# St. Ciaran's Community School Leaving Certificate Subject Choice



February 2019



Motivation is a better indicator of Academic Success than I.Q.

### **Useful Websites**

guidanceoffice.info curriculumonline.ie qualifax.ie careersportal.ie cao.ie









#### Central Applications Office Search Site...

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FAQ

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frequently asked questions.

The Central Applications Office processes applications for undergraduate courses in Irish Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Decisions on admissions to undergraduate courses are made by the HEIs who instruct CAO instit to make offers to sucessful candidates.

Apply on-line before 20th January for a reduced fee of €25.

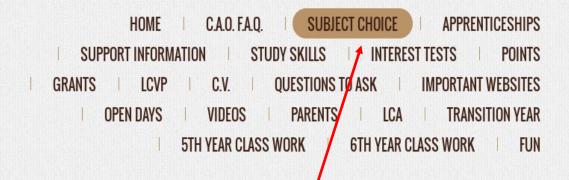
Need Help?

Demo Application Application to become more familiar with the application process.

Apply online by this date to avail of the discounted fee of €25

Normal closing date for applications (17:15)

### **Guidance Office**





St. Ciaran's Community School Guidance Department

Click Here

email: info@guidanceoffice.info

#### Subject Choice in Kells

Subject choice may determine the career decisions you make, so carefully choosing which subjects to study after the Junior Certificate is vitally important.

#### **Basic Requirements**

Almost all third level Universities and Colleges lay down basic entry requirements. Generally, you must have a pass in English, Maths and sometimes Irish and a foreign language in order to study there. These requirements even apply when the third-level course you have selected doesn't involve any further study of those subjects. For example, you will still need a pass in Maths even if you want to study Forestry! What the Universities and Colleges are really saying by imposing these requirements is that they want students to have a well-rounded and balanced education before they embark on further study.

Likewise, if you want to enter the workforce directly after school, then your employer may want to see evidence of a good overall education before they check specific subjects. Beyond these basic requirements, there can be a big difference between course requirements so it's a good idea to do some homework first (sorry!). Having said that, you're unlikely to be stuck with a specific career by choosing certain subjects.

#### Promotion of the Sciences

STEM Promotional Brochure

STEM Video

#### Some Useful Documentation:

**Teaching Council Requirements** 

For a list of LVCP Subject Groupings click here.

LCVP Powerpoint Presentation here.

Colleges that do/don't accept LVCP, and Foundation Level Maths here.

For a copy of the 2019 Presentation on Subject Choice for Senior Cycle click here.

For a full outline of the Leaving Certificate Subjects available please click here.

Click Here

For information on Project Maths click here.

N.U.I. Matriculation requirements here.

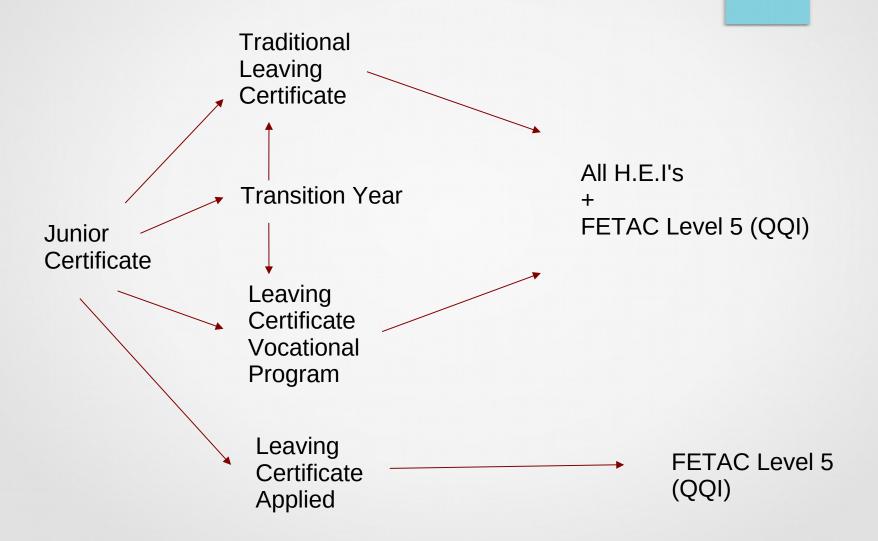
#### Leaving Certificate Applied:

For a brief presentation click here.

