



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Sláinte
agus Cúraim Shóisialaigh
Regulating Health +
Social Care Professionals

Guidance Notes

Applying for registration online for first-time Social Care Workers S91 applicants

Revised for August 2024

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1. Read these guidelines carefully

Please read these guidance notes carefully before completing the online application process. Take your time reading and know that it may take you longer than you think to get some information we need. This will all depend on your circumstances but if there is anything you do not understand, please contact us at:

- ▶ registration@coru.ie
- ▶ phone 01 293 3160.

Please complete the online application before you apply for eVetting (explained on pages 16 to 18).

2. Guidelines for Section 91 Social Care Worker applicants (existing Practitioners of Social Care Work)

As a Section 91 applicant, you can apply to register with CORU under the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005 (as amended).

During the first two years that a register is open - a period known as the **Transitional Period** - existing practitioners can apply for registration and satisfy the Registration Board that they meet the requirements for registration.

Existing Practitioners of Social Care Work

In making an application to apply to register under the grandparenting route, applicants must provide a [Proof of Professional Employment form](#), which is verification of having been engaged in practice of the profession for the required period.

Please note

An applicant must be able to demonstrate having 2 years practice in the previous 5 on the date of application. An employer must provide attestation that the applicant has been engaged in the practice of the profession, as a Social Care Worker.

Please note

If you have a number of different employments that you intend to provide to attest to the requirement to evidence that you have practiced in the profession for 2 out of the previous 5 years, you may need to provide more than one Proof of Professional Employment Form, i.e. a Form is required for any employer relevant to demonstrate that you have practiced for 2 years out of the previous 5 years, at the time of making an application for registration.

A person can apply for registration under the S91 route as an existing practitioner via any one of the **five pathways** outlined below.

- ▶ **An Approved Qualification** ([click here for list](#))
- ▶ **A Schedule 3 Qualification** ([click here for list](#))

- ▶ a qualification that the Social Care Workers Registration Board deem to be a **sufficiently**

relevant qualification and attests to the Standard of Proficiency corresponding to a qualification listed in Schedule 3 of the Act.

- ▶ For an existing practitioner applying via the grandparenting route who doesn't hold an Approved Qualification, a Schedule 3 qualification or a 'Sufficiently Relevant' qualification, they can still apply for registration by providing an **Employer's Opinion of Competency**. This is a form your employer completes on behalf of the existing practitioner.
- ▶ For existing practitioners that cannot provide any of the above, a pathway known as an **Assessment of Professional Competence**. The Assessment of Professional Competence requires applicants to undergo an assessment of their professional competence. More information on this can be found [here](#).

Please note

If you do not hold an approved qualification, you will need to upload a certified transcript of your qualification.

If you have an International Qualification that you wish to supply as part of your application for registration, you will need to apply for Recognition. Please see link to this here [International Applicants - Coru](#)

