



14<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Deputy Bernard J Durkan,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 41793/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the procedure to be followed to obtain a primary medical certificate; if there are any current delays in obtaining same; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**- Bernard J Durkan**

Dear Deputy Durkan,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 41793/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The Primary Medical Certificate is issued by the HSE for the purposes of Disabled Drivers and Disabled Passengers Regulations 1994. In order to obtain a Primary Medical Certificate you must firstly apply through your local Health Service Office (HSE).

The Department of Health has advised the HSE that assessments for those applying for Primary Medical Assessments could recommence from 1st January 2021 and this has proceeded in the context of restoring services in a COVID-19 Environment as set out below.

Building upon the experience from earlier waves of the pandemic, Community Services developed a prioritisation framework to support local decisions made on service prioritisation. This approach ensures that services are focused on identifying and supporting patients who have the greatest need and enabling staff to be deployed where necessary to support these patients. Where services are curtailed or reduced, this is in line with clinical approval, a shared national position and with an appropriate risk assessment and communication with providers, service users and families.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

**Seán McArt**  
General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations