

# 6<sup>th</sup> Year Parents' CAO Talk



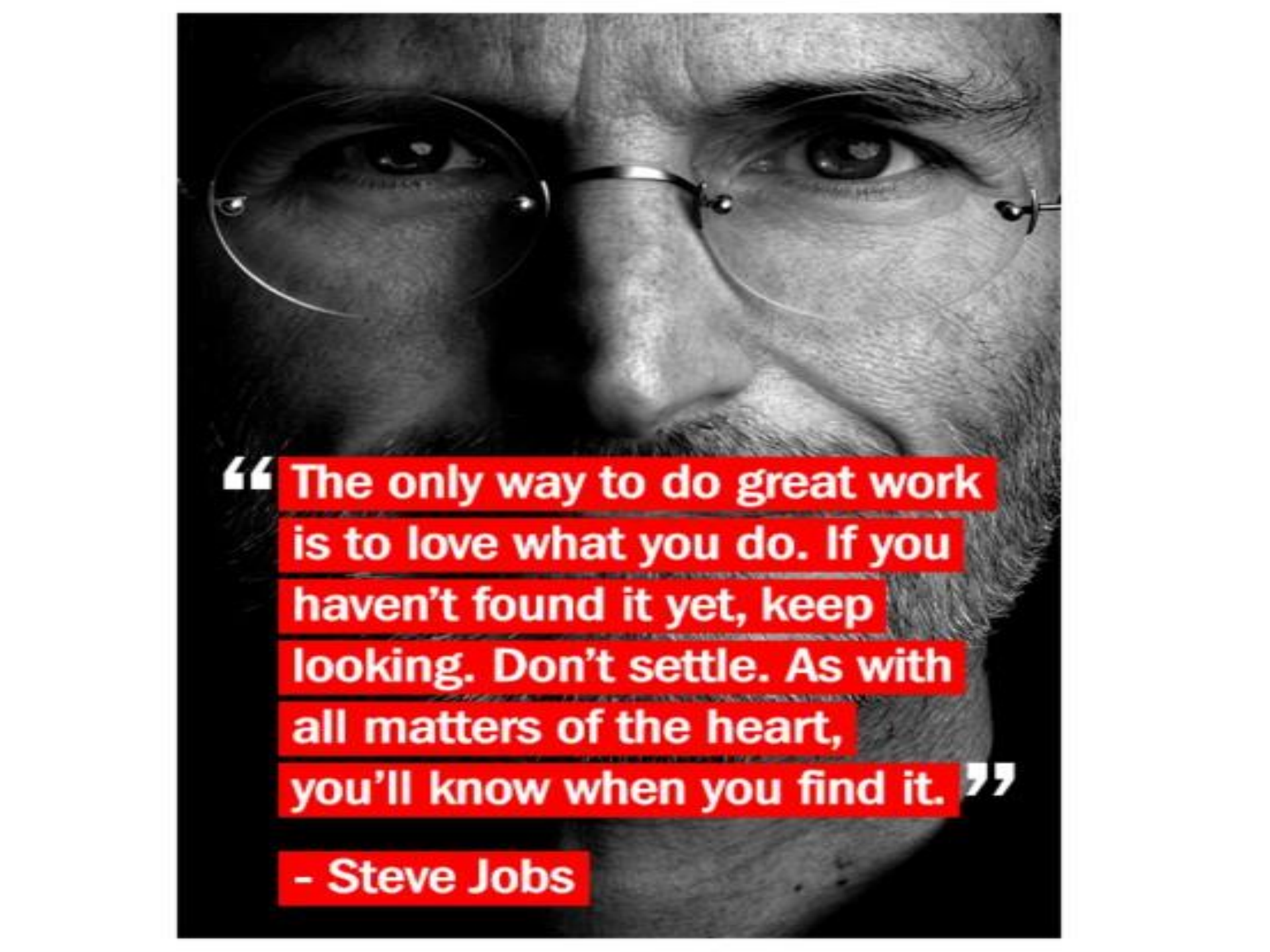
15 November 2016

Nick Menezes

# CAO Talk Outline

- Decision Making.
- National Framework of Qualifications.
- Completing the CAO/UCAS Application forms.
- DARE & HEAR.
- FAQs
- Places in Medicine & HPAT-Ireland
- Support.
- Useful Websites.