Completing your online application

Please note

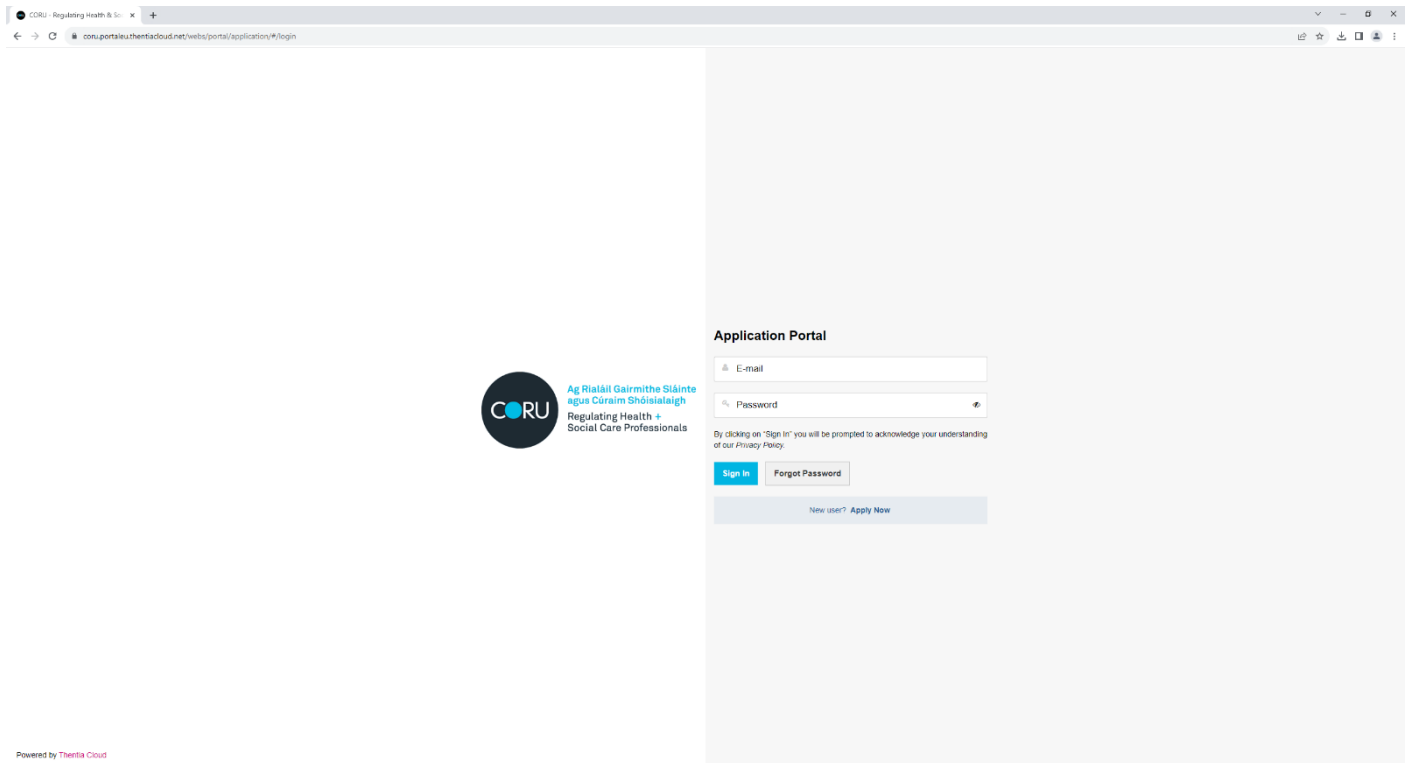
You can only submit a completed application to us via the applicant portal, you must ensure to submit all relevant and required documentation before submitting your application and paying the fee.

3. Stages you must follow to register

Applying for registration

Below you can see the web page where you apply to register with CORU. To apply you need to complete three stages. To save time and delays, please read about these stages carefully. We describe these on the next page. To visit the Applicant Portal please click the following link:

- [Apply for Registration \(click this link\)](#)



Stage 1: create user account

Create and complete a user account online (if you don't already have one) and then fill in your details. These will include:

- ▶ personal details
- ▶ qualifications
- ▶ career history
- ▶ regulatory or professional membership (if relevant)
- ▶ fit and proper questions (see page 14)
- ▶ payment of the application fee

When you finish the online process, you can view, print and save a PDF report of the details.

Stage 2: print out and fill in forms

You will need to print and fill out the **additional forms** at the end of the online process and these will need to be uploaded at the end of the online application process.

These include:

eVetting invitation form

- ▶ <https://coru.ie/files-registration/coru-evetting-invitation-form.pdf>

Statutory Declaration about your registration

- ▶ <https://coru.ie/files-registration/coru-statutory-declaration.pdf> (see glossary)

Employer's Opinion of Competency (if applicable)

- ▶ <https://coru.ie/social-care-workers/employer-opinion-of-competence-forms.pdf>

Stage 3: upload additional forms and certified copies of other documents

Certified copies

You **must upload** the additional forms and certified copies of any necessary supporting documents to CORU. Certified copies are copies of original documents that have been formally checked and stamped by a certifier like:

- ▶ a practising solicitor
- ▶ a Commissioner for Oaths
- ▶ a Peace Commissioner
- ▶ a Notary Public, or
- ▶ a member of an Garda Síochána (**note:** except for Statutory Declarations).

You need to **upload** these.

We list the supporting documents we need on pages 8 and 9. We do not accept or return originals sent to us by regular post. Therefore, please upload **copies** of all documents and certify the correct ones. You may have to **pay** to get copies certified.

Please note

We cannot process your application until you upload all of your forms and certified supporting documents. We need to get all documents and we ask for 60 days after you complete the three stages of the process or your application will be cancelled.

4. Supporting documents needed

Proof of identity

To prove your identity, you must upload a certified copy of **one** of the following documents:

- ▶ Passport
- ▶ both sides of a current passport card
- ▶ driving licence, or
- ▶ Public Services Card.

If providing a copy of your passport

You must provide a **certified** copy of the photo page of your passport.

