Section 6: Socio-Economic Group

Socio-Economic Group (SEG) is a measure of social background. Your socioeconomic group is determined by the information you provide under Section 6 of the HEAR application form, i.e.

- 6.1. Parent's/Guardian's Employment Status
- 6.2. Parent's/Guardian's Type of Employment
- 6.3. Parent's/Guardian's Occupation

Socio-economic group is not determined by whether your parent(s)/guardian(s) have completed third level education.

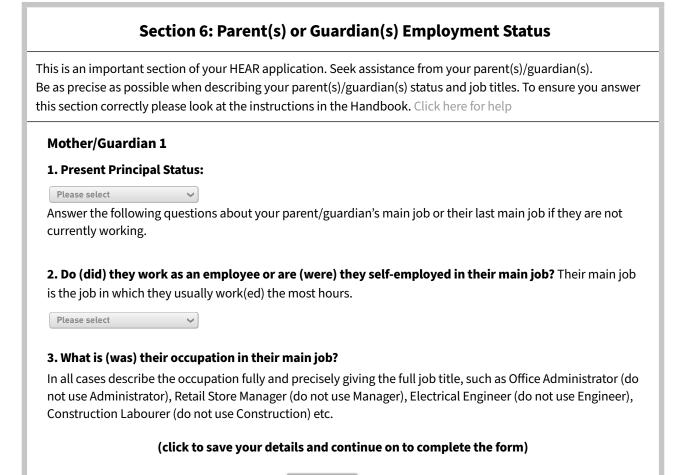
Research shows that students from particular socio-economic groups are underrepresented in higher education relative to their proportion of the population as a whole. The under-represented groups are the Non-Manual Workers Group and the Semi and Unskilled Manual Workers Group.

The Higher Education Authority, the statutory planning and policy development body for higher education and research in Ireland, has set specific targets for colleges and universities in order to increase the number of new students entering higher education who belong to these groups. Students who belong to either of these groups will be awarded the HEAR socio-economic group indicator. Students who belong to any of the other socio-economic groups will not be awarded the HEAR socio-economic group indicator.

- Where you are providing information on two parents/guardians under Section
 6: Socio-Economic Group, both parents/guardians must belong to an underrepresented group in order for you to meet the SEG Indicator.
- Please enter details for your parent(s)/guardian(s) so that we can determine your socio-economic group. If you are unsure about how to answer this question please contact any member of the HEAR team for assistance.



6.1 Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Employment Status



Save

Complete this section with your parent(s) or guardian(s). You can select one of the following options under Section 6.1 of the HEAR application form:

Present Principal Status	Mother/Guardian 1	Father/Guardian 2
Working for payment or profit		
Currently unemployed		
Looking after home/family		
Full-time student		
Retired from employment		
Unable to work due to permanent sickness/disability		
Never worked		
No contact whatsoever		
Deceased		

Important Instructions

- Only tick 'No contact whatsoever' if you have never had any contact with your parent/guardian.
- Only tick 'Never worked' if your parent/guardian has never had a job.
- If your parent/guardian works part-time or is on an employment scheme tick 'Working for payment or profit'.

6.2 Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Type of Employment

You can select one of the following options under Section 6.2 of the HEAR application form. Tick the type of employment your parent(s)/guardian(s) have or had in their current or last main job.

Type of employment	Mother/Guardian 1	Father/Guardian 2
Employee		
Self-Employed (including farmer)		
Self-Employed (including farmer) with paid employees		

6.3 Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Main Job Title

- You must give an accurate job title otherwise we may not be able to establish your socio-economic group. Do not use generic terms such as Administrator, and be as specific as possible. For instance:
 - If your parent/guardian works as a cook in a fast-food restaurant, enter "works as a cook in a fast food restaurant" instead of "McDonald's".
 - If your parent/guardian is a computer programmer please enter "computer programmer" instead of "computing".
 - If your parent/guardian works in retail, do not write retail. Be more specific for example "sales assistant" or "store manager".
- If your parent/guardian is a member of the Gardaí, army or a civil servant enter the rank or grade.
- If your parent/guardian is working in an employment scheme e.g. CE Scheme, enter "CE Scheme Worker" under job title.
- If your parent/guardian is currently unemployed or looking after the home/family enter the title of the job in which they worked the most hours in the past. Do not enter "Unemployed".

Present Principal Status	Job Title
Mother/Guardian 1	
Father/Guardian 2	