

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The purpose of this communication is to highlight some important careers/college related notices for the remainder of the year.



### 1) CAO Communications

- **‘Statement of Application Record’**

This document will be sent to all applicants by post before the end of May. This ‘statement’ will show all information on record from each applicant including CAO number, level 6/7 and level 8 course choices chosen by the applicant, and it will show any language exemptions which have been applied for.

**It is important that all students READ this document from beginning to end. If there are any errors then it is important for the students to alert me or contact CAO directly.**

- **‘Statement of Course Choice’**

This statement will be posted in June and should show all course choices. The change of mind facility opens on May 5<sup>th</sup> and closes on July 1<sup>st</sup> 5.15pm. This change of mind is free of charge. The final statement of course choice showing any course changes made by the applicant should arrive by July 7<sup>th</sup>. (Students are aware that ‘restricted courses’ cannot be entered on their choices after Feb 1<sup>st</sup>)

- The date for Leaving Cert result is Wed August 17<sup>th</sup>. The expected date for Round 1 course offers is 22nd August. Round 2 offers will be issued on 1<sup>st</sup> September. All offers of places will be sent by post. A “Reply Date” will be printed on Offer Notices. If you wish to accept an offer, you must do so by 5:15pm on the “Reply Date” printed on the Offer Notice. In addition, offers will be presented online at the CAO website [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie), and you may record your acceptance online.

- **E-mail Correspondence:**

The CAO communicates with applicants via e-mail at several intervals throughout the year. The e-mail account provided by the applicant when applying to CAO must be active and checked regularly.

- **SMS Text Correspondence:**

Applicants who have opted to receive text updates from CAO will receive SMS text messages at different intervals throughout the year, when they apply online, when they receive an offer and when they accept an offer. CAO is not responsible for any SMS text messages which are not received by an applicant.

**All information is available on the CAO website ([www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)) and the CAO handbook (which all students have) can be viewed and/or downloaded from the website.**

### 2. Post Leaving Cert Courses

Applications for FETAC (Further Education Training and Academic Council) Level 5 courses are now open. Interviews follow applications in March/April/May – depending on course. Students can apply to both CAO and PLC courses and they can apply to any number of Further Education Colleges offering PLC courses. Students should check out the college websites for more information. Students have been attending several PLC college presentations over the last number of weeks and presentations from further PLC colleges have been arranged.

### 3. Accommodation

Most applications for college accommodation are now open. Typically a deposit needs to be paid to assure accommodation, a portion of which is refundable should the student not take it up. Details of

all available accommodation is available on the various college websites and it is advisable to *ring the accommodation offices for more particular information.*

#### **4. Higher Education Grants- Parent Student Information evening**

Student grant applications facility is now open and closes in early August. The student grant is means tested. All information in relation to qualifying indicators and grant levels are available on SUSI.ie. Students who qualify need to be in full time further education and can be attending a University/College (studying at degree or Higher Certificate Level) or a Further Education College (studying at Post Leaving Cert courses FETAC 5/6 level).

Students will get information in relation to the student grant in class; in addition representatives from Roscommon Citizens advice and Youth Work Ireland have kindly agreed to give a presentation to parents and students on the SUSI grant application process on Monday the 25th of April at 7 pm.

It is requested however that parents familiarise themselves with the detail in relation to student finance, as eligibility is based on personal circumstances. Online grant applications are made to SUSI (Student Universal Support Ireland) and the application can be found on the SUSI website [www.susi.ie](http://www.susi.ie). **The grant application process can be started now.**

#### **5. Youth Work Ireland Workshop**

Representatives from Youth Work Ireland have recently make a presentation to our 6th year students on the issues they may face around the transition from Post Primary to third level. Topics for discussion included choosing accommodation, budgeting and stay healthy and safe. Many thanks to all in Youth Work Roscommon for facilitating this workshop.

#### **6. New Apprenticeships 2016**

New-style apprenticeships are being introduced in 2016 for the areas of: Software Development; Medical Devices; Financial Services; Accountancy; Logistics and Hospitality. The Apprenticeship Council has now assigned the first 25 new programmes 'Category 1 status', meaning that they are both sustainable and at an advanced stage of design, planning and industry/education collaboration. They are currently undergoing a detailed development phase. Further details are available on [http://careersportal.ie/apprenticeships/modern\\_apprenticeships.php?parent=35&ed\\_sub\\_cat\\_id=244#Modern%20Apprenticeships](http://careersportal.ie/apprenticeships/modern_apprenticeships.php?parent=35&ed_sub_cat_id=244#Modern%20Apprenticeships)

#### **7. Important CAO related dates (April-May 2016)**

Event	Date	College
SUSI (College Grant Application System) opening	5th April 2016	SUSI.IE
<a href="#"><u>Open Days (2 days - Fri &amp; Sat)</u></a>	15/04/2016	Cavan Institute
<a href="#"><u>Open Day</u></a>	16/04/2016	NUI Galway
<a href="#"><u>Open Day - CAO Options Info Morning (Sat)</u></a>	23/04/2016	GMIT
<a href="#"><u>Course Information Day (Sat)</u></a>	23/04/2016	IT Sligo
<a href="#"><u>CAO 2016 - Closing Date for Late Applications</u></a>	01/05/2016	CAO
<a href="#"><u>CAO 2016 - Online Change of Mind (free) Facility Becomes Available</u></a>	05/05/2016	CAO
<a href="#"><u>CAO 2016 - Statement of Application Record Sent to all Applicants By</u></a>	31/05/2016	CAO

Should you need clarification on any of the above information please feel free to contact me on (090) 662 6496 or email [cbsroscommoncareerguidance@gmail.com](mailto:cbsroscommoncareerguidance@gmail.com)

Kind Regards,

Paul Kelly  
Guidance Counsellor  
CBS Roscommon