If providing a copy of your driving licence

You must provide a **certified** copy of the photo side of the new Irish Driving Licence Card. For security reasons we cannot accept certified copies of driving licences issued before January 2013.

If providing a copy of your Public Services Card

You must provide a **certified** copy of your Public Services Card as issued by The Department of Social Protection (copy **front and back** of the card).

Professional Name

This is the name you are known as in your profession and in your work environment. This is the name that will appear on your Certificate of Registration and on the Register. If the professional name you wish to use on the Register is different to the name on your document you use for proof of identity (i.e. passport/driving licence/public service card) where you have changed your name, for example following marriage, then you must provide a certified copy of the relevant document relating to the name change e.g. a certified marriage certificate.

If you change your name in the future, you must complete the change of name request form online on the Registrant Portal.

Statutory Declaration

The Statutory Declaration document must be certified before you send it to us. You must print and complete this form at the end of the online process.

Please note

A Statutory Declaration cannot be certified by a member of an Garda Síochána.

Stick to the deadline

Make sure that your statutory declaration is dated **within six months** of the date of your application.

Translation of documents

You must submit certified copies of all documents in English or Irish. If the documents are in other languages, you must submit **certified copies** of an English language translation. This must have been issued and officially stamped by an official translator.

You **must include** the name and address of the translator so that we can verify the translation. (Contact your Embassy or Consulate for names and contact details of official translators for your language.)

Completing your application for registration

You must do the following

✓ Fully complete online application

You must complete the online application process and answer all questions in full.

✓ Upload everything we need

Check the sections later on to see which documents apply to you as an S91 applicant. You must upload **all** the completed forms and certified copies we need. Please make sure you have signed all the declarations.

✓ Complete application in a certain order

1. Complete the online application process.
2. Upload copies of supporting documents we ask for.
3. Pay the application fee of €100.
4. Apply for eVetting online once we have sent you the invitation link by email.

✓ Pay the application fee

We will not process your application without the fee (see above). Please note that your application fee is separate from the annual renewal fee.

✓ Keep us informed

Tell us immediately about any matter likely to affect your registration application and your ability to perform your professional duties.

✓ Keep copies

Keep a copy of all the material you send for your own records. You will also be able to download, print or save a PDF report of the details you submit online.

Avoid doing the following

✘ Do not send original documents

Do not send original documents unless we ask for them as we cannot return them. Instead, please send certified copies of documents (see page 6 to learn how to certify documents).

✘ Do not lie

Do not claim you are registered with a Registration Board if you are not.

✘ Do not assume your registration will be successful

We will not accept liability for any loss or expense that you experience if your application is not approved.

Please note

- ▶ We will not accept liability (responsibility) for documents that we return to you.
- ▶ We will check all your information and documents.
- ▶ We have the right to ask you to confirm or check anything in your application.
- ▶ The Registration Board may verify, or ask you to verify, any information as part of your application.
- ▶ The Board may ask you to supply more information.
- ▶ Please fill out your personal details on the online system (see sample below).



Online Application

Online Applications
My Inbox
Fees & Receipts
Document Library
Account Settings

Application Type: Registration - S91 Application
Application Instructions
3 Personal Information
4 Qualification
5 Languages of Professional Practice
6 Employment History
7 Memberships
8 Supporting Documents
9 Fit and Proper Survey
10 Fit and Proper Survey - Residency
11 Attestation
12 Payment

Personal Information

Note: All information with a red asterisk (*) is required.

Title *

First Name *

Do you have a surname? * Yes No

Professional Name *

Note: Please enter your full name, as you would like it printed on your registration certificate

Previous Name (if any)

Date of name change (if applicable)

Gender *

Date of Birth *

Country of Birth *

City/Town of Birth *

Nationality *

Citizenship *

Passport Number *

5. All applicants must include the following information

General information

PPS Number

This stands for Personal Public Service Number. Your PPS Number is your unique reference number for all transactions with government departments and other public bodies like the:

- ▶ Revenue Commissioners
- ▶ Health Services Executive (HSE)
- ▶ Department of Social Protection.

If you do not have a PPS Number or cannot find it, contact your local social welfare office. The PPS Number used to be called the (P)RSI Number. By law, we have the right to ask you for this number. Please note it may take a number of weeks to receive your PPS Number.

Home address

We need your main home address so that we can write to you. We will not publish your home address on the Register where the public can see it.

We will **only** correspond with you, not with an agency. If you give an agency address, we will return your application.

Change of home address

If you change your home address during the application process or at any future point, you must write and tell us. By law, you must inform us of this type of change.

