

Medical Cards

Children under 18 years who have been diagnosed with cancer within the last 5 years may qualify for a Medical Card without a means test.

People who have HSE Medical Cards get free medical care and are entitled to:

- Free GP (family doctor) services.
- Free prescribed drugs and medicines. You may have to pay a prescription charge of €1.50 per item, up to a limit of €15 per family per month.
- Free medical aids (appliances), for example, a walking aid, wheelchair, colostomy bags or wig/hairpiece (up to a certain value).
- Free inpatient services in a public ward in a public hospital.
- Dental, optical (eye) and aural (hearing) services.
- Free outpatient services.
- Free accident and emergency care.
- Community care services: public health nursing, home help, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, chiropody, day and respite care.
- Free maternity and infant care services.
- Short-term counselling for mild to moderate difficulties.

Medical Card holders may also be entitled to other benefits such as free primary school transport, exemption from Junior Cert. and Leaving Cert. examination fees and financial help with buying school books.

Your local [social welfare office](#) or a hospital-based social worker can give you more information about how to claim these benefits.

How do I apply?

- Download the application form for children with cancer from the HSE website.
- Complete the form. Your child's doctor will need to complete Part 4A of the form and you will need to include a medical report dated within the last six months which includes details of your child's cancer diagnosis and date of diagnosis.
- Send the completed form to:

National Medical Card Unit
PO Box 12629
Dublin 11
Email: cru.medical@hse.ie

For any queries, call LoCall 1890 252 919 or email clientregistration@hse.ie.

We won't give up until cancer does



The information above is an overview of the Medical Card for children with cancer.

For detailed information, applicants are advised to:

- Visit the [HSE](#) online
- Call Citizens Information on 0761 07 4000 – Monday to Friday from 9am to 8pm
- Visit your local [Citizens Information](#) office
- Call our Cancer Support Line on Freephone 1800 200 700 – Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm
- Contact your Medical Social Worker