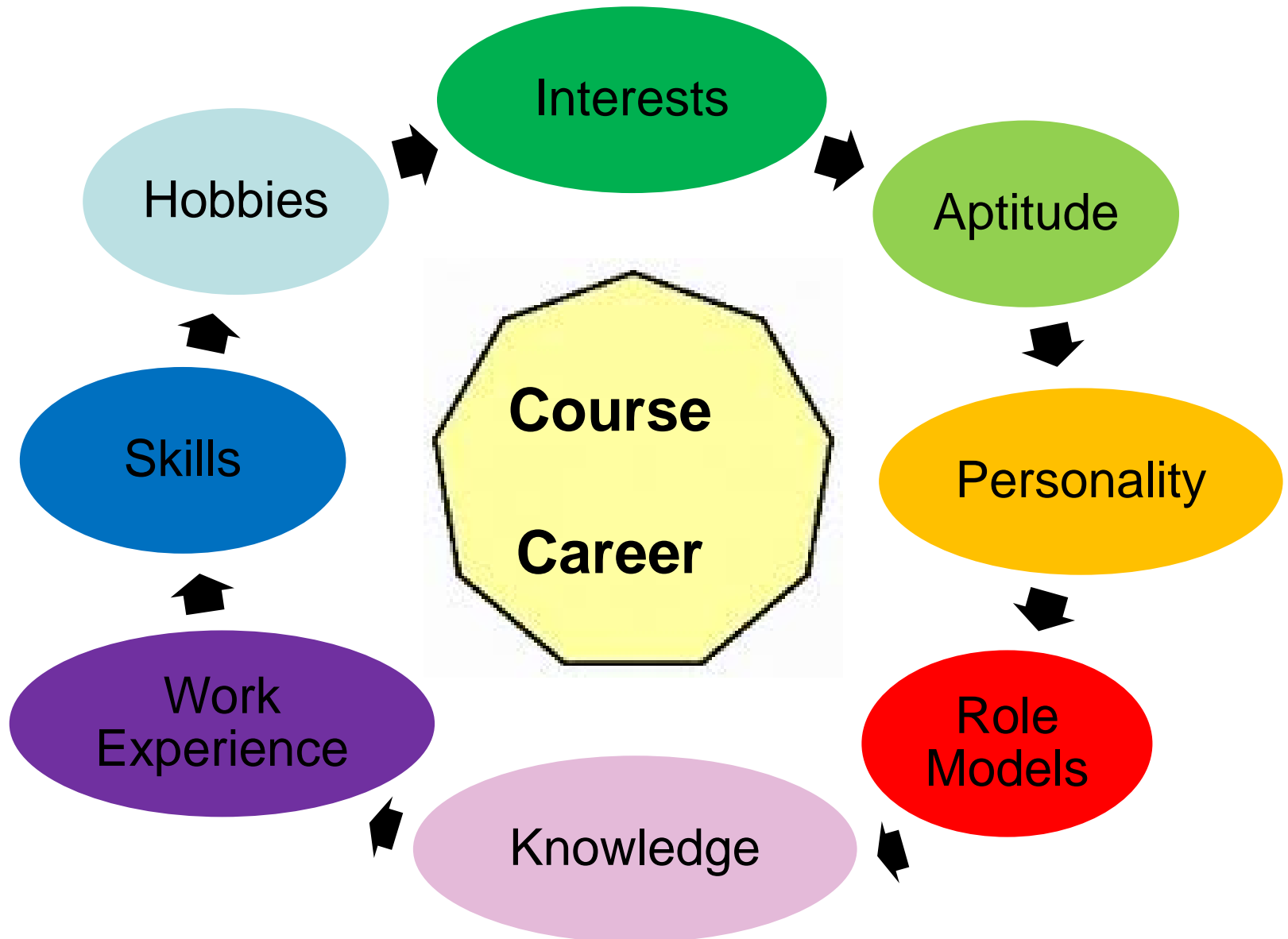


A high-contrast, black and white close-up portrait of Steve Jobs. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight, thoughtful smile. He has his characteristic wild hair and a light beard. He is wearing his signature round, thin-rimmed glasses. The lighting is dramatic, with deep shadows on the sides of his face and under his chin, highlighting the texture of his skin and the frames of his glasses.