Personal email address

We strongly recommend that you give us a personal email address. We email correspondence about your application and any later communications including renewal notifications.

You will use this email address to access the online renewal system and if you need to update your personal or employment details.

Work contact details

The work address you give us should be for your main place of work. Our Register will show the county or postal code where you practice. The public **will** be able to see this.

Change of work address

If you change your work address during the application process or at any future point, you **must** write and tell us. By law, you must inform us of this type of change.

Details of relevant memberships

You must fill out the details of your memberships of your regulatory or professional body, or both, on the online system.

Regulatory body membership

We have the right to contact the regulator to verify the information you have given us.

We may also look for 'Certificates of Good Professional Standing' on your behalf from regulators with whom you have been registered.

The Certificate of Good Standing will show at the time of issue:

- ▶ your current registration status with the regulator
- ▶ your registration history (like the date when you first registered with them)
- ▶ whether you have been the subject of any restrictions (like having conditions imposed on your practice or having your registration suspended or revoked).

Professional body membership

Please give details of all professional bodies of which you are a member. The Registration Board may contact the professional body to confirm your membership and good standing.

Answers to all 'fit and proper' questions

You must answer all 15 fit-and-proper questions on the online system.

Fit and proper for the profession

By law, before we can enter your name on the Register for your profession, you must satisfy the Registration Board that you are a fit and proper person to engage in the practice of the profession.

This includes showing that you are of good character and of good physical and mental health.

Tell us about (disclose) material matters

In the Statutory Declaration document, you must make a number of disclosures about your qualification, registration and practice.

These will include:

- ▶ any 'material matter' that has occurred that requires you to make a disclosure.

This means you must tell us information about any situations listed below that happened:

- ▶ in this State, or
- ▶ outside it.

A 'material matter' means any regulatory proceedings within the State or another jurisdiction that have resulted in¹:

- ▶ the imposition of conditions, suspension, cancellation of registration, or
- ▶ the refusal to grant registration, or
- ▶ a) conviction triable on indictment (other than a spent conviction – see note below)

or

- ▶ b) conviction outside the State for an offence consisting of acts or omissions that, if done or made in the State, would constitute an offence triable on indictment in Ireland or another jurisdiction.²

If you are unsure whether or not you have been convicted of an offence which is triable on indictment in Ireland (or would be if the offence had been committed here), you should take legal advice. **If you do not disclose (tell us about) a conviction which you should have disclosed, you may be prosecuted.**

1 Source of this definition: Section 3 of the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005 (as amended).

2 If you are unsure whether you have been convicted of an offence which is triable on indictment in Ireland (or would be if the offence had been committed here), you should take legal advice.

Spent convictions

You do **not** have to disclose convictions which are spent convictions. Spent convictions are complex, and we **strongly advise** you to get legal advice in relation to spent convictions. The meaning of spent convictions is set out in **Section 5 of the Criminal Justice (Spent Convictions) Act 2016**.

Please note

As detailed in Section 45 of the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005 (as amended) (the “**Act**”), you must notify the Registration Board “as soon as practicable” of any relevant issues that may impact your registration. If you make a false declaration, it is an offence under the Act and may result in a complaint being made against you.

You must provide additional information where required in the Fit-and-Proper section of your application.

Information about relevant health conditions

You must disclose (tell us) whether or not you have a relevant medical disability.

If you have (or have had in the past) a physical or mental health condition that may affect your ability to practice the profession for which you seek registration, you must give full details.

If you answer ‘yes’ to any of the questions, it does not necessarily mean you are ineligible to register. It is an opportunity for you to show how you manage your health issues, and how this enables you to provide safe service to service users.

However, if you fail to give us relevant and accurate information, it **will** affect your application for registration.

If you have declared a health condition, we advise you to give us a letter from your treating medical professional for the attention of the board.

Vetting with the National Vetting Bureau

All applicants must complete the eVetting process with the National Vetting Bureau (“**NVB**”). It is a requirement of registration. Follow the seven steps to do this on the next two pages.

Our disclosure policy means that the person in CORU who has Garda authorisation may disclose certain details to the Registration Board. These include details of convictions, or prosecutions, or both, successful or not, pending or completed, in the State or elsewhere.

See table on the next two pages which show you the key stages in the eVetting process.

Key steps in the eVetting process for applicants

1. Download eVetting Invitation Form (NVB1) from the Applicant Portal

You can do this on the 'eVetting' page in the applicant portal when you are entering your information to apply online.

