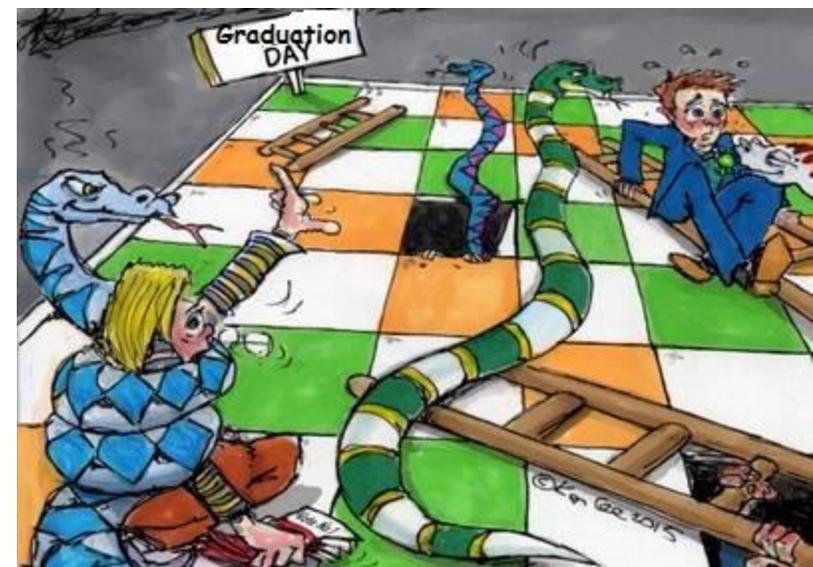


Snakes and ladders in negotiating the next step (CAO, PLC, Apprenticeship, Traineeship, FETCH)



What will **help me** what will **hinder me**?

| CAO | PLC | Apprenticeship | Traineeship | Short/FETCH Crse. |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| Entry requirements. Stay on top of homework and class tests and monitoring p45-62 of Journal. Goals & requirements | Not meeting application deadlines. Check college website and qualifax.ie. Come to Guidance Class. | Having someone or some company to take you on. Being kept on. Start asking around early. Have C.V. done | All eligible, first come first served | Some BTEI exclusive, some not see fetchcourses.ie |
| Points Stay on top of homework and class tests and monitoring p45-62 of Journal & VSWare | Not passing the interview. Dress properly and prepare properly- LINKS, Guidance class etc.. Not passing the Leaving Cert | Not passing the aptitude/Color test for ESB/other...Interview, No contacts, don't have the good reputation. GP Test | Not points based-interview and online/paper application | Not points based-interview and online/paper application |
| Finance Refer to SUSI docs and talk notes | Finance where living away from Home Refer to SUSI docs and talk notes | GET PAID. Need to pass block to get increase | Not paid except BTEI* | €45 allowance? |
| Accommodation book early | Accommodation in Cork Book early | Most live at home | varies | Most live at home |
| On the wrong course. 1/6 drop out of College May move to another course-contact 1 st yr Liason Officer. If change/drop out before Oct 31 st , won't lose next years fees/grant fees. | On the wrong course. Its easy to change path. A PLC level 5 will give entry to most level 6 qualifications even if totally different area/topic. May also move sideways to another course. Just 1/12 drop out in PLC | Don't know which apprenticeship. If not sure which type. Try a pre-apprenticeship or FETCH course to sample the trades | 30% on the job training., similar to apprentices, so you must like this. | Some work experience. Mainly training centre based. Short term before certification |
| Not being responsible for your own learning- Doing your work. Asking for help when needed. | Failing/ Drop out Being responsible for your own learning- Doing your work. Asking for help when you need it. | Not passing block. Asking for help when you need it- college tutor, in work | Attending & Asking for help when needed | Attending & Asking for help. Good for early school leavers |
| Not being focused. Start now by staying on top of homework and class tests and monitoring p45-62 of Journal and VSware | Not being focused. Start now by staying on top of homework, class tests and monitoring p45-62 of Journal. Know module requirements for 3 rd level http://www2.cao.ie/fetac/FETAC_scoring.pdf | Applying isn't getting. Students with H5+ in maths didn't get past ESB aptitude tests | In development so may not be aware of these options | Also good for poor attenders or students with SOI |

