



**INFORMATION EVENING**  
**St. Joseph's Secondary School**  
**Monday 9th November 2014**

# CAO Information Evening

- Alternatives to CAO: Siobhán Mc Nally
- SUSI Grants Scheme: Evelyn Daly
- Applying to College through the CAO: Judith Caffery, NUI Maynooth



# There is a Course for Everyone

- Apprenticeships: SOLAS
- PLC Courses: DIFE: Level 5 & 6
- CAO Institutes of Technology:
- Level 6 (2-yr Higher Certificate)
- Level 7 (3-yr Ordinary Degree)
- Level 8 (3 or 4yr Honours Degree)
- CAO Universities: Level 8 (Honours Degrees)

# Key Websites

- [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)
- [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)
- [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)
- Courses in the North of Ireland & UK  
[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)
- Information on studying abroad [www.eunicas.ie](http://www.eunicas.ie)
- Dare/Hear Schemes [www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie)

# Private Colleges

- Dublin Business School, Griffith College, Independent College.
- Points needed significantly lower
- Cost €5,500 euros a year (- 20% tax)

# UCAS Fees

- England
  - £9000
- Wales
  - £3575 to be topped up by Government grant
- Northern Ireland
  - £3575
- Scotland
  - Free fees
- Some health-related courses subsidised by NHS

# Applying through [UCAS.com](https://ucas.com)

- Apply on line through the school
- Application fee £12 for 1 course & £23 > 1
- Closing date for most courses is in mid January
- Personal Statement
- School Reference and Predicted Grades
- Provisional offers made in Feb/ March
- Confirmation of offer based on your Leaving Cert Results in August

# Studying Abroad and on Continent

- [www.eunicas.ie](http://www.eunicas.ie)
- Some courses taught through English
- Scandinavian Countries: Free Fees but cost of living is very high
- Netherlands: Fees around €1,950 per year
- Pay €25 fee to Eunicas for assistance
- Studying Medicine or Veterinary in Poland, Czech Rep, etc, through English
- About €9,000+ per year for prestige courses
- Entrance test: Chemistry and Biology
- Degree recognised within EU
- USA – [www.fulbright.ie](http://www.fulbright.ie) Expensive – need scholarship and sponsorship



# PLC Courses in Ireland

Fee: €500 year

- Stepping stone to Third Level or to a job.
- Level 5 courses (+ 1 year extra= Level 6)
- Links between PLCs and Third Level Colleges
- Top students from Liberal Arts course in DIFE can get into First Year Arts NUI Maynooth, NUI Galway, etc.
- Many students go from PLCs to Institutes of Technology or to Universities

# Examples of PLC Colleges

- **DIFE:**

- Motor mechanics
- Multimedia
- Pre-Nursing
- Technology
- Business
- Sport,etc

- **O Fiaich College:**

- Art Portfolio,
- Engineering,
- ICT
- Caring Courses

- **Ballyfermot College of Further**

- **Education:**

- Music,
- Film,
- Animation

- **Coláiste Íde, Finglas:**

- Soccer camp,
- Chef

- **Coláiste Dhúlaigh:**

- Journalism,
- Theatre Design,
- Hotel & Catering

# How Do You Apply to a PLC?

- Apply directly to each PLC College individually, on line
- PPS Number required
- Medical card number (if applicable)
- Called for Interview in March/April/May
- Conditional Offer of place depending on your Leaving Cert results (3 -5 passes+)
- PLC Courses €500, plus cost of materials.