2. Complete eVetting Invitation Form.

You may complete the eVetting Invitation Form:

- ▶ electronically in Acrobat Reader on a computer, or
- ▶ by hand.

You must sign it by hand and date it (using a ball point pen).

You can then upload an electronic copy of the scanned form, including the signature and date, on the applicant portal.

3. Attach proof of identity and current address to completed form.

You must provide a copy of:

- ▶ your photo ID, and
- ▶ a document which confirms your current address.

Attach these to your completed eVetting Invitation Form. You may also need to provide your certificate of marriage/change of name.

Acceptable forms of ID

- ▶ Photo page of your driving licence (issued from 2013 onwards).
- ▶ Photo page of your current passport.
- ▶ Photocopy of both sides of passport card.
- ▶ Photocopy of Public Services Card (both sides) or National Identity/Age Card.

Acceptable forms for proof of current address

- ▶ Recent utility bill (gas, phone, broadband or electricity) not more than 6 months' old.
- ▶ Statement of results or correspondence from your college, university or SUSI (<https://www.susi.ie>)
- ▶ Bank, building society, credit card or credit union statement.
- ▶ Document from a state agency showing your current address (P60, P45).

Key steps in the eVetting process for applicants

4. Upload the completed eVetting Invitation Form and attachments to the Applicant Portal.

5. You will receive an email inviting you to apply for eVetting online.

When we receive your eVetting Invitation Form, we will verify your application. If all is in order, we will enter your details on the National Vetting Bureau eVetting system. The eVetting system will then send you a link to the eVetting application form. This link is valid for 30 days.

Please note

Please ensure to check your spam folder as the invite from the National Vetting Bureau may go there.

6. Follow the link in the email to complete the eVetting Application Form (NVB2) online.

When you access the online Vetting Application Form, you can enter your details and **all of the addresses (both in Ireland and abroad)** at which you have lived since birth.

7. We will email you to let you know when we have received the outcome of the eVetting.

When you complete the eVetting application form online, we will then review it. We will submit it to the National Vetting Bureau to be processed. When the vetting result is returned to us, you will be automatically emailed with the result when the outcome is downloaded by our Liaison Person (a CORU staff member).

We have a right to raise queries about anything that you may have not disclosed and about anything else arising as a result of vetting.

Certificate of Criminal Clearance

If you have lived abroad for one year and one day, or longer, after the age of 18 (working or not), you must provide a **certified copy** (explained on page 5) of a Certificate of Criminal Clearance (also known as Police Clearance). You must give us one **for each country** where you have lived for one year and one day, or longer, with your application.

The Certificate of Criminal Clearance provided from that country can be no older than three months' old on the date of application. So, make sure that the Certificate of Criminal Clearance was issued within the three months of your online application for CORU registration, for example if you apply on 30 November 2023, your certificate of criminal clearance should be issued no later than 30 August 2023.

If you got police clearance for a country some time ago and have not returned to live in that country, you may submit a certified copy of that document.

If you don't already have a Certificate of Criminal Clearance, please contact the embassy or consulate for the relevant country for details on how to get one.

If you are unable to secure a Certificate of Criminal Clearance for a particular country, please contact us.

For more information, please visit our website:

- ▶ <https://coru.ie/health-and-social-care-professionals/registration/registration-requirements/garda-vetting-and-police-clearance/police-clearance/>

Statutory Declaration

A statutory declaration is a declaration of:

- ▶ knowledge
- ▶ circumstance
- ▶ fact

You get this certified by going to:

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

Your statutory declaration must be dated within six months of the date of your application. If the certifier does not have an official seal or stamp, then they must provide their full name and address in block capitals. You can download and complete the Statutory Declaration on page 6 of this document.

Please note

We will only process your application if **you have signed** this declaration in the presence of a:

- ▶ Solicitor
- ▶ Commissioner for Oaths
- ▶ Peace Commissioner, or
- ▶ Notary Public

You should make sure that you fully understand the declaration before signing it.

It is illegal to try and get your name entered on the Register by fraud. If you do this, you may be prosecuted.

You must print and complete this Statutory Declaration form at the end of the online process and upload on the applicant portal (**reminder:** you must physically sign the Statutory Declaration and upload the scanned copy on the application portal).

- ▶ <https://coru.ie/files-registration/coru-statutory-declaration.pdf>

Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics

Each Registration Board has a Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics which applies to the profession. For details, please go to the website.

- ▶ www.coru.ie

You must adhere to the Code for your profession.