Common reasons for dropout

- ▶ **‘The course was not what I expected’**- the student was not doing the tasks that they thought that they would be doing and they did not know what the subjects they went on to study were about before they started
- ▶ **‘It was much harder than I thought it would be’**- very common reason amongst those studying science, engineering, forensics, toxicology, pharmacy, biotechnology. Points indicate demand not level of difficulty. Some with low points are very difficult.
- ▶ **‘There was much more maths in it than I thought and I am useless at maths’**- common in engineering, science, psychology, mechatronics, games design etc...

Common reasons for dropout

- ▶ ‘I never went in for the first 3 weeks, all I did was party’- with semesterization you will have to hand in assignments that count towards your final mark within the first 4 weeks and if you are not on the roll you will lose your grant and you will also fail ‘Continuous Assessment’. **You have to go to lectures!!!!!! CA=Marks for Subject/Module in many cases. Very foolish not to attend- easy marks for showing up and participating**
- ▶ ‘I hadn’t a clue of the course and what the lecturer was on about’- if things are that bad and you are that badly lost you should speak to a lecturer or the careers officer to try and transfer to another course ASAP (before October 31st) & if you want to reapply Through CAO you won’t lose your grant and fees for the next yr

Common reasons for dropout

**Read the course content
and subject content on
qualifax!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**Know what the course (all
10 choices in each box) is
about before you pick it!**

Susi Grant overview

- ▶ I already sent out a link to the eligibility reckoner for SUSI. This tells you whether its worth applying or not, but doesn't tell you what level of grant you are likely to get
- ▶ The reckonable income limits are gross not net (the figure before tax)
- ▶ For details of your income for the year from Jan 2018- Jan 2019 go on to www.revenue.ie where you can get your P20 for the SUSI and for HEAR
- ▶ I have also provided a cost of going to college guide which you can take away with you. If fee or grant eligible, remove this cost from the monthly estimate
- ▶ Susi usually opens in April. We'll send a text to remind you that its open
- ▶ We also cover how to apply in class but do not process financial data in SUSI due to GDPR.
- ▶ PLC courses are covered but some 3rd level colleges are not covered- *American College, Irish College of Humanities & Applied Sciences, College of Computing Technology, Dublin Business School, Dorset College, Galway Business School, Griffith College, ICD Business School, Portobello Institute. Some courses in NCI- e.g. Psychology, Access courses.*

Other payments & Finance

- ▶ Bursaries for certain courses - see www.studentfinance.ie
- ▶ 300 pw leaving care allowance (Tusla & other agencies for all courses and training options)
- ▶ Disability Allowance if student has a disability (available for 16+)
- ▶ 45 euro training allowance applies to Youthreach and some of the FET Courses, as well as NLN if not in receipt of Disability Payment
- ▶ Women in STEM, Sport and Social Entrepreneurship Scholarship
- ▶ The Access Office in the College administers an Access fund and a Hardship Fund for struggling Students. Contact Access Officer or Chaplain in some colleges.
- ▶ If doing trade apprenticeships fixed rates of pay apply for each stage (see handout). The cost of living guide minus the fees will tell you how much it will cost to keep yourself. Sometimes employers provide an allowance when on block release to cover accommodation/digs. Students must pay pro rata registration fees

Useful local & Online Resources

- ▶ www.Susi.ie and susis online application handbook
- ▶ www.studentfinance.ie (grants, bursaries, Access Money etc....)
- ▶ www.revenue.ie (for Susi documents and HEAR documents)
- ▶ www.accesscollege.ie (for HEAR and DARE info)
- ▶ <https://www.clonmelcu.com/> , <https://www.tipperarycu.ie/> (loans, Tipperary one has a bursary)
- ▶ Student's Union webpages and USI (especially accomodation guide)
- ▶ www.qualifax.ie (course directory for course comparison)
- ▶ www.careersportal.ie (help to understand what career/course suit you)
- ▶ Cahir Citizens advice- Drop in Wed 10.30-12.30 in Enterprise Centre (entitlements)