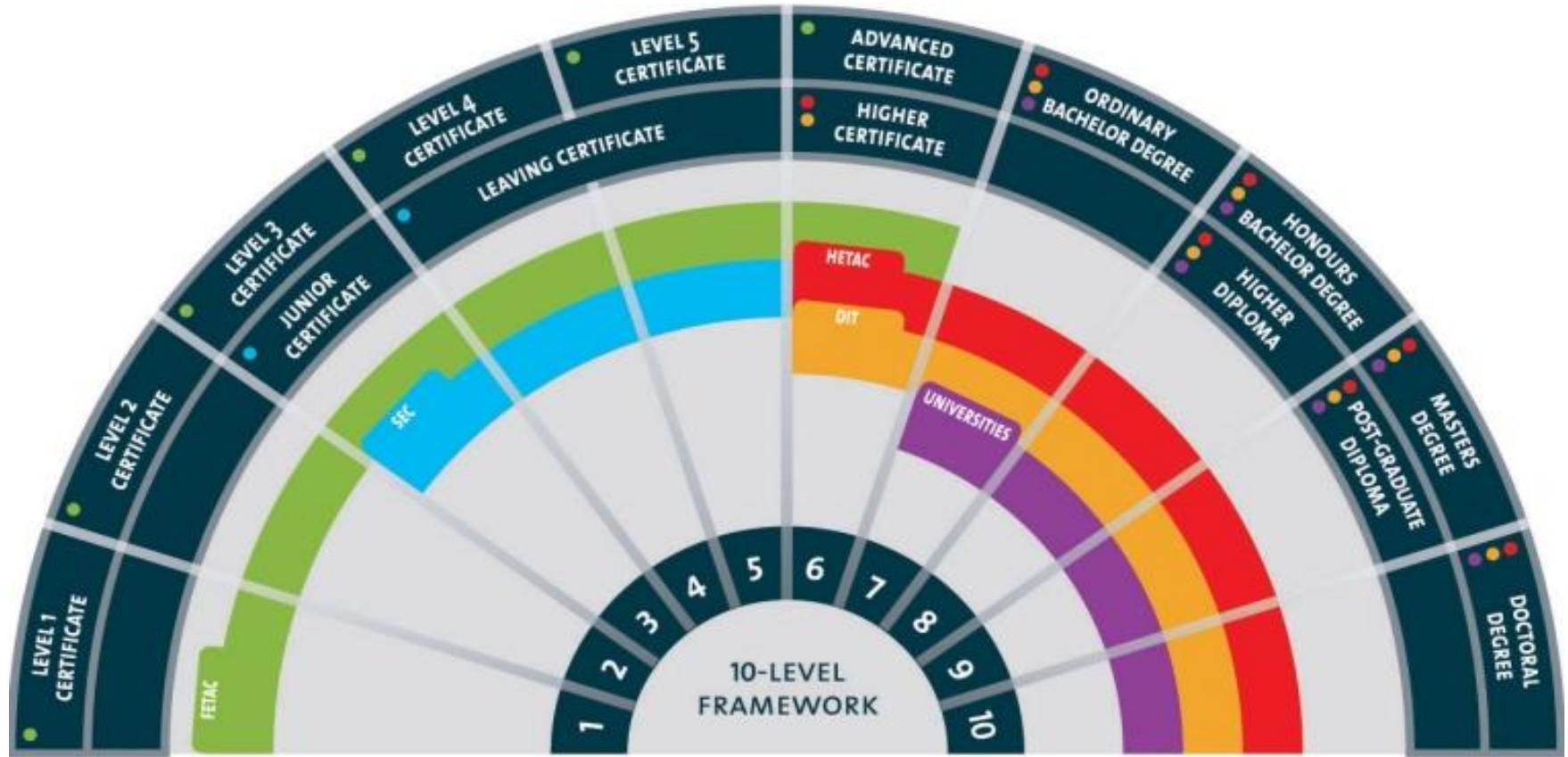
**“ The only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't settle. As with all matters of the heart, you'll know when you find it. ”**