SLSS Brochure page one here. SLSS Brochure page two here.

Overview of Leaving Certificate Applied for parents here.

### **Further Study Options**



%	L.C. Grade	Honours L.C. Grade		Ordinary	Bonus*
90<100	H1	100 O1		56	25
80<90	H2	88	O2	46	25
70<80	Н3	77	O3	37	25
60<70	H4	66	O4	28	25
50<60	Н5	56	O5	20	25
40<50	Н6	46	O6	12	25
30<40	H7	37	O7	0	0
0<30	Н8	0	O8	0	0

# Sample Calculation

Subject	Level	Grade	Score
Irish	Honours	H1	100
English	Ordinary	O1	56
Maths	Honours	Н3	77+25= <b>102</b>
Physics	Honours	H2	88
Biology	Honours	H5	56
D.C.G.	Ordinary	O2	46

### **Accompanying Conditions:**

- The six best results in one Leaving Certificate Examination will be counted for points computation.
- One sitting only of the Leaving Certificate Examination will be counted for points purposes.
- In the case of **Foundation Level Mathematics**, or **Foundation Level Irish**, some HEIs may not award the points shown. If in any doubt, check with the Admissions Office of the appropriate HEIs.
- Matriculation for **Medicine** must be completed in the year of application.

### Getting into college

General Requirements Specific Course Requirements

**Points** 

6 Subjects

2 H5s

English, Irish & A Language

None

1300 Places

320 Points

ARTS – Maynooth University

### Researching Subject Choice with Qualifax





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#### Students Information

Are you looking for the widest range of education and training programmes? Are you considering further



#### Adult Learners

Thinking of returning to education / training? Qualifax has all the information you need about a wide



#### Guidance Professionals

There is specific information and materials available to support your work with others.



#### Parents & Family

Is your son or daughter considering continuing their studies? Is an adult in your house thinking of returning to

#### Welcome to Qualifax

Qualifax is Ireland's National Learners' Database. It is the "one stop shop" for learners. We provide the most comprehensive information on further and higher education and training courses. Qualifax has developed services to ensure that you have all the information you need to make informed choices about your education, training and career paths.

Your Browser

The Qualifax site is best viewed using Internet Explorer 7, or higher. Using other browsers may not work properly or may lead to unpredictable results.





Courses



Take an Interest Assessment



Check a Qualification

Here

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#### **Featured Content**



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# In this section ....

- For Parents & Family
- **Frequently Asked Questions**
- How to use Qualifax
- Support and Advice
- **Useful Tools**

### Parents & Family

Is your son or daughter considering continuing their studies? Is an adult in your house thinking of returning to education?

There are lots of questions to consider when someone in your family is thinking of continuing or restarting their education or training. It may be your son or daughter who is making choices about what courses or programmes interest them. An adult in your house might want to return to education, be looking for ways to improve their skills or simply wishes to learn more about a hobby or leisure interest.

Regardless of who it is, Qualifax aims to help you support that person to make informed choices. Use the menu on the left hand side to find out more.





#### What do NFQ levels mean?

Not sure how the education and training system has changed in recent years?

#### Do we qualify for a grant?

Start here to get all the information you need on what grants might be available to you if your child is considering Higher Education

Click Here

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# In this section ....

- For Parents & Family
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- Support and Advice
- **Useful Tools**

Interest Assessment

Interest Assessment follow up

Minimum Subject Requirements

Points Calculator

#### Useful Tools

#### There are a number of useful tools

The Points Calculator is particularly relevant to students who have not yet taken their Leaving Certificate. You can enter your expected results to see how they compare to the points required by applicants in recent years.

The Interest Assessment is suitable for everyone to give an indication of areas or types of work that would match your interests.

