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How much you can earn and still qualify for a medical card

The online application process includes a quick assessment of your finances. This will let you know if you might qualify for a medical card. It is based on basic income and expenses information.

A full assessment is carried out later in the application process. You will need to upload documents showing income and expenses. For example, payslip, proof of social welfare payment, childcare costs etc.

How much you can earn

Your qualifying financial threshold is the amount you can earn a week and still qualify for a card.

How we calculate this

Your qualifying financial threshold is calculated by adding the following 3 amounts:

- A basic rate - an amount of money depending on your circumstances.
- The amount allocated for each dependant.
- The amount for allowable expenses.

The 3 amounts are added together to give you a qualifying financial threshold. This figure is the maximum amount you can earn as your net weekly income in order to qualify for a medical card.

Qualifying financial threshold

Basic rate amount + amount for dependants + allowable expenses = amount you can earn a week and qualify for a card

[The basic rates](#)

[Additional rates for dependants](#)

► [Example of qualifying financial thresholds](#)

If your income is above the threshold

You may not qualify for a card based on the means test. If so, we can consider if the medical bills for you or your dependants might cause you financial hardship.

Medical officers will assess your application to see if you should have a [discretionary medical card](#) or GP visit card.

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Saturday: 9am to 5pm

Sunday: Closed

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