

Section 4.1: Care-experienced/Tusla

Some applicants are foster children or separated children and/or in the care of Tusla (the Child and Family Agency). Please answer the question below to indicate if you are, or have been, in care.

Section 4.1: Care-Experienced Applicants to HEAR

Are you currently in the Care of the State/Tusla (the Child and Family Agency) or were you previously in Care of the State/HSE?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If **No** please continue to the next section of the handbook.

If **Yes** you do not need to complete Sections 5-6, but you must supply:
a letter from Tusla on Tusla headed stationery detailing the date you were taken into care.

A foster child is any child who is looked after by someone else other than the parents, by an order of the court or Tusla, without a formal adoption of the child by the person.

A separated child is any child under 18 years of age who is outside his/her country of origin and separated from both parents or his/her previous legal primary caregiver.



You can get the Tusla letter from your social worker or project worker. See www.tusla.ie or call **01-7718500** if you have any questions. See www.accesscollege.ie/hear-supportingdocuments for a sample of this letter and for further information.



**This is a sample document. Please make sure
that your letter is printed on the official
letterhead of the organisation responsible for
writing this letter for you**

CAO

Tower House

Eglinton Street

Galway

1 March 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

_____ (name of HEAR Applicant) is currently/
or was previously in the care of TUSLA / the HSE.

He / she was taken into care from _____ (month / year)

Yours sincerely,

Name of Social Worker / Project Worker

Position in TUSLA / HSE

Contact Telephone

Contact Email