Minimum Subject requirements provides an easy way to see the effect of taking / not taking particular subjects at Junior or Leaving Certificate.

Click on the links in red above, or use the menu on the left.



#### What do NFO levels mean?

Not sure how the education and training system has changed in recent years?

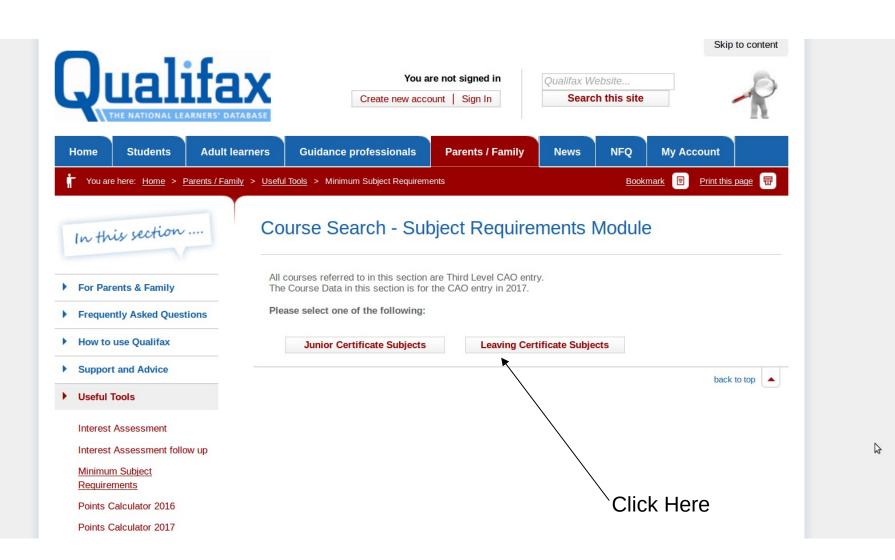
#### Do we qualify for a grant?

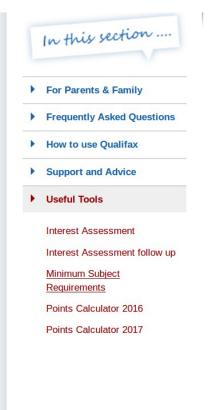
Start here to get all the information you need on what grants might be available to you if your child is considering Higher Education

back to top

Where are the Jobs?

