



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Seirbhís Aisíocaíochta Cúraim Phríomhúil
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Health Service Executive, Primary Care Reimbursement Service
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Marie Sherlock, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

3rd April 2025

PQ: 14749/25

To ask the Minister for Health the process for renewal of medical cards, the frequency in which they are required to be renewed; if the HSE insists upon online applications; if the HSE consider it reasonable that a postal renewal application form should be completed within five to seven working days; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Marie Sherlock

Dear Deputy Sherlock,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 14749/25), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

All medical card and GP visit card holders are subject to a periodic review of eligibility to determine continuing eligibility.

Ordinarily, three months before an individual's existing medical card/GP visit card eligibility expiry date, a review notification issues to the individual (or their parents, in the case of a child). A review notification will indicate that either a self assessment is completed by the card holder themselves or request that the card holder return evidence of household income, assessable outgoings, and medical circumstances to enable a full review assessment be conducted by the HSE.

A reminder letter is issued a month later if the requested review form details have not been received at that point. If a person does not return their review form within the time specified, their continuing eligibility cannot be confirmed and their medical card/GP visit card cannot be reissued. In these circumstances, or where the review process establishes that a person no longer holds eligibility, the eligibility ceases.

All applicants have the option to apply online at www.mymedicalcard.ie . Alternatively, applicants can submit a completed Medical Card application (MC1) along with all relevant up to date documentation by post to the Client Registration Unit, P.O. Box 11745, Dublin 11.

The MC1 form is available on our website for printing, as are any forms relating to any other schemes to which applicants wish to apply. Below is a link to the MC1 form for convenience:

[Medical Card and GP Visit Card Application Form](#)

Applicants can also request a physical form be posted out to them by contacting our call centre at 0818 22 44 78, should they be unable to print out a form online.

Please note when a review request is issued, the applicants have three months to complete a review by any of the methods above. In the case where an application or review is received by the PCRS Eligibility Unit and information is outstanding, applicants are notified by post and have 21 days to provide the outstanding information by submitting the information online, or by post as per the above.

I hope this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Reimbursement Service

The Health Service Executive operates the General Medical Services Scheme, which includes Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards, under the Health Act 1970, as amended. It has established a dedicated contact service for members of the Oireachtas specifically for queries relating to the status of Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards applications, which the Deputy / Senator may wish to use for an earlier response. Tel: 01-8647180 / email: Oireachtas.pcrs@hse.ie