

Career Guidance 2010 / 2011

POINTS OF INFORMATION - MAY 2011

STUDENT FINANCE

A Grants information evening will take place in the Riverbank House Hotel, Wexford on Monday, 16th May @ 7.30 pm. Staff from the grants department in both awarding authorities plus staff from the Revenue Commissioners will be on hand to answer any queries you may have. Everybody is welcome.

Information on grants available at www.studentfinance.ie

CAO

Sixth years have this week received a letter from CAO containing a statement of application record and change of mind forms. Please do not assume that everything on the application record is correct. If there are any errors or omissions, contact CAO immediately.

OFFER OF PLACES

Offers may be viewed and an acceptance of an offer may be made online at www.cao.ie

Round One offers will be available on the CAO website from 6.00am on Monday 22nd August.

CONTACTING CAO AT THE OFFER STAGE

As usual, it will be very difficult to contact CAO by telephone at the offer stage. Enquiries should be made by email using the Contact Us facility on the CAO website. All sixth years have been provided with an Enquiry Form which they should use if they wish to submit an enquiry by post.

FIFTH YEARS-UCAS

A number of fifth years have started the process of applying to colleges in the UK. A lot of work is required, in particular on the Personal Statement and Work Experience. Please see Ms. Fallon for details on research to be completed.

POINTS OF INFORMATION-APRIL 2011

» WIT Applicant Open Evening

Waterford Institute of Technology is hosting a CAO Applicant Evening on Thursday 14th April from 6pm -8pm, aimed at students who have applied to WIT (or still intend to) and their parents.

During the evening, they will have the opportunity to find out more about their chosen course and career options, hear about accommodation choices, learn about registration, student life, clubs and societies, take a tour of the campus and much more.

Please note that this is an information evening only and not a compulsory event.

» UCD Performing Arts Scholarships

UCD is this coming academic year awarding five elite musical scholarships and three elite drama scholarships. There is no requirement that applicants intend to pursue a performance related degree course.

Deadline for the receipt of applications is Friday 15th April. Auditions will be held in late April/early May.

Application forms available at www.ucd.ie/performinggroups

» PLC Interviews

Best of luck to sixth years involved in PLC interviews over the next few weeks.

» UCD Summer School

Reminder to fifth years intending to apply for the UCD Unilife Summer School to send in applications.

POINTS OF INFORMATION-MARCH 2011

Bonus Points for Maths Explained



Implementation of Bonus Points for Higher Level Mathematics by the Universities, DIT & RCSI

Points awarded:

A bonus of 25 points will be allocated to students who achieve a grade D3 or above in higher level (HL) mathematics. This means that the maximum cumulative LC points total will increase from 600 to 625 (existing maximum points plus bonus points).

Time scale:

The scheme is to be introduced for a four year pilot period commencing leaving certificate 2012 and will be reviewed in 2014.

Formula:

- » All students presenting HD3 or above in HL mathematics will have 25 points added to their score for mathematics
- » The six highest subject points scores will then be counted to achieve a cumulative points score, as is normal practice

The bonus points will only be relevant in cases where the subject HL mathematics (including bonus points) is scored as one of the candidate's six best subjects for points purposes. Consequently, if HL mathematics (cumulative points score) is not among these six subjects, the bonus points will not be included in the total points score.

Date of examination:

Bonus points will be awarded during the 4 year pilot period irrespective of the year in which the examinations were taken.

Medicine:

The maximum possible adjusted points score for applicants to Medicine will increase from 560 to 565. (For all scores over 550, each 5 point band equals one extra point.) The baseline score of 480 points will still apply but can include the bonus points if HL mathematics (cumulative points) is among the best six subjects.

The table below illustrates the impact of the bonus points.

