



Mark Ward, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

12th May, 2021

PQ: 24812/21

To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person who has retired after being on disability allowance loses their eligibility for a medical card.

Dear Deputy Ward,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 24812/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Medical Card eligibility is primarily based on an assessment of means and / Or medical condition.

As part of the application process for Medical Card eligibility, applicants are invited to provide comprehensive information in relation to the costs associated with any illness and the care needs of the applicant and/or any dependants. In the event that an applicant's means are above the financial threshold for the grant of Medical Card eligibility, other factors outlined in the application in relation to the burden of illness are taken into consideration and eligibility may be granted where it is deemed appropriate to exercise discretion because of the undue burden on the applicant and /or any dependants.

Should a person wish to have their current eligibility assessed it is required that they submit a new Medical Card application to the National Medical Card Unit along with all up to date documentation regarding income, outgoing and medical issues (if any).

Yours sincerely,

Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service