**Mentor Pack – Session 5**

Your main goal as a mentor for this session is to introduce your students to the CAO application process and have them make some preliminary choices before their making their actual mock application online after the next session.

**Activity: Mentee Course Preferences (30 mins)**

Have your mentees present to the group on their first preference course. When each presentation is finished encourage the group to ask questions. If none are forthcoming, ask some prompting questions of your own. Some examples are given below.

* Why did they pick that particular college?
* Were there other similar courses available in other colleges?
* If they included additional information beyond the questions given, why did they think it was interesting/relevant?
* If they did not include answers to all of the questions given, why? Was it hard to find? Did they not feel it was important when choosing?
* Where did they get most of their information? How did they find it?
* If they used any images, videos etc., why did they choose them?

**Assignment: Mock CAO Choices (5-10 mins)**

Explain briefly to your mentees, the CAO application process. For information on the CAO application process, see the handbook on their website

[www.cao.ie/handbook.php](http://www.cao.ie/handbook.php)

Explain to them that before the next session they must fill in the worksheet attached. Make sure to mention:

* They will only be offered courses if they meet the college subject requirements and the course points and subject/grade requirements.
* They will be offered their highest preference that they qualify for.
* It is important to rank their choices in order of preference not in order of points requirements.
* They should fill in all ten level 8 preferences and all ten level 7/6 preferences even if they think they will get their first/second choice.

**Mentor Assignment**

During the next session you will check in with your Mentees before they make their actual mock application online. In order to help model the process for them, fill in one of the mentee worksheets with your own preferences. You will share these preferences at the start of the next session.

**Mentee Pack – Session 5**

**CAO Course Choices**

Fill in all your level 8 and level 6/7 course choices below. Remember to rank them in order of preference. For more information on the CAO application, have a look at their handbook online

[www.cao.ie/handbook.php](http://www.cao.ie/handbook.php)

Every College Prospectus will include the CAO course codes. You can also find a complete list of course codes for levels 8, 7 & 6 courses at

<http://www.cao.ie/courses.php>

**Level 8 Courses**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Ranking** | **Course Title** | **CAO Course Code** |
| **1** |  |  |
| **2** |  |  |
| **3** |  |  |
| **4** |  |  |
| **5** |  |  |
| **6** |  |  |
| **7** |  |  |
| **8** |  |  |
| **9** |  |  |
| **10** |  |  |

**Level 6/7 Courses**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Ranking** | **Course Title** | **CAO Course Code** |
| **1** |  |  |
| **2** |  |  |
| **3** |  |  |
| **4** |  |  |
| **5** |  |  |
| **6** |  |  |
| **7** |  |  |
| **8** |  |  |
| **9** |  |  |
| **10** |  |  |

**Research Tips:**

Carrersportal.ie has a lot of resources for second level students on possible career paths and college courses:

http://www.careersportal.ie/school/

Each college will have a book(s) containing lists and descriptions of the courses available as well as entry requirements. This book is called the prospectus and can be found online. Below are links to some college prospectus but many more are available both in Ireland and abroad:

Trinity College Dublin (TCD) Prospectus

<http://www.tcd.ie/study/assets/pdf/TCD-Prospectus-2015.pdf>

University College Dublin (UCD) Prospectus

<https://myucd.ucd.ie/undergraduate-prospectus/index.ezc>

Dublin City University Prospectus

<https://www.dcu.ie/prospective/degrees.php>

NUI Maynooth Prospectus

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/study-maynooth/download-prospectus-booklets>

Dublin Institute of Technology Prospectus

<http://www.dit.ie/study/undergraduate/>

University College Cork (UCC) Prospectus

<http://www.ucc.ie/en/study/undergrad/what/download/>