Section 7: Carrying forward HEAR eligibility from 2026 to 2027

This section is only relevant to applicants who made a HEAR application and were eligible in 2026 (e.g. applicants who are now repeating the Leaving Certificate or taking up a deferral from 2026).

Eligibility for HEAR carries forward for one year provided that you:

- are under the age of 23 as of 1 January 2027
- apply to CAO by Monday 1 February 2027 at 5pm
- indicate that you wish to apply to HEAR by Monday 1 March 2027 at 5pm
- supply your correct CAO 2026 application number

Please note that even though you must apply to CAO by Monday 1 February, you have until Monday 1 March at 5pm to complete your online HEAR application



The outcome of your 2026 HEAR application was communicated to you by email in June 2026. If you applied to CAO in 2026 and you were deemed eligible for HEAR in 2026, then your HEAR eligibility can be carried forward to your application for entry in 2027.

You must enter your correct CAO 2026 application number in the box provided. You are still required to complete all relevant sections of the 2027 HEAR application form, however you do not need to supply supporting documents as part of your application. You can contact the CAO helpdesk if you require information about your 2026 HEAR eligibility.

In the event of being offered and accepting a HEAR place in 2027, you may be required to provide the supporting documents which accompanied your 2026 HEAR application.

You must be under the age of 23 as of 1 January 2027 to carry forward HEAR eligibility from 2026 to 2027.