**- Steve Jobs**

# Decision Making



# The National Framework of Qualifications



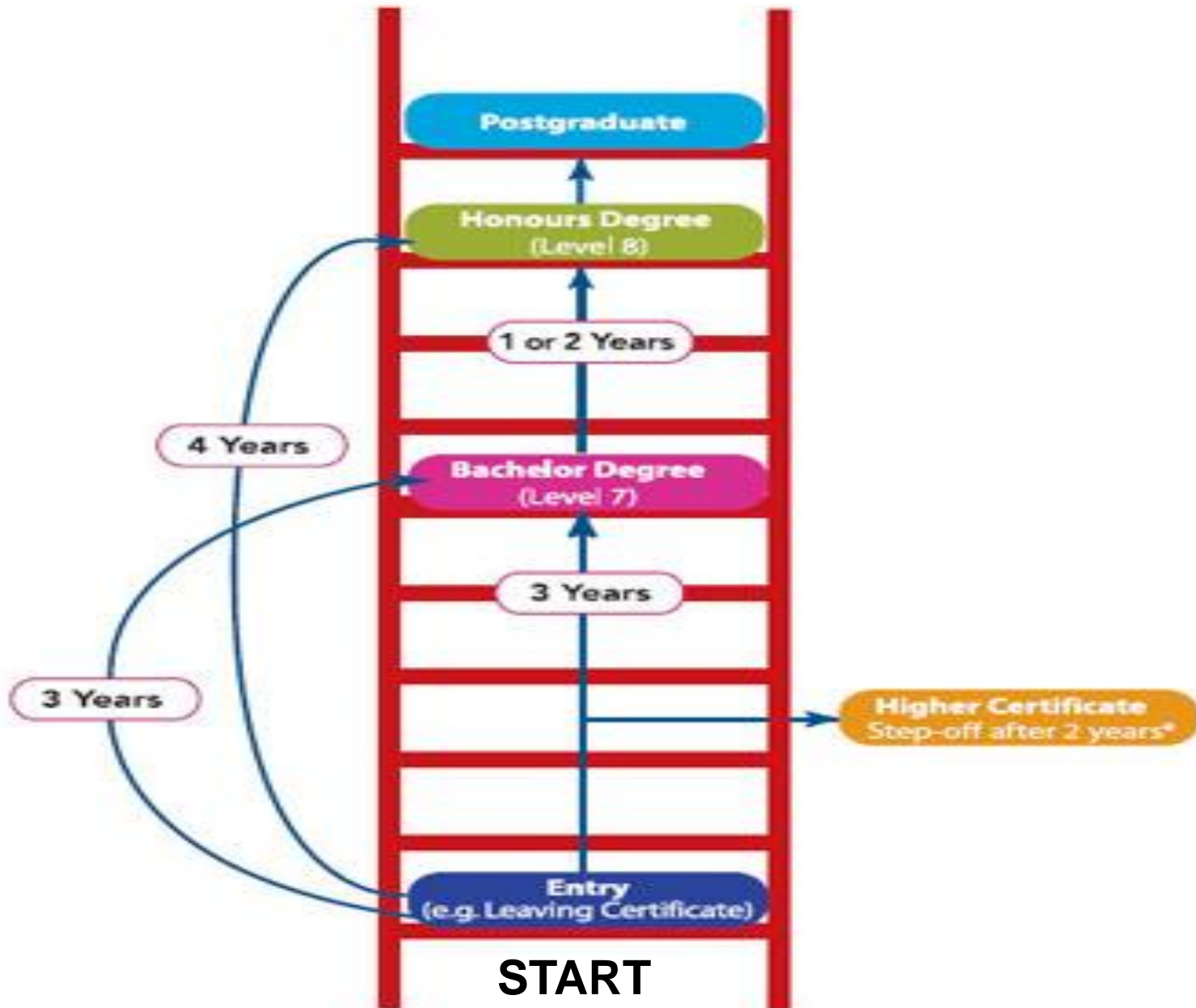
- 10 level framework.
- Standards of knowledge, skill and confidence at each level.
- Levels in the framework contain a wide range of awards.

# The National Framework of Qualifications

Qualification	NFQ Education Level
Junior Certificate	Level 3
Leaving Certificate	Levels 4 and 5
One Year Post Leaving Certificate	Level 5
Advanced Post Leaving Certificate	Level 6
Ordinary Degree (normally 3 years)	Level 7
Honours Degree (normally 4 years)	Level 8
Masters Degree or Postgraduate Diploma	Level 9
Doctoral Degree	Level 10



# Ladder of Progression



# UCAS Application 2017

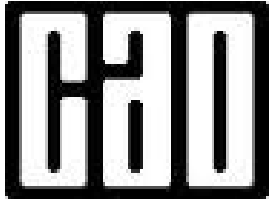


- Universities & College Admissions Service for the UK & NI.
- UCAS applications for Oxford & Cambridge and courses in Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Dentistry.
- Deadline October 15<sup>th</sup> 2016 (CLOSED)
- Applicants now awaiting interviews and offers.



