



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Sláinte
agus Cúraim Shóisialaigh

Regulating Health +
Social Care Professionals

Programme Information Guidelines for Education and Training Providers

August 2025



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About CORU

CORU is Ireland's multi-profession health regulator.

Our role is to protect the public by promoting high standards of professional conduct, education, training and competence through statutory registration of health and social care professionals. CORU was set up under the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005 (as amended). It is made up of the Health and Social Care Professionals Council and the Registration Boards, one for each profession named in our Act.

CORU currently regulates the following professions:

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|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ▶ Dietitians | ▶ Podiatrists/Chiropodists |
| ▶ Dispensing Opticians | ▶ Radiographers |
| ▶ Medical Scientists | ▶ Radiation Therapists |
| ▶ Occupational Therapists | ▶ Social Workers |
| ▶ Optometrists | ▶ Speech and Language Therapists |
| ▶ Physical Therapists | ▶ Social Care Workers |
| ▶ Physiotherapists | |

The professions soon to be regulated are:

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| ▶ Psychologists | ▶ Clinical Biochemists |
| ▶ Counsellors | ▶ Orthoptists |
| ▶ Psychotherapists | |

In order to meet our aim of protecting the public, we undertake a number of tasks. One of these is to work with Registration Boards for each profession to approve and monitor education and training programmes for the professions we regulate. We have provided the following information to assist education and training providers who offer programmes in the above professions to correctly inform prospective students, current students and all interested parties about the regulatory status of their programmes.

Programme Information

All programme information, including printed, website, social media and public correspondence materials relating to an education and training programme for any of our regulated professions must be accurate and must not be misleading, false or exaggerated. The following guidelines should be implemented by education and training providers.

1. Programmes not approved

The information for any programme which (a) has not applied for approval or has withdrawn an application for approval (b) has been refused approval or (c) has had approval withdrawn should not contain any reference to approval by CORU or its Registration Boards other than to state that the programme is not approved. The following standard statement can be used by education providers;

‘This programme is not approved by CORU.’

The information must not state or imply that graduates of the programme will be eligible to register with CORU. In the case of qualifications that are taught in Ireland but awarded outside the State, where students may choose to apply for registration via the recognition of an international qualification, the information should clearly state that graduates of the programme will not hold an approved qualification, that registration is not assured, and that the application process may incur additional costs and processing times.

2. Programmes undergoing approval process

If a programme has applied for approval and an approval visit is being actively organised, the programme information should not contain any reference to CORU or any of its Registration Boards other than the following standard statement which could be used;

‘This programme has made an application for approval by CORU. There is no guarantee that the programme will be approved.’

If this statement is used it must remain in place until you have received formal written notification of the approval status of the programme from CORU.

A programme which is not approved, whether due to a withdrawal of the application/refusal of approval/withdrawal of approval must remove this statement immediately.

A programme which receives approval should remove this statement immediately.

3. Approved programmes

Following written notification from the Registration Board that a programme is approved, the programme information may state that the programme is approved. We ‘approve’ education programmes. We do not ‘recognise’, ‘accredit’ or ‘validate’ programmes. Programme information should reflect this terminology. Approval of a programme does not automatically entitle a graduate of the programme to enter the relevant register. We have provided a standard statement, presented below, which could be used;

‘This programme is approved by CORU.’

Use of the CORU logo

Approved programmes may display the CORU Approved Programme Logo subject to the requirements listed in the CORU Approved Logo Brand Guidelines. Use of the CORU corporate logo is strictly prohibited without CORU authorisation. Please contact the Education Quality Assurance Unit for further information.