these open days, e.g. UCD:

- » Chemistry and Chemical Biology Sciences Open Evening – 4th December
- » Architecture Open Afternoon – 12th January
- » Medicine Visiting Programme – 16th January, 24th April, 8th May, 22nd May

See [www.ucd.ie/myucd.event](http://www.ucd.ie/myucd.event) for further information.

## **UCD SUMMER SCHOOL**

UCD provide a Summer School for 5<sup>th</sup> Year Students. This is suitable for students who know what discipline they want to pursue at university but do not know yet what path to take through their degree. Check out [www.ucd.ie/myucd/summerschool](http://www.ucd.ie/myucd/summerschool) for further updates.

## **GUEST SPEAKERS**

IT Carlow – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December  
Mater Dei – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December

## **Points of Information - November 2012**

### **COLLEGE OPEN DAYS**

- » St. Angela's College, Sligo - Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November
- » Cork IT – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November
- » DCU – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November
- » CIT Crawford College of Art and Design – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November
- » AIT – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November
- » Mater Dei – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November

- » All Hallows College – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November
- » CIT School of Music – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November
- » Marino Institute of Education – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November
- » St. Patrick’s College, Drumcondra – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November
- » UCD – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November
- » Shannon College of Hotel Management – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November
- » Pontifical University Maynooth- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November
- » Froebel College (Maynooth Campus) – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November
- » NUI Maynooth – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November
- » Dun Laoghaire IADT – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November
- » National College of Ireland (NCI) – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November
- » Institute of Technology Carlow – Wexford Campus – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November
- » DIT (Aungier Street)- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November and Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December

**Remember** :you should plan your visit to open days carefully by viewing information on talks, exhibitions and tours that you are interested in on each college website. Research thoroughly the courses that you are interested in prior to attending the event and write down any questions you wish to ask about the course.

### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

- » UCD – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November
- » UCC – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November
- » St. Pat’s Drumcondra – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November
- » NUI Galway – Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November
- » WIT – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November

### **CAO HANDBOOK**

Students are reminded to view the alert lists on [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie) to see the changes to the courses listed in the CAO Handbook given in September. These changes include new courses added, some courses cancelled and changes in course titles. Colleges will update these alert lists throughout the year and so students must keep informed of any changes that involve their course choices.

### **CAO APPLICATION FOR 6<sup>TH</sup> YEARS**

6<sup>th</sup> Year students are reminded that CAO is now open for application for the year 2013. Students should apply before 20<sup>th</sup> January to avail of the discounted rate of €25. Students can change their mind free of charge until 31<sup>st</sup> January and again from 5<sup>th</sup> May until 1<sup>st</sup> July. If you are interested in a restricted entry course it must be on your CAO application form before 1<sup>st</sup> February.

### **CHANGE IN MATRICULATION REGULATIONS FROM 2014 – UCC**

For University College Cork (UCC) with effect from 2014/2015, students will need at least **Grade C3 in four Higher level subjects** to meet minimum entry requirements. This is an increase from the current requirement of two higher level C3’s. This does not affect the entry requirements of any other college.

### **NUI EXEMPTION**

Students who are eligible for an NUI exemption for Irish or a third language must apply for this exemption by completing the application form on [www.nui.ie/college/entry-requirements.asp](http://www.nui.ie/college/entry-requirements.asp) . Failure to do so will mean that students who apply through CAO for a course in one of the colleges of NUI, e.g. UCD would not be offered a place in the first round, even though they had achieved enough points for admission to their chosen degree programme. This would happen

because on the basis of the information recorded by CAO they would not satisfy the minimum entry requirements for admission.}

A student may be entitled to an exemption if they have dyslexia, were born outside of Republic of Ireland, Primary education up to age of eleven years was outside the republic of Ireland, Second level education took place for at least three years outside Ireland.

Please consult with Ms.Foley if you have any concern re the above.

## **Points of Information - October 2012**

### **BETTER OPTIONS 2012**

A College Fair for students with disabilities and specific learning difficulties will be held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November from 10.30am to 2pm in The Gallery, Helix, DCU, Glasnevin, Dublin 9. Students can find out what is available in third level colleges nationwide plus attend interactive workshops on: getting the most out of your disability service, the road to independent learning, making an application to the Disability Access Route to Education (DARE). This event is free and there is no need to register. For further information please see [www.ahead.ie](http://www.ahead.ie) , email: [ahead@ahead.ie](mailto:ahead@ahead.ie) or telephone 01 7164396.

### **COLLEGE OPEN DAYS**

- » NUIG – 6<sup>th</sup> October
- » Shannon College of Hotel Management – 12<sup>th</sup> October
- » UL/LIT/UCC – 13<sup>th</sup> October
- » National Maritime College – 23<sup>rd</sup> October

### **SPEAKERS**

All college talks will take place in the Concert Hall at 1.25pm unless otherwise stated

- » University of Limerick – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October
- » NUI Maynooth – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October
- » Mater Dei – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October

### **UCAS**

Applications are under way by sixth year students who are interested in applying for college courses in UK or Northern Ireland.

### **STUDY SKILLS SEMINAR**

- » A study skills seminar provided by Student Enrichment Services will be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October for interested fifth and sixth year students. For further information please see [www.studentenrichment.ie](http://www.studentenrichment.ie).
- » A study skills seminar provided by Study Focus Ltd will be held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November for all Third Year students. Letters outlining the relevant information and permission slips have been distributed to all third year students. Please see [www.studyfocus.com](http://www.studyfocus.com).

## **ROTARY IRELAND**

Rotary Youth Leadership Development Competition will have the school final during week beginning Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Any fifth year student who is interested in entering this competition should speak to Ms. Foley and complete a Nomination Form. For further information please see [www.rotary.ie/youth](http://www.rotary.ie/youth).

## **Points of Information - September 2012**

### **HIGHER OPTIONS**

A group of sixth year students attended the Higher Options Conference in the RDS on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September. They attended lectures on specific career areas as well as general topics like CAO and UCAS applications systems. Students also had the opportunity to visit college stands, receive college literature and speak to college representatives.

### **CAO**

CAO application literature has been received by the school and distributed to all sixth year students. **CAO applications may be made online from 5<sup>th</sup> November at 12 noon.**

Applicants submitting an online application before 5.15pm on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2013 may avail of the discounted application fee of **€25**.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM (SIF) – DISABILITY OR SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTY**

Applicants with a disability or specific learning difficulty will be able to complete their own section of the SIF when they apply online. Applicants who wish to be considered for the Disability Access Route to Education (DARE) scheme must complete this form and indicate on the form that they wish to be considered for DARE. They will then print the sections to be completed by the school and by a consultant and return these to CAO. Please see the CAO handbook for details. A guide and instructions will be available on the CAO website in November.

### **HIGHER EDUCATION ACCESS ROUTE (HEAR)**

Applicants who are socio-economically disadvantaged may complete a special section of the online application form and submit certain documentation to be considered for supplementary entry and post-entry supports. Supplementary entry means entering a course on lower points than was required in the usual competition for places. Please see the CAO Handbook for details. A full guide will be available on the CAO website in November.

From November, applicants and parents with questions about completing the HEAR or SIF/DARE

sections of the form can consult the published guides and phone CAO if they cannot find answers to their questions. Questions on how applicants will be assessed and how offers are to be determined should be directed to the Access and Disability Offices in Higher Education Institutions and not CAO. The website [www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie) is also a good source of information.

In Mid-November, you will be able to view the demonstration version of the online application form to see for yourself how the entire 2013 online application form is set out, including the SIF/DARE and HEAR sections.