# Deadline for all other UCAS Applications

- January 15<sup>th</sup> 2017.
- All applications must be made online at [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) using the schools profile.
- UCAS application form:
  - Part 1: Personal details.
  - Part 2: Junior Cert results & Leaving Cert subjects.
  - Part 3: Work experience & Personal Statement.
  - Part 4: Check, Pay and Send.
  - Part 5: School reference and Predicted grades.



# CAO Application

- Central Applications Office
- CAO: processes applications,  
issues offers and  
records acceptances  
to undergraduate courses.

# CAO Application Continued...

- Two ways to apply:
  - Online – [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)
  - Paper – download and print off cao website.
- Students are encouraged to apply online as it is:
  - cheaper.
  - less likely to make mistakes.
- Closing dates are strict to ensure fairness!

# The CAO Handbook

- Each student has received their CAO Handbook.
- The CAO Handbook contains:
  - a) A reference list of Higher Education Institutions.
  - b) A section on White Paper, detailing information regarding CAO applications, offers and acceptance.
  - c) A section on Yellow Paper listing courses in Higher Education Institutions in alphabetical order, by location.
- \*Restricted Courses.
- Course Alert List.

# The CAO Handbook Continued...

- The handbook **does not** provide any information on courses.
- Each student must research their course choices by studying:
  - i) Matriculation, Course and Points Requirements.
  - ii) Course Content.
  - iii) Number of lecture hours on course.
  - iv) Qualification.
  - v) Opportunities for postgraduate study or employment.

# CAO Application Dates & Fees

<b>ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE</b>	<b>FEE</b>	<b>CLOSING DATE</b>
NORMAL APPLICATION (ONLINE OR PAPER)	€40	1 FEB 2017 (5.15PM)
ONLINE DISCOUNTED RATE	€25	20 JAN 2017 (5.15PM)
CHANGE OF MIND	NIL	1 JULY 2017 (5.15PM)

# CAO Payment Methods

- Bank Payment:
  - Contact CAO directly for Fee Payment Form.
- Credit Card:
  - Online method only.



# The CAO Application Form

- Two parts:
  - Part A.
  - Part B.
- Part A:
  - Personal Details.
  - Educational Details.
  - Course Choices.
- Part B:
  - Not relevant to Leaving Certificate Students.

# Some common mistakes made when completing the CAO form

- Please be precise when entering:
  - Date of birth
  - Gender
  - School details
  - Course Codes



P.28



Application Form 20123: Page One  
Part A: (To be completed by ALL Applicants)

(Complete ALL entries in BLOCK LETTERS.)  
N.B. Read the CAO Handbook carefully before completing this Form.  
Tá leagan Gaeilge den fhoirm seo ar fáil.

SURNAME

Menezes

OTHER NAME(S)

Nick

TITLE (if desired)  
(e.g. Ms, Mr, etc.)

Mr

Sex  
(F or M)

M

Date of Birth  
(ddmmyyyy)

Day Mth Year

28 11 1998

PERMANENT  
HOME ADDRESS

BLACKROCK COLLEGE,  
ROCK ROAD,  
CO. DUBLIN

Tel. No. 0875555555

ADDRESS FOR  
CORRESPONDENCE  
(if different from above)  
(Note: Only one address  
may be shown here)

Contact Tel. No.

—

COUNTRY OF BIRTH

IRELAND

NATIONALITY

IRISH

Mobile Phone Number  
(If different from  
Contact Tel. No.)

E-mail

Address : nmenezes@blackrockcollege.com

DARE

\*\*\*\*\*

Do you have a Disability/Specific Learning Difficulty? (See Page 7 of CAO Handbook.)  
If relevant, please tick (✓) this box.

Disability/SLD

\*\*\*\*\*

Name and address of  
second-level school(s)  
and years attended  
(latest first).  
If none attended,  
write "NONE".

BLACKROCK COLLEGE,  
ROCK ROAD,  
CO. DUBLIN

From: To:

2011 2017

HEAR

\*\*\*\*\*

Do you wish to be considered for the HEAR scheme? (See Page 8 of CAO Handbook.)  
If relevant, please tick (✓) this box.