Click Here



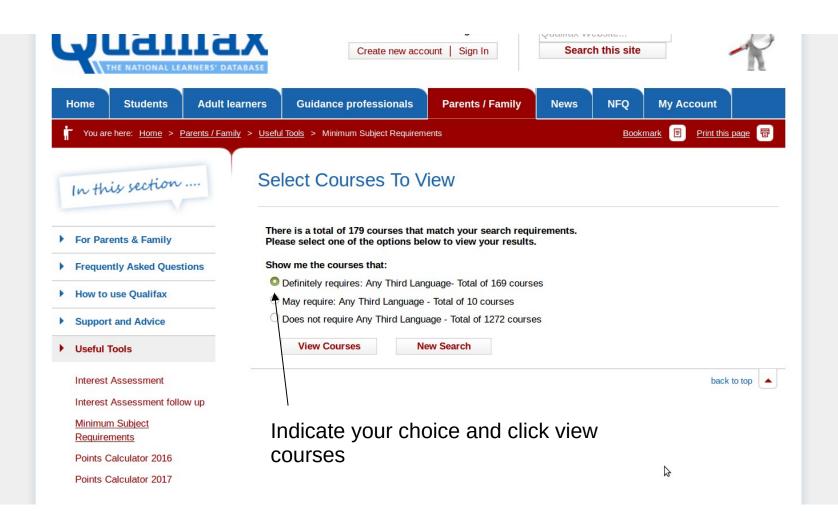


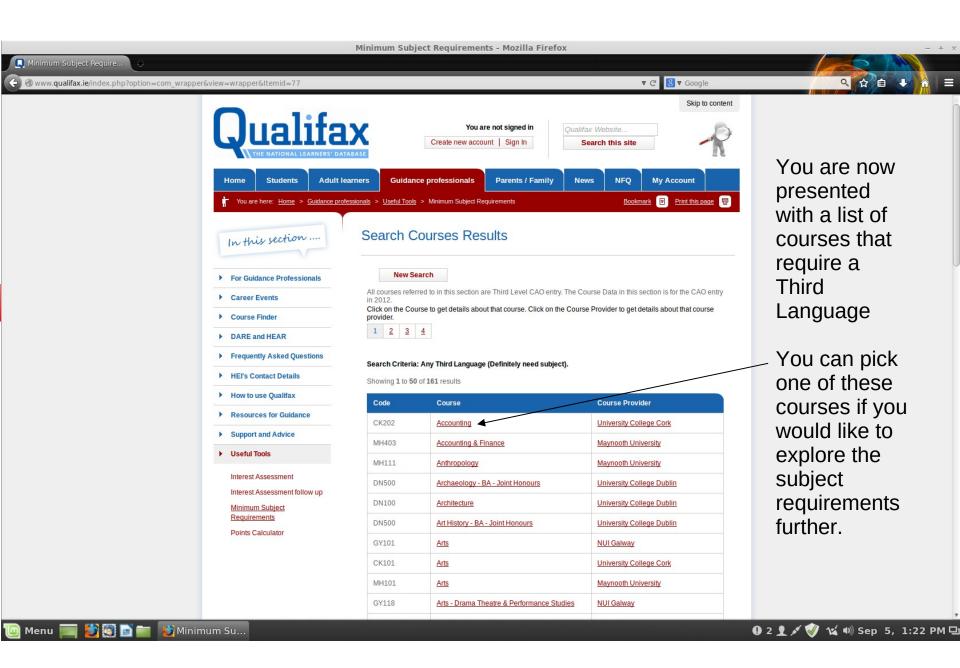
CAO code:

#### Subject Requirements Module View Search Help Return to Main Menu Show me 3rd level courses which may or Any may not require the following Subject: Narrow down your list of courses using one or a combination of the following: Only show courses from Any this CAO course provider: Only show Any courses offered in this Province: Only show courses offered Any in this county: Only show the course with this

and Click Here

Select a subject you are interested in





- For Parents & Family
- ▶ Frequently Asked Questions
- How to use Qualifax
- Support and Advice
- **Useful Tools**

Interest Assessment

Interest Assessment follow up

Minimum Subject Requirements

Points Calculator 2016

Points Calculator 2017

#### University College Cork



Back to search results

**▼** Course Details

Accounting

		Now you have
Course Name	Accounting	the specific
Course Provider	University College Cork	requirements
Course Code	CK202	of an
Minimum	2115 8 400/117	individual
Subjects	2 H5 & 4 O6/H7	course.
Leaving Certificate Entry Requirements	H5 in two subjects, and O6/H7 in four other subjects from Irish, English, and Maths and two other subjects recognised for entry purposes.  To compete for a place as a school leaver, an applicant must satisfy the min requirements as well as any specific programme requirements, and then corbasis of the results obtained in their school leaving examinations.  Applicants may combine results achieved in different sittings for the purpose the minimum entry requirements for programmes, with the exception of Medi However, results achieved in separate years of school-leaving exams may recombined for the purpose of scoring points.  Leaving Certificate applicants compete on the basis of a Points scheme.	imum entry mpete on the e of meeting icine (CK701).

**New Search** 

### What Influences Subject Choice

- Perceived as being 'easy' or 'hard'
- Likes/dislikes the **teacher**, or the teacher they think will be teaching them
- Friends/parents/significant others such as siblings
- Needing the subject for course/career choice after the Leaving Cert
- Being good at the subject attainment in JC
- Likes/dislikes the subject enthusiasm & interest

### Essential Subjects (or non-essential)

- You don't need Design and Communication Graphics to become an Architect
- You don't need Engineering to be an Engineer
- You don't need Biology to be a Nurse
- You don't need Accountancy to become an Accountant
- You don't need Business to take a Management Degree
- You don't need a Modern Language for Primary School Teaching
- You don't even need Italian to study Italian in Trinity!