This means all applicants must declare that they have read, understood and will comply with the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for their profession. This is part of the statutory declaration which all applicants must submit.

Paying the fee

Registration application fee and fee to stay registered

The application fee is €100.

In later years the annual renewal fee (currently €100) will be due on the annual renewal date for your profession.

If you are added to the register before the annual renewal fee is due, you will have to pay the annual renewal fee.

The annual renewal dates for each profession and register can be found on our website:

- ▶ <http://www.coru.ie/>

For more information on the renewals process, please visit our Frequently Asked Questions section on our website:

- ▶ <https://coru.ie/health-and-social-care-professionals/registration/registration-faqs/registration-renewals-faqs/>

Your application is not complete, we will not process it until we receive the required forms and supporting documents. In order to ensure the timely processing of your application, submit all documentation during the online application process.

What happens next?

Once we receive your completed online application, forms and supporting documents, we will check to see if you have included all the documents we need. If any documents are missing, you must provide it within 30 days of applying online.

We will check your application to make sure it is valid. If your eVetting Invitation Form is completed correctly we will enter it into the National Vetting Bureau (NVB) system. We may contact you to clarify information in your application.

When we have all the documents and the verification process has been completed, including vetting, we will bring your application to the Registration Board for decision.

The Registration Board may look for more information from you before deciding on your application. In addition, the Registration Board may look for information about you from other bodies.

If the Registration Board is satisfied that you have met the criteria, it will grant you registration. Your name will be entered on to the register for your profession and you will be issued a Certificate of Registration.

Closure of incomplete applications

If you do not provide the documents within an appropriate timeframe, your application will be deemed withdrawn and shall be closed. If you wish to apply for registration after your application has been closed, you will need to make a new application and pay a new application fee.

6. Section 91 applicants

S91 applicants: who can apply?

You can apply to register as an Section 91 applicant under the grandparenting route if you had been practising your profession in the Republic of Ireland for at least **2 years in the previous 5 years on the date of application**. More information about the different criteria follows below.

You must also fit the criteria in **one** of the following from A to E.

A) Qualifications

- ▶ Approved Qualifications:
 - <https://www.coru.ie/health-and-social-care-professionals/education/approved-qualifications/social-care-workers/>

- ▶ Schedule 3 Qualifications: These are for existing practitioners under Section 91. If you have one of the qualifications listed, you can apply to register with CORU during the 2-year (transitional) period after a Register opens. If you hold a Schedule 3 qualification, you do not need to provide details of any other qualification with your application.
 - <https://coru.ie/health-and-social-care-professionals/registration/registration-requirements/approved-qualifications/schedule-3-qualifications/>

For these, we expect to see a certified copy of the parchment plus the transcript if the certificate is in Latin. The transcript must refer to the full course title, i.e. Diploma in Applied Social Studies / Social Care from the Dublin Institute of Technology. We cannot accept transcripts without the certificate.

S91 applicants: who can apply?

B) Letter of recognition or accreditation

This is a qualification gained outside of the Republic of Ireland. It must have been recognised by:

the Registration Board in CORU for your profession, or
other designated Competent Authority in the Republic of Ireland under Council Directive 2005/36/EC.

You must enter the name of the Competent Authority and the date of the letter of recognition. If you hold a letter of recognition for an international qualification, you do not need to provide details of any other qualification with your application.

If you hold an international qualification in the profession and you do not have a letter of recognition, please contact:

- recognition@coru.ie

C) Other Qualifications

If you do not hold the above, you may still apply for registration via the following route:

- ▶ Hold a Sufficiently Relevant qualification (this is determined on a case-by-case basis by the Board) and attests to the Standard of Proficiency corresponding to a qualification listed in Schedule 3 of the Act.

Please note

We encourage applicants to apply for registration even if they feel their qualification may not be sufficiently relevant. The Registration Board will assess each application on a case-by-case basis, based on its unique merits and the facts presented.

D) Have an Employer's Opinion of Competency

This form is proof of your engagement in the practice of the Social Care Work profession and needs to be completed and signed by your employer.

- ▶ <https://coru.ie/social-care-workers/employer-opinion-of-competence-forms.pdf>

E) Assessment of Professional Competence

If you have been working in your profession without holding any of the above qualifications and do not have a signed Employer's Opinion of Competency.

The Social Care Workers Registration Board is to devise an Assessment of Professional Competence for those who are eligible to apply for the register, but are unable to apply via any of the above pathways.

When can you apply?