HEAR Scheme

\*\*\*\*\*

I have read the regulations described in the CAO Handbook 2012 and in the CAO Application Form 2012  
and I agree to be bound by them. I affirm that the particulars given in this application are true and complete.

Signed  
(for pages 1 & 2)

Nick Menezes

Date

15/12/2016





Application Form 201 3: Page Two  
Part A: (To be completed by ALL Applicants)

1.

**Republic of Ireland Examination Details**

If taking 201 3 Leaving Certificate, place a Tick (✓) in this box.

Leaving Cert.

13



Leaving Cert. exams  
1985 - 2011 →

Year	Exam. No.

Year	Exam. No.

Year	Exam. No.

If you are taking 201 3 FETAC Level 5/6 , and/or have completed a FETAC Level 5/6 between 2002 and 2012, please enter your PPS Number in this box.

PPS Number

2.

**COURSE CHOICES**

Application may be made for up to ten Courses in EACH of the TWO categories below.

In BOTH cases, courses should be entered in order of preference.

Take special care NOT to mix courses in the different categories.

**Level 8**

Pref.	Course Code
1	DN100
2	TR057
3	GY231
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	

**Level 7 & Level 6**

Pref.	Course Code
1	CW201
2	DT500
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	

If you are a Deferred Applicant from last year, place a Tick (✓) in this box.

☐

You will breach the conditions of your deferred place if you enter more than the single deferred course code on your application. In that event, you will forfeit the guaranteed place and enter the 2012 competition for places in the normal way.

3.

**SPECIAL CATEGORY**

Is any Special Category, mentioned on page 3 of this Form, applicable in your case ?

Write 'Yes' or 'No' in this box on the right.

NO

**THE APPLICATION IS INCOMPLETE UNLESS YOU WRITE 'YES' OR 'NO' IN THIS BOX.**

If you are a special category applicant, you must complete Part B (Pages 3 & 4) of this Application Form.

In the case of Category E (Higher Education), failure to disclose the appropriate information may result in the cancellation of the application. Checks are made to ensure that this information has not been omitted.

\*Important\*

- Up to 10 choices

on each list

- Lists are independent

of one another



\*Important\*

- Requirements

- Order of Preference



# Exemptions

- Students with Irish and/or Language exemption.
    - If applying for an NUI college must fill out an exemption form and contact the CAO to inform them.
    - If applying for TCD must fill in a language waiver form and contact the CAO to inform them.
- #Both these forms are available online

# DARE



- Disability Access Route to Education.
- Students with disability or any health problem are eligible to apply for the DARE scheme.
- Scheme offers college places on reduced points to school leavers with disabilities.
- Step 1 - Tick the box on the CAO form.
- Step 2 - Complete the supplementary information form (SIF).
- Decisions regarding eligibility will be made by Higher Education Institutions in June 2017.

# DARE Application



- Part A must be completed by the applicant outlining the impact of his disability on his education. (must be completed by 1 Mar 2017)
- Part B must be completed by a member of the academic staff, providing an academic reference and information on his education experience.  
(must be completed by 1 Apr 2017)
- Part C provides verification of the condition from a medical consultant or psychologist.  
(must be completed by 1 Apr 2017)

[www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie)





# Better Options

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AHEAD's College Fair for Students with Disabilities & SLDs

10:00 - 13:00, Nov 23rd, O'Brien Science Centre, UCD, Belfield Campus

# HEAR



- Higher Education Access Route.
- Offers places on reduced points and extra college support to school leavers from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Step 1 - Tick the box on the CAO form.
- Step 2 - Complete the HEAR form and submit all relevant supporting information.
- For further information on DARE/HEAR please see:  
[www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie) [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Why is genuine order of preference so important?

A. At offer time, you will be offered courses in the order in which you qualify for them. If, for example, your first choice is Arts in UCD and you have the requisite points then the CAO believes that this is the course in which you have the most interest. In Round 1 if you qualify for your first choice, it will be offered to you. If you do not qualify then maybe you will be offered a choice further down your list. However, in subsequent rounds you could be offered higher choices. You can go up your order of choices, but never go down.

Q. May I change my courses after I get my LC results?

A. No. The latest date for changing your mind is 1 July 2017.

Q. Can I accept a course that is lower in my order of preference but for which I have the points?

A. No. When you are offered a place, you are excluded from further consideration for any course which is lower in your order of preference. CAO. assumes that your first choice is what you want.

