



**Please take a look at some of the events that are upcoming until the end of November this year. Please note that this list is not exhaustive. You find the comprehensive list of career events and open days on your Careers Portal calendar.**

3/10: Synergy Careers: Webinar on Studying Abroad

Register online (I have put up the link on TEAMS)

7/10: Kildalton Agricultural College Autumn Open Day

10/10: Synergy Careers: Webinar on Careers in Engineering

15/10: Deadline for applying to UK (UCAS) for courses in Oxford and Cambridge and all Medicine, Veterinarian Medicine/Science and Dentistry

17/10: Synergy Careers: Webinar on Careers in Construction and Apprenticeships

20/10: TUS-Midwest-Limerick campuses, Open Days (2 days)

21/10: Mary Immaculate College Open Days (2 days)

25/10: National College of Art and Design (IADT) Portfolio Information Session 2

4/11: CAO Online Applications facility 2023 opens

5/11: Trinity College Dublin (TCD) Open Day

7/11: Synergy Careers: Webinar on CAO Application Procedure and HPAT (For all Medicine courses)

10/11: Shannon College of Hotel Management: Business and Law Information Evening

12/11: Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin): Open Day covering information about ALL campuses. Held at the Grangegorman Campus

12/11: University College Dublin (UCD) Open Day

14/11: Synergy Careers: Webinar on Careers in Art and Design, Architecture

15/11: TU Dublin Open Evening (Blanchardstown campus)

16/11: National College of Ireland (NCI) Open Day

17/11: NUI Galway: Arts Information Evening

17/11: TU Dublin: Open Evening (Tallaght campus)

18/11: Dublin City University (DCU) Open Days (2 days)

19/11: IADT Open Day

25/11: Maynooth University (NUIM) Open Days (2 days)

25/11: St. Angela's College Sligo Open Days (2 days)

28/11: Synergy Careers: Webinar in Careers in Accounting and Finance

**Please note that the Synergy Careers webinars require you to register in advance. Webinars will be recorded and placed on the Synergy Careers website.**

## Career Guidance Autumn Newsletter 2022

### CAO Application System

The Central Applications Office (CAO) will open the application system for 2022 on Friday, 4th November at 12 noon. Students apply through the CAO for Level 8 (Honours Degrees), Level 7 (Ordinary Degrees) and some Level 6 (Higher Certificates) in Irish Universities, Colleges and Institutes of Education.

Each student can put up to 10 Level 8 courses and 10 Level 7/6 courses on their applications.

There is a discounted rate of 30 euro up until the 20th January. After this date, the fee goes up to 45 euro.

CAO will close on the 1st February but will re-open for the Change of Mind facility on the 5<sup>th</sup> May.

Students who are applying to Restricted courses (courses that require a Portfolio; audition ; interview) must be placed on a student's CAO form by the 1st February. You cannot add them to the CAO application after this date.

Students must familiarise themselves with the CAO Handbook which is available on CAO.ie. The handbook contains vital information on the CAO Application process and a comprehensive list of the courses offered at Levels 8, 7 and some 6.

Each course in the CAO Handbook has a unique code that the student puts on their CAO Application. The code also can be used to search for that particular course on careersportal.ie and/or qualifax.ie.

Once students create their CAO Applications, they need to **regularly check their e-mails /CAO accounts for updates and correspondence.**

All students will be given a presentation on CAO in their Career Guidance class by Ms. Travers or Ms. D'Arcy and this presentation will be uploaded to TEAMS.

All CAO related information is available on CAO.ie and in the CAO Handbook.

## CAO Demo

All 6th Year students will have the opportunity to complete the CAO Demo Application in their Career Guidance classes in the coming few weeks. This is an opportunity for students to prepare and familiarise themselves with the process of applying to the CAO.

## Opening CAO Applications

If students would like to register with the CAO in their respective Guidance classes with their Guidance Counsellor, they will need to bring in a Debit/Credit Card to pay the 30 euro application fee.

## Guidance Appointments

Individual Guidance appointments will be commencing next week (week beginning October 3<sup>rd</sup>) and all 6th Years will have met their Guidance Counsellors by early December, all going well.

Students receive a record of their Guidance session including further information/recommendations via e-mail.

## Course Research

In order to make informed course choices, it is absolutely imperative that students are regularly using the "Course Search" facility on [careersportal.ie](http://careersportal.ie) and/or [qualifax.ie](http://qualifax.ie).

Students need to research various [courses of interest, similar courses in different HEI's, content structure/modules taught in each year of the courses](#) and if courses are offered at different levels, eg. Engineering Level 8 and an equivalent course at Level 7

All students should have signed up to careersnews. ie which sends daily careers news and events to their email accounts.

Students need to check their [TEAMS Guidance accounts](#) regularly.

## HEAR/DARE

All students will get a presentation on the HEAR and DARE college access schemes. These presentations will also be uploaded to TEAMS.

Online DARE information presentation and Online HEAR information presentations will be on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

Further information is available at [accesscollege.ie](http://accesscollege.ie)

Both HEAR and DARE are access routes to college, that eligible students can apply to through their CAO accounts.

Both HEAR and DARE have an online section that needs to be completed through the CAO by the 1st March, 2023 @ 5pm.

All supporting documents for both schemes need to be posted to CAO, Tower House, Eglinton Street, Galway, Ireland by the 15th March @5pm.

Please note that any student applying to DARE will have an EIS form which is completed by the relevant Guidance Counsellor to post alongside supporting documents.

The EIS form will be given to the student/posted out to the home of the student.

With both HEAR and DARE, it is the responsibility of the student and their parent/guardian to post all relevant supporting documents to the address provided above in advance of the deadline given.

### Parents Information Evening

We will hold an Information Evening for parents which will include information on CAO and HEAR/DARE. This will take place on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November.

We will communicate to you in advance whether this information session will be in person in the school building or online.

### PLC/ Apprenticeships

Students who are applying to PLC colleges will need to apply online via the college websites. Students do not apply to PLC courses through the CAO application system.

A number of PLC colleges have opened up their application portals so students will need to check the websites of the PLC colleges they are interested in applying to.

Students who are wishing to do an apprenticeship need to ensure that the person who they will be undertaking an apprenticeship with is registered with SOLAS.

### Useful websites

Careersportal.ie- For course research (Levels 8,7,6 & 5)

Accesscollege.ie For HEAR and DARE information

Cao.ie- CAO applications, Deadlines, CAO booklet, Alert Lists (changes to courses etc..)

Parent Guide and Information, Comprehensive List of College Open Days

Apprenticeships.ie- For students who are considering an Apprenticeship after their Leaving Certificate

Individual college websites (University, Institute of Technology, PLC colleges..)

Microsoft TEAMS (For presentations, careers information etc....)

Careersnews.ie

Ms. Orla Travers & Ms. Jude D'Arcy (Guidance Counsellors)