Table:

% Range	LC Grade	Points for HL Maths, including 25 bonus points	Existing points for HL subjects inc maths	Points for Ordinary Level subjects
90 – 100	A1	125	100	60
85 – 89.99	A2	115	90	50
80 – 84.99	B1	110	85	45
75 – 79.99	B2	105	80	40
70 – 74.99	B3	100	75	35
65 – 69.99	C1	95	70	30
60 – 64.99	C2	90	65	25
55 – 59.99	C3	85	60	20
50 – 54.99	D1	80	55	15
45 – 49.99	D2	75	50	10
40 – 44.99	D3	70	45	5
25 – 39.99	E	0	0	0
10 – 24.99	F	0	0	0
0 – 9.99	NG	0	0	0

Irish Language Student Residency Scheme

DIT is offering scholarships to sixth year students who have applied for courses in DIT to share apartment accommodation through the medium of Irish for the next academic year. Irish will be the spoken language in the residence. Applicants must be able to speak Irish and will have to actively promote and encourage the use of Irish on campus and amongst DIT's student community.

Successful applicants will receive scholarships worth 25% of the rental cost from September 2011-May 2012. Application forms may be downloaded at www.dit.ie/gaeilge

Professional Flight Training Exhibition-7th May, Crowne Plaza Dublin-Northwood.

This is an exhibition aimed at any student considering a career as a commercial airline pilot. Leading flight training schools from across Ireland, the UK and mainland Europe, together with pilots and experts will be available at the exhibition to answer any questions and give advice on a career on the flight deck.

There is a student and accompanying adult concession of six Euro per person. To book tickets go online at www.flyer.co.uk/exhibitions or on the day from the Box Office.

Easter Revision Programme-Wexford Campus

Five places have been made available to sixth year students. This programme is designed to offer extra support in English, Maths and Irish for the Leaving Cert. Priority has been given to students who have applied for the IT Carlow Access Programme and students who fit the socio-economic profile for the Access Programme and who may be considering courses at the Wexford Campus.

Careers in Horticulture Open Day-Wednesday, March 23rd @ 2p.m.

To book your place email botanic.college@teagasc.ie

UCAS

UCAS Extra is available for applicants who have used all five choices on their application but are holding no offers. Extra gives those applicants the chance to add additional choices, one at a time before Clearing. Last year over 7,000 applicants obtained a place in higher education through Extra.

Courses that have places available are indicated on Course Search by the annotation 'x' after a course title. More information for applicants is available at wwwucas.com/students/offers/extra where they can watch the UCAStv video 'How to use Extra'.

POINTS OF INFORMATION-FEBRUARY 2011

SPEAKERS

- » Enniscorthy VEC-3rd February
- » NUI Maynooth (Fifth Years)-8th February

HPAT

Test will take place on Saturday 26th February.

SUBJECT CHOICE

Ms Fallon will be speaking to first and fourth year students over the next few weeks regarding subject choice. Should any parent wish to discuss their daughter's subject choice with the Guidance Counsellor, please do not hesitate to contact the school to arrange an appointment.

MOCKS

The Guidance & Counselling Department wishes the best of luck to all exam students.

Happy New Year

from the Guidance & Counselling Department

POINTS OF INFORMATION-JANUARY 2011

January and February are always very busy months for students. It's UCAS and CAO time, Mock Exams for Leaving Certs and Junior Certs. UCAS application deadline is January 15th. Students who apply to the CAO by January 20th will avail of a discounted application fee of €30.

The normal closing date for CAO is February 1st @ 5.15 p.m.

HPAT

For students who will take the HPAT (Health Professions Admission Test) on 26th February, please ensure that you have done the practice test which will take you 100 minutes. The general advice on taking HPAT should be read as it contains some very good tips and advice. A copy of the practice test is available in the Guidance Counsellor's office or you may obtain your own copy at www.hpat-ireland.acer.edu.au.

EXEMPTION IN IRISH/THIRD LANGUAGE

Students who are exempted from Irish and/or a third language are reminded to download forms from www.nui.ie and to send completed forms to the NUI (National University of Ireland). This is essential if you are applying to any of the NUI colleges.

CAMPUS VISIT

Fifth years will be attending UCD on Tuesday, 15th March.

SPEAKERS

A representative from NUI Maynooth will visit the school on Thursday, 27th January and speak to sixth years. The talk will be available to fifth years on Tuesday, 8th February.

Paul McDonald, civil engineer and member of the Executive Council of Engineers, Ireland will speak to sixth years on Friday, 28th January.

A representative from NUI Galway will speak to sixth years on 31st January.

