

# WAITING LIST REIMBURSEMENT SCHEME

Information at a glance

June 2025

## What is the Waiting List Reimbursement Scheme?

The **Department of Health** has introduced the Waiting List Reimbursement Scheme (WLRS). This scheme provides an option for eligible patients to access private treatment in the Republic of Ireland (ROI) and claim reimbursement for the equivalent cost of the treatment, if carried out within the Health and Social Care (HSC) system in Northern Ireland. Subject to funding, the scheme will be rolled out EU wide later in the year.

### The scheme will open on 2 June 2025

The scheme is available to ordinary residents of Northern Ireland who have been on a HSCNI waiting list for at least two years. A person is ordinarily resident if they are living in the United Kingdom lawfully, voluntarily, or for settled purposes as part of the regular order of their life for the time being, whether for a long or short duration.

Further information on eligibility can be accessed from 2 June on the reimbursement webpage - the site will be accessible via <https://online.hscni.net/our-work/travelfortreatment/roi-reimbursement/>.

## Applying for reimbursement

To be reimbursed for your procedure, you **must** obtain prior approval from the Department of Health before proceeding with your treatment. Further information on how to apply can be accessed on the reimbursement webpage identified above.

## Contact information

**Address:** National Contact Point  
Strategic Planning and Performance Group  
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