### Watch for Subjects with a 'practical element'

Art
Construction
Engineering
DCG
History
Home Economics
Geography

62% practical 38% final exam 50% practical 50% final exam 50% practical 50% final exam 40% practical 60% final exam 20% project 80% final exam 20% project 80% final exam 20% fieldtrip 80% final exam

### **Obligatory Subjects**

English

2 levels: — Ordinary

Irish\*

Maths

Higher

3 levels: Ordinary

Foundation

\* May have an exemption

### **Optional Subjects: Five Areas**

# 17 subjects to choose from

- Language
- Science
- Business
- Social Studies
- Applied Science



### **Language Options**

- Irish
- English
- French
- German
- Latvian / Lithuanian / Polish

### Irish

A requirement for entry to UCD, Maynooth, Galway, Shannon College of Hotel Management, Royal College of Surgeons, St. Angela's College of Education, the Institute of Public Administration and UC Cork.

For entry to the Garda Siochana you must have a proven proficiency in two languages; one of which must be Irish or English

In Ireland you need a H4 or better in Honours Irish to become a primary school teacher.

Satisfies the requirement of a modern language for entry to Trinity College, and as a language, other than English, for entry to the University of Limerick (UL) and Dublin City University (DCU).

You no longer require Irish for entry to post-primary teaching, unless you want to teach in an all-Irish school, or you want to teach Irish as one of your subjects.

Remember - there are still no points for Foundation Level Irish.

### **English**

Check with teachers about movement from honours to ordinary level.

All universities, colleges and employers require English at pass level, other colleges will take Irish or English.

Don't fail Honours English.

Higher English is required for a handful of courses in areas such as Journalism, Multimedia, Communications, Media Studies, Legal Studies and Speech Therapy. (Psychology in UK Courses.)

### Languages

An increase in courses such as business that have a modern language as part of the course.

You may need it as a matriculation requirement for the NUI Colleges (Ordinary Level only).

You also need it if you are interested in the Cadets.

Language is obviously an important requirement for courses such as European Studies, Tourism, Languages and Marketing.

A Modern European Language is not required for Nursing, Primary School Teaching, Science, Ag. Science or Engineering even at University level. (Nor for Business & Law in NUI Maynooth.)

The best advice would be not to take a language if you have struggled with it up to now.

French and German are available. Students may also sign up for the Leaving Certificate Polish exam among others.

### Science Area

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Mathematics
- Agricultural Science
- Applied Mathematics

### Biology / Chemistry / Physics

Courses that require a science subject include engineering and medical courses, paramedical courses such as biomedical science, dentistry, occupational therapy, pharmacy, physiotherapy, radiography and human nutrition.

You may pursue a course in, science, technology, engineering or maths at an Institute of Technology without a science subject, but ask if it might be a disadvantage.

If a career in medicine or nursing is high on your list you should think in terms of Chemistry and Biology.

Two science subjects are required for Medicine and Dentistry in Trinity College, Dublin.

Interested in engineering then Physics and Chemistry should both be considered.

Biology is desirable but not necessary for those who wish to study Nursing. Students who opt for the Biology Elective for Home Economics Training in St. Angela's must pass Biology. (Note even P.E. with Biology in DCU will accept Physics or Chemistry).