Q. Can I receive two or more offers?

A. Yes you can. Level 8 and level 6/7. Lists are treated independently so you may get an offer on both lists. You may only accept one.

Q. Do I have to be available to sign and return my offer notice?

A. Not necessarily. Someone else can act on your behalf or you may accept online from another country, but remember it is your responsibility.

Q. May I add an entirely new course using the Change of Mind form before July 1st?

A. Yes you may, but not a Restricted Application Course, i.e. a course which requires a portfolio or an interview/audition.

Q. If I fail an assessment on a restricted course may I substitute another course?

A. Yes, as long as you do it before 1 July 2017 (but not for another restricted course).

Q. If I make a mistake in the course code do I have any redress at offer time?

A. No because CAO send a statement of course codes to you in the Springtime. You are responsible for ensuring that the course codes are those in the Handbook and you have until 1 July to get it right .

Q. What happens if I am offered a course in Round 2, having already accepted a course in Round 1?

A. You are in the happy position of either staying with your Round 1 offer or accepting your Round 2 offer.



Q. How many points are awarded for L. C. V.P. Link Modules?

A. L.C.V.P. link modules are accepted for points in place of a sixth subject by all HEI institutions. The award of 70 points is given for distinction, 50 for merit and 30 points for pass.

Q. Do high points necessarily mean that the course is good?

A. No! It means that a lot of people want to do the course. High demand for a course pushes points up.

Q. What happens if a student goes up in points after the state examination rechecks and has the required points for a course they initially missed out on.

A. In most circumstances, the third level institution will allow entry into a course the student may have missed out on. However in some cases, as the places are full and the semester has started, students may have to wait the following year for entry where their place will be held in the third level institution.

# Places in Medicine

- Medicine is a \*Restricted course.
- To be eligible you must have the following:

Min. subject entry requirements +

Min. 480 LC points +

HPAT-Ireland score.



# Places in Medicine

- HPAT-Ireland test.
- To register for HPAT-Ireland it is necessary for the student to have a CAO number.
- Interested students should apply asap to CAO.
- Registration must take place by 20 Jan 2017.
- Takes place on 2 March 2017(tbc) in assigned locations.
- ***[www.hpat-ireland.acer.edu.au](http://www.hpat-ireland.acer.edu.au)***

# Scholarships

- Academic scholarships are awarded on basis of academic achievement.
- Other scholarships, i.e. choral, sport and others must be applied for specifically and entry deadlines must be checked by individual institutions.



# REMEMBER

- Completed application forms must be submitted by 5.15 p.m. on 1 February 2017.
- A reduced fee of €25 is on offer for students who make their application before 20 January 2017.
- You may change your mind up to 1 July 2017.

Good luck with the application 😊

# Emotional Support

- Balance is key, e.g. good diet, adequate sleep, exercise, good study habits.
- If difficulties arise – help him to face them.
- Support him and keep lines of communication open.
- When the work load seems too great, reassure him that there will be a course for him and to do his best.
- School Supports – Dean, Guidance Counsellor, Chaplin, SEN Dept, Subject Teachers etc.





# Useful Websites

- Course/Career Choice:
  - [www.qualifax.ie](http://www.qualifax.ie)
  - [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)
  - [www.careerdirections.ie](http://www.careerdirections.ie)
- Study:
  - [www.mocks.ie](http://www.mocks.ie)
  - [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie)
  - [www.skool.ie](http://www.skool.ie)
- Support:
  - [www.spunout.ie](http://www.spunout.ie)
  - [www.npcpp.ie/helpline.html](http://www.npcpp.ie/helpline.html)

# Useful Websites Continued...

- DARE/HEAR:
  - [www.ahead.ie](http://www.ahead.ie)
  - [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)
  - [www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie)
- Finance:
  - [www.studentfinance.ie](http://www.studentfinance.ie)
- Study Abroad:
  - [www.eunicas.ie](http://www.eunicas.ie)
  - [www.intstudy.com](http://www.intstudy.com)
- Qualifications:
  - [www.nfq.ie](http://www.nfq.ie)



PowerPoint Presentation available on  
[www.blackrockcollege.ie](http://www.blackrockcollege.ie) in 'Departments'  
section under Career Guidance.

[nmenezes@blackrockcollege.com](mailto:nmenezes@blackrockcollege.com)