You can only make an S91 application during the 2-year transitional period (referred to as the grandparenting period) for your profession. The transitional period for Social Care Workers closes on 30 November 2025. After this date, the title of 'Social Care Worker' will become a protected title in Ireland.

Supporting documents

Read the following table carefully and more details after it (include your details if you are a private practitioner). Please make sure to have your documentation completed correctly. when completing the online application process.

Supporting documents S91 applicants must include	
<p>Certified copy of proof of identity Current passport (photo page) or Both sides of current Passport Card or New Irish Driving Licence (issued since 2013) or Public Services Card (as issued by the Department of Social Protection – copy front and back of the card).</p> <p>Read more details about proof of identity on page 7.</p>	
<p>Certified copy of evidence of any change of name if applicable.</p>	
<p>Certified copy of qualification certificate(s) if applicable Please note that where your qualification title is in Latin or the full title is not stated in your certificate, you must also send us a certified copy of an academic transcript.</p>	
<p>Completed and signed eVetting Invitation Form (NVB1) You must also send us the subsequent online eVetting application.</p>	
<p>Certified copy of certificate(s) of Criminal Clearance You must give us one for each country outside of Ireland where you lived for one year and one day or longer from the age of 18 years.</p>	
<p>Stamped and signed proof of professional practice form This must be stamped by your line manager or HR department.</p>	
<p>Additional information in support of your application if applicable.</p>	If relevant
<p>Statutory Declaration signed under oath.</p>	

Please note: you must include 'certified copies' of documents

You must get the documents you submit certified (checked and stamped) by:

- ▶ a solicitor with a practising certificate
- ▶ a Commissioner for Oaths
- ▶ a Peace Commissioner
- ▶ a Notary Public, or
- ▶ an Garda Síochána (member of the Irish police) (**note:** except for Statutory Declarations)

This will show that the documents you submit are true copies of the originals.

This means that you will have to show the **original** documents to one of the above. They must include their stamp on the copies to show they have been certified. If the certifier does not have an official seal or stamp, then they must provide a signature and full name and address in block capitals.

You may be submitting a qualification certificate, or academic transcript, or both. If so, the registrar (or someone authorised by the registrar) of the university or educational institution that granted the qualification may certify the document as a true copy of the original.

Proof of professional practice

As a Section 91 (existing practitioner) applicant, you must demonstrate proof of professional practice as a Social Care Worker.

- ▶ For 2 years out of the last 5 years within the Republic of Ireland, the UK and/or the European Union prior to the date of application from 30 November 2023 and ending on 30 November 2025. This is also known as 'grandparenting' period.

As an Employee:

If employed by the HSE or privately, your employer must complete a Proof of Professional Employment Form (“**POPE**”).

- ▶ <https://coru.ie/files-registration/proof-of-professional-employment-form.pdf>

The form must be completed in full:

- ▶ Full professional name
- ▶ Official Title
- ▶ Dates of employment
- ▶ Hours worked
- ▶ Job Description
- ▶ Employer's name and contact details
- ▶ Employer signature
- ▶ Date and organisational stamp

If there is no stamp available, the employer must explain why in the relevant space. We can accept multiple POPEs if needed to make up the two years' practice.

A note regarding titles

Engagement in the practice of the profession may also include those in management, education and research directly related to the profession as set out in the Registration Board's policy.

The purpose of the proof of professional practice form is to verify that you were working in the profession during the relevant period. You must print this form at the end of the online process.

You should get this completed, signed and stamped by the relevant organisation and get it back from them before you submit it CORU. We may contact your current or previous employers to confirm some or all of the information provided

Important note for S91 (transition or grandparenting) applicants

Before we accept that you have submitted an application under transitional or grandparenting arrangements (section 91), you must have:

- ▶ completed and submitted the online application form and uploaded the required documentation.
- ▶ paid the application fee

You must have done this on or before the stated deadline.

Partly completed S91 applications that have been started on the online application system (but have not been submitted) will be removed from the system immediately after the application deadline has passed. This means they cannot be submitted to CORU after the transitional period has closed.

Glossary

Approved qualifications rules (bye-law)

Legislation governing the approved qualifications needed to register for a specific profession. Each profession has their own relevant by-laws.

Board

This refers to the registration board for the relevant profession.

Certifier

The person who has verified the credibility of your documentation. Please refer to the list of approved ways to get certification that are detailed in this document on page 5.

Commissioner for Oaths

A Commissioner for Oaths is someone who is authorised to verify:

- ▶ affidavits (sworn written statements that carry factual information and details)
- ▶ Statutory Declarations (defined below)
- ▶ other legal documents.

eVetting Invitation Form

The form that will be sent to you during the registration process. Once completed, we will send the form to the National Vetting Bureau to check for a criminal record.