# **Appliance of Science**

#### **COLLEGE SUBJECTS**

# Leaving Certificate Science Subjects in order of importance to college subject

2

		1	2	3
BIOLOGIC	AL SCIENCES	Biology	Chemistry	Mathematics
Biology	Horticulture			
Agriculture	Marine Biology			
CHEMICA	AL SCIENCES	Chemistry	Mathematics	Physics
Chemistry	Biochemistry			
Chem. Engineering	Medicinal Chem.			
PHYSICA	L SCIENCES	Physics	Mathematics	Chemistry
Physics	Astronomy			
⊟ectronics	Computing			
ENGI	NEERING	Mathematics	Physics	Chemistry
Civil	Mechanical			
Aeronautical	⊟ectrical			
MEDICA	L SCIENCES	Chemistry	Biology	Physics
Pharmacy	Nursing			
Opthalmic Optics	Nutrition			
MEDICINE	/ DENTISTRY	Chemistry	Physics	Biology
Medicine	Dentistry			
Vet. Medicine		British Associatio	n for the Advanceme	nt of Science

1

### Maths / Applied Maths

Mathematics is a requirement for a great number of jobs and courses.

A grade O3 or better in Ordinary Level Maths is required for many Science or Commerce courses at University. This reflects the level of Mathematics that has to be studied as part of the course.

Maths is required by relatively few courses (57), the majority of which are Honours Engineering Degrees.

Foundation Maths is acceptable for many Careers. Some Colleges will allow it where no Maths is involved in the course, but may not award any points for it. Some employers will accept it for apprenticeships. Most PLC courses will also accept it, the exceptions being Accounting Technician and Pre-University courses.

Foundation Maths is acceptable for places on Arts, Music, Social Science and Law Degrees in the N.U.I. Colleges, as well as small number of courses in DCU.

Honours Applied Maths fulfills the Honours Maths requirement for Engineering & Computing courses in DCU.

### **Business Area**

- Accounting\*
- Business
- Economics

Not compulsory for any Business, Management or Commerce course at third level

\* One exception Commerce & Accounting in N.U.I. Galway

### **Social Studies**

- History
- Geography
- Art
- Music

### History / Geography

#### **HISTORY**

Even though history is not essential for entry to any third-level course, nonetheless, the study of history contributes enormously to an all-round education.

Very helpful for the study of Law, Politics or Journalism.

#### **GEOGRAPHY:**

Although Geography is not essential for entry to third-level courses, in Trinity College it is accepted as one of the H5 grades for entry to both Science and Pharmacy. While in UCD Geography may be used as a laboratory science subject for entry to Science / Archaeology & Geology programmes.

### Art / History

#### ART (including Crafts):

Although art is not specified as an entry requirement for **all** Colleges of Art, a portfolio of work is an essential element for application.

Many students take a year out to complete a portfolio preparation course in order to try and enhance their chances of getting a place in Art College.

National College of Art and Design require a pass in Art or a language.

#### **MUSIC**

At the moment Music can only be taken as a subject outside of school.

If you intend to study music at third level you need to check to see which courses specify a grade in music.

Expect to be asked to attend a special music test or audition if applying for courses in Music.

Watch for Irish Music & Dance in UL.

### **Applied Science**

- Engineering
- Design & Communication Graphics
- Construction Studies
- Home Economics (Scientific & Social)

### **Home Economics**

Search Criteria: Subject Home Economics. (Might need subject).

Showing 1 to 6 of 6 results

Code	Course	Course Provider
DT405	Culinary Science	TU Dublin - Dublin City Campus
AS003	Education Home Economics & Irish with concurrent Teacher Education	St. Angela's College Sligo
AS002	Education Home Economics & Religious Education with concurrent Teacher Education	St. Angela's College Sligo
DT421	Food Innovation	TU Dublin - Dublin City Campus
DT424	Food Science & Management	TU Dublin - Dublin City Campus
DT219	Ophthalmic Dispensing	TU Dublin - Dublin City Campus