POST LEAVING CERT COURSES (PLC'S)

Applications should now be made to Colleges of Further Education. Each College has a separate application form. Most of the Colleges have websites and some have facilities for applying on-line. Please see Guidance Counsellor for more information.

A representative from Enniscorthy Vocational College will visit the school on Wednesday, 26th January and speak to sixth years about PLC applications.

DATS RESULTS

DATS results will be posted home this week. Ms Fallon will start meeting first and fourth years re: subject choice.

POINTS OF INFORMATION - DECEMBER 2010

SPEAKERS

- » Nursing (WIT)-3rd Dec
- » NUI Maynooth-15th Dec
- » NUI Galway-16th Dec
- » UCC-17th Dec

OPEN DAYS

- » Trinity-1st Dec
- » Wexford Campus-2nd Dec
- » WIT-7th Dec

SIXTH YEARS

Reminder re early closing date for CAO-20th January. By now sixth years have registered and have received their CAO numbers.

HEAR & DARE PROGRAMMES

Sixth years must indicate on their CAO application if they wish to be considered for either programme. Further details available from Ms Fallon or online at www.accesscollege.ie.

HPAT

Sixth years intending to apply for Medicine must register online for the HPAT. Practice booklets available from Guidance Counsellor.

UCAS

Best of luck to sixth years attending interviews in the UK for UCAS places.

POINTS OF INFORMATION - OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2010

NUI MAYNOOTH OPEN DAY- SATURDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

Ardcavan Coaches will provide a bus service to Maynooth for students attending the open day. The bus will depart Wexford at 9am. Return fare is €8. For further

information you can contact the bus operator, Ardcavan Coaches on 053-9122561.

UCD AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NUTRITION

UCD are organising an information evening for students who wish to hear more about their Agricultural Science and Human Nutrition programmes. The Wexford Information evening will be held on Wednesday, 24th November @ 7.30 pm in the Riverside Park Hotel, Enniscorthy.

Pre booking is essential by ringing (01) 7167194 or by emailing agandvet@ucd.ie.

SPEAKERS

- » Mater Dei Institute-Wednesday 3rd November
- » DCU-Monday 8th November
- » Mary Immaculate, Limerick-22nd November

CAO REGISTRATION

CAO online application facility opens on Wednesday, 3rd November. Sixth years are encouraged to register their details as soon as possible. Once students have registered they will be issued with their CAO number.

POINTS OF INFORMATION - SEPTEMBER 2010

OPEN DAYS

- » Kildalton College - 1st October
- » National University of Ireland, Galway - 1st & 2nd October
- » UCC - Saturday, 9th October
- » Institute of Art and Design (IADT) - 26th & 27th November
- » Shannon College of Hotel Management - 12th October
- » IT Tralee - 12th November
- » University of Limerick/ LIT/ Mary Immaculate College - 12th & 13th October
- » Senior College Dun Laoghaire - 10th November
- » WIT - 7th December
- » Royal College of Surgeons - 4th January 2011

SPEAKERS

- » DCU - 30th September
- » Mary Immaculate College - 6th October
- » WIT (Business) - 11th October

UCAS

Applications are under way from sixth years interested in applying for college courses in the UK. Closing date is January 31st 2011.

CAO

CAO packs have been delivered to school and have been distributed to all sixth

years.

The application fee is €40. Students submitting an online application before 20th January will be required to pay a discounted application fee of €30.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM

Students with a disability or specific learning difficulty will be able to complete their own section of the SIF when they apply online. Students 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 the CAO.

HIGHER EDUCATION ACCESS ROUTE (HEAR)

Students 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. The website www.accesscollege.ie is also a good source of information.

HIGHER OPTIONS

Sixth years enjoyed a very beneficial visit to the Higher Options Careers Exhibition in the RDS.

It was an excellent opportunity to visit college stands, attend lectures and to speak to college representatives.

UCD ENGINEERING OPEN EVENING

UCD Engineering Open Evening - Hotel Kilkenny, Thursday 28th October @ 7 p.m.
The event is open to Leaving Certificate honours mathematical students, teachers and parents, with formal presentations on UCD Engineering degrees.

To register please email eng.arch@ucd.ie or call 01 7161868.