



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Sláinte  
agus Cúraim Shóisialaigh

Regulating Health +  
Social Care Professionals

# Social Care Workers

## Section 91 Applicants - Existing Practitioners

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**Crucial information ahead of  
the 30 November 2025 deadline**



## **Dear Existing Practitioners,**

**As you near the end of 30 November 2025 Section 91 deadline, we have developed this information booklet of crucial information ahead of the close of the grandparenting period.**

The Section 91 route **will close** on 30 November 2025. This means that if you are relying on any of the special provisions under Section 91, you will not be able to apply following the close of the Section 91 grandparenting period.

From the 1 December 2025 the only way to enter the register will be to hold a CORU approved qualification.

It is crucial to **submit** your application before **30 November 2025**.



# **Deadline:**

# 30 November 2025

## The Registration Process

The registration process involves a number of stages which include the submission of an online application including the provision of supporting documentation.

The deadline for submitting a Section 91 existing practitioner application is 30 November 2025.

If you have not yet commenced your application, you are now at risk of missing the deadline for submission.

## Special provisions under Section 91 – Existing Practitioners Route

Under the Section 91 pathway, an applicant must evidence that they have 2 years of experience in the practise of Social Care Work out of the previous 5. Then they may select from the following options:

### Approved Qualification Route

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Applying with a CORU approved qualification.

### Sufficiently Relevant Qualification Route

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Applying with a qualification:

- a) that has been deemed by the Board to be sufficiently relevant **OR**
- b) that you are asking the Board to assess if it can be deemed sufficiently relevant to Social Care Work

## Employer Opinion of Competence Form

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For those who do not hold an approved or sufficiently relevant qualification, they may submit an employer opinion form.

## Assessment of Professional Competence

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Those unable to provide a qualification or an employer opinion of competence, they may elect to undertake the assessment of professional competence (AOPC) which cost €300.

## On Close of the Grandparenting Period and From 01 December 2025

The following will occur:

- 1) Only those with an approved qualification will be able to apply under the standard route, Section 38.
- 2) The Section 91 route will be gone meaning the following routes will be gone:
  - ✗ Sufficiently Relevant Qualifications Route
  - ✗ Employer Opinion of Competence Route
  - ✗ Assessment of Professional Competence
- 3) The title of Social Care Worker becomes protected from 01 December 2025. If you have not submitted your application to CORU, you will be unable to continue to use the title.

## Applying for Registration

Applications for registration are made online. You can access the application portal at the below link.

<https://coru.portaleu.thentiacloud.net/webs/portal/application/#/login>

## Certified Copies of Documents

All documents must be certified as true copies of the original. CORU can only accept certification from the following:

- a practising solicitor
- a Commissioner for Oaths
- a Peace Commissioner, or
- a Notary Public

If you have any questions, please contact the Social Care Worker Registration Team at [socialcare.workers@coru.ie](mailto:socialcare.workers@coru.ie) or phone 01 2933160, select '1' for Registration and then '1' again for the Social Care Worker Team.



# Crucial information for Existing Practitioners ahead of 30 November 2025



## No extension of the 30 November 2025 deadline

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There will be **no extension** of the deadline, you must have your application **submitted** by 30 November 2025.

## Submitting your application

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If you have not paid the €100 fee by 30 November 2025 then your application **will not be submitted** and you will be unable to proceed under Section 91.

## Protected title use for existing practitioners (Section 91)

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If you have **not** submitted your application by 30 November 2025, you will be unable to use to the title of 'Social Care Worker'.

To do so would be an offense and your employment status/particulars will be impacted.

## Use of title past the deadline date

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If you have submitted your S91 application before the 30 November 2025 deadline, you can **continue** to use the title of 'Social Care Worker' while your S91 application is pending with CORU.

## Employment outside of Social Care Work

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If you are not explicitly using 'Social Care Worker' title you can continue to use that title. Only 'Social Care Worker' will be protected.

## Garda Vetting

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CORU no longer requires eVetting for applicants that are **currently working or have graduated within the last three years**. Applicants who are **self-employed** will need to provide Garda vetting and individuals who will require vetting will be contacted by CORU.

## Timeline

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CORU **cannot** provide an approximate timeline on the approval of your application. It is best to submit your application earlier with the correct information.

## S38 Applicants – The Standard Route

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This route will continue to be open after the 30 November. This route is for applicants that have approved qualifications as per the Bye law. However, if you are using the title of ‘Social Care Worker’, you will not be able to do so after the 30 of November unless you are registered via this route.

Those with sufficiently relevant qualifications will be able to apply under Section 38 only if they have 5 years of relevant practice in the profession of social care work.

## Dedicated Social Care Team at CORU

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We have dedicated services if you need help with any part of the process.

**Email:** [socialcareworker@coru.ie](mailto:socialcareworker@coru.ie) and

**Phone number:** 01 293 3160

# Quick Links

Follow this QR code to read the **guidance notes** on how to make your application for registration.



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Follow this QR code to see a **recorded webinar on the S91 process.**



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Follow this QR code **to make your application** for registration.



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