Disclose all names, surnames, nicknames, former married names, names at birth, Irish and anglicised versions of names.

Disclose all addresses at which you have resided, including temporary/rental addresses and international addresses. Include full postcodes for Northern Irish addresses.

Fit and Proper Survey

If an applicant answers Yes to any question in the F&P survey, or answers No and provides further information, the Registration Department may ask for some more information to bring to the Board in order that they may make an informed decision. This may be a medical note for Question 1, for example.

Refer to the Fit and Proper FAQs on our website, if required:

- ▶ <https://coru.ie/health-and-social-care-professionals/registration/registration-faqs/fit-and-proper-faqs/>

Garda vetting

Garda vetting is a criminal background check completed by the National Vetting Bureau in the Republic of Ireland. A vetting application is submitted to them during the registration process. They will check to see if an applicant has a criminal record.

Peace Commissioner

A Peace Commissioner is an honorary appointment made by the Minister for Justice under Section 88 of the Courts of Justice Act 1924:

▶ <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1924/act/10/section/88/enacted/en/html#sec88>

They are primarily responsible for:

- ▶ taking statutory declarations
- ▶ witnessing signatures on documents required by various authorities
- ▶ signing certificates and orders under various Acts.

Certificate of Criminal Clearance (also known as Police Clearance)

A document issued by An Garda Síochána (the Irish police force) or a police force outside of Ireland that includes background information in relation to you. The certificate will include information like your:

- ▶ name
- ▶ address
- ▶ date of birth
- ▶ any criminal record.

Where an applicant has been residing outside of Ireland for more than one year and one day consecutively over the age of 18, they must provide a certified copy of criminal clearance for that country. If they are unable to obtain this document, they must provide clear evidence of their attempts (correspondence with the authorities, for example), and request a Sworn Declaration template from us for completion.

Where a police clearance certificate is in another language, it must be accompanied by an official translation. The original language certificate must be certified as a true copy of the original and provided too.

Recognition

Professional qualifications awarded outside the State are assessed through a process of 'recognition'. This involves comparing qualifications with accredited Irish qualifications.

Registration

The process of adding a person's name to the register. This allows them to use one of the designated professional titles.

Regulation

If an applicant has been registered with a regulator, whether as a Social Care Workers outside of Ireland or within Ireland for another profession*, we require evidence of good standing. If an applicant appears on a public register, we can refer to this, otherwise, a letter of professional standing is required from the regulator.

If an applicant cannot obtain a letter, they must provide an explanation and evidence of their attempts.

Note: Regulated professions in Ireland include Doctors, Nurses, Pharmacists, Teachers, Dentists.

Return to practice

If you have not been working in the profession for a period of time, going back to work in the profession is called 'return to practice'. This term is used during the registration process. The details will be specified to the applicant.

Statutory declaration

A statutory declaration is a written statement that a person swears, affirms or declares is true. This is done in the presence of an authorised witness, usually:

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

It is a legal document and must be completed correctly and in full in the presence of the certifier. Check the document carefully before leaving the certifier's office. It must be dated no older than six months prior to submission of the online application.

Notary Public

Notary Publics are public officers constituted by law, and they are generally solicitors. You can find them using their public register:

- ▶ <https://www.notarypublic.ie/>

Translations

Documents that are not in the English or Irish language must be translated by an official translator. Both the original document (as a certified copy) and the translation must be submitted.

Verification process

Once we receive an application, we check it to make sure it complies with our requirements.

Useful contacts

Citizens Information

Website:

▶ <https://www.citizensinformation.ie/>

Phone:

▶ 0761 07 4000

Health Service Executive (HSE)

Website:

▶ <https://www.hse.ie/>

Phone:

▶ 1800 700 700

or from outside Ireland

▶ 00 353 1 240 8787.

National Vetting Bureau

Website:

▶ <https://vetting.garda.ie/>

Peace Commissioner

Website:

▶ http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Pages/Peace_commissioners

Professional bodies

For list of professional bodies please visit the [HSE website](https://www.hse.ie/):

▶ <https://www.hse.ie/>

Please contact us if you have any questions

We hope these guidance notes have been helpful. If you have a question or a technical difficulty, please contact us, by email:

▶ socialcareworkers@coru.ie

Phone:

▶ 01 293 3160.



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Sláinte
agus Cúraim Shóisialaigh

Regulating Health +
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