		Programme Entry Requirements						Points (minimum)		Approx
CAO Code	Programme Title		English	Other Language	Maths	Laboratory Science Subject	Additional Matric Subjects	2018 Round 2	2017 Final	No of Places 2019
DN100	Architecture (1)	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7		2	490	486	54
DN120	Landscape Architecture	O6/H7	O6/H7		O6/H7		3	354	348	25
DN130	City Planning and Environmental Policy	O6/H7	O6/H7		O6/H7		3	362	N/A	25
DN150	Engineering (2)	O6/H7	O6/H7		H4	H6 <sup>(3)</sup>	2	509*	489	260
DN200	Science (2)(5)	O6/H7	O6/H7		O2/H6	O2/H6 <sup>(3)(4)</sup>	2	519	505	400
DN201	Computer Science	O6/H7	O6/H7		O2/H6		3	477	466	105
DN230	Actuarial and Financial Studies	O6/H7	O6/H7		H2		3	566	577	47
DN250	Agricultural Science (6)	O6/H7	O6/H7		O6/H7	O6/H7 <sup>(3)</sup>	2	451	454	175
DN252	Dairy Business	O6/H7	O6/H7		O6/H7	O6/H7 <sup>(3)</sup>	2	429	401	22
DN253	Agri-Environmental Sciences	O6/H7	O6/H7		O6/H7	O6/H7 <sup>(3)</sup>	2	397	408	26
DN261	Food Science	O6/H7	O6/H7		O6/H7	O6/H7 <sup>(3)</sup>	2	484	462	45
DN262	Human Nutrition	O6/H7	O6/H7		O6/H7	O6/H7 <sup>(3)</sup>	2	521	498	33
DN271	Forestry	O6/H7	O6/H7		O6/H7	O6/H7 <sup>(3)</sup>	2	321	292	15
DN272	Horticulture, Landscape & Sportsturf Management	O6/H7	O6/H7		O6/H7	O6/H7 <sup>(3)</sup>	2	AQA	228	15
DN300	Veterinary Medicine (Undergraduate Entry) (7)(8)(9)(10)	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	Chemistry H5	1	555*	555*	82
DN301	Veterinary Medicine (Graduate Entry) (8)(9)(10)	See www.ucd.ie/grad_entry for details							5	
DN310	Veterinary Nursing	O6/H7	O6/H7		O6/H7	O6/H7 <sup>(3)</sup>	2	465*	467	44
DN400	Medicine (Undergraduate Entry) (8) (11)	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7 <sup>(3)</sup>	1	732*	734	90
DN401	Medicine (Graduate Entry) (8)(10)	See www.ucd.ie/grad_entry for details					58*	59*	77	
DN410	Radiography	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7 <sup>(3)</sup>	1	507	498*	97
DN420	Physiotherapy <sup>(10)</sup>	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7 <sup>(3)</sup>	1	552*	552	56
DN425	Health & Performance Science	O6/H7	O6/H7		O6/H7	O6/H7 <sup>(3)</sup>	2	487*	496	40

# Skill shortages



- Professionals/associate professionals
  - ICT (software developers, cloud, databases/big data, testing, security, technical support, networking and infrastructure)
  - Engineering (production, process, quality, validation, product design/development, electronic, electrical, mechanical and chemical)
  - Science (analytical development chemist, formulation scientist, microbiologist, QC analyst/validation technician)
  - Business & finance (risk, compliance, accounting, business intelligence, data analytics)
  - Health (doctors, nurses, radiographers, niche area specialists (e.g. prosthetists, radiation therapists, audiologists), managers)
  - Construction (surveyors, project managers)
- Clerical (multilingual financial clerks in fund accounting/administration, credit controllers, payroll specialists)
- Skilled trades (chefs, tool making, welding (TIG, MIG), butchers/de-boners, steel-erector)
- Sales (technical sales, multilingual customer support)
- Operatives (CNC, drivers (fork lift and special vehicle))
- Retention issues (care. chefs. butchers/de-boners. elementary)

# Advice

- Select your 6 best for points
- If you have a specific career in mind, check out the exact requirements
- Where possible start with **Honours** Level
- Your choices should not totally depend on which **teacher** is teaching a certain subject
- The Leaving Certificate is a full-time two year course
- Where a mistake is made rectify it as soon as possible
- Beware of the 'easy' and 'hard' subject

### More Advice

- Talk to students studying subjects at the moment
- Talk to teachers of the subject
- Look at a copy of the textbook
- Look at a copy of the Leaving Certificate Exam Papers for the subject in question

# And Finally...

Any Questions?

info@guidanceoffice.info

