FAQ's: Travel Confirmation Notice

01 December 2026 to 31 January 2027

Q1. What happens if I want to remain abroad after 31 January 2027, but I am not in possession of a valid in-date IRP card?

If you are a **non-visa required** **national**, you do not require any type of visa to enable your return to Ireland. However, you should have your expired IRP card and evidence of your submitted renewal application when you arrive at the Irish border.

If you are a **visa required** **national** and wish to remain abroad after 31 January 2027, but have not received a new valid IRP card before you travel, then, on an exceptional basis, you can apply for an entry visa to enter the State at your local Irish Embassy or Consular Office.

- This application should be made on-line through the Automated Visa Application and Tracking System (AVATS) system when at your destination and you will then be instructed to submit the application to the local mission or visa office, who will do their best to expedite your case.
- The contact details for the Mission to which you send your application will be on the AVATS summary sheet.

Q2. What happens if I want to travel after 31 January 2027?

Normal travel rules will apply from 1 February 2027, and the travel confirmation notice will no longer apply.

Non-nationals who wish to travel outside Ireland after 31 January 2027 should be in possession of a valid in date IRP card and/or an appropriate visa (if visa required) if they intend to re-enter Ireland.

Q3. What happens if I am waiting for a letter of permission before applying for an IRP card?

If you are in possession of or waiting for a letter of permission from ISD, and you wish to travel during this period, you should contact the section dealing with your application directly at one of the contact points here.

Q4. I have applied for EU Treaty Rights but still do not have a letter of temporary permission to allow me to apply for an IRP card. What can I do?

Applicants who consider they may have an entitlement to temporary permission and are planning to travel should contact EU Treaty Rights here as soon as possible and provide documentary evidence of their Christmas travel plans. We will make every effort to prioritise the request. If you are travelling with children please provide their names, dates of birth and document numbers so they can be included.

Q5. I have an emergency need to travel before attending an in-person appointment to register for the first time. What can I do?

ISD registration appointments are now available to book and reschedule online. However, if you have an emergency need to travel before your appointment, you should register for or log into your own Customer Service account and submit an emergency appointment query.

- You will need to provide **details of the emergency** (including **evidence of the emergency**) along with a copy of your airline ticket and your flight details, **including outward and return journey details** so we can assess your request and assist you if possible.

If you are a visa required national and you entered the State on a multi-entry visa in recent months, that visa may still be valid for re-entry. You should check the validity dates on the visa sticker. However, if you were issued with a single-entry visa and have not registered, you will need to apply for an entry visa from an overseas visa office before you return. On an exceptional basis, you can apply for a visa to re-enter the State at your local Irish Embassy or Consular Office.

- This application should be made on-line through the Automated Visa Application and Tracking System (AVATS) system when at your destination and you will then be instructed to submit the application to the local mission or visa office, who will do their best to expedite your case.
- The contact details for the Mission to which you send your application will be on the AVATS summary sheet.
- It is best to apply for a **multi-entry visa**, which will be valid for a further six months from date of issue.

Q6. I have applied online for a new IRP card. If it arrives at my Irish address while I am travelling, can I use a soft copy to return to Ireland after 31 January 2027?

No, a soft copy of your IRP card **is not** acceptable for travel.

Q7. What if I must travel through a third country to return to Ireland?

Immigration Services (ISD) will communicate with the airlines and immigration authorities to inform them of the changes in place until 31 January 2027. However, where you require immigration permission for that third country it is a matter for that jurisdiction to require you to meet their immigration requirements including visa etc.

Q8. I am a diplomat who wishes to remain outside Ireland beyond 31 January 2027. What should I do?

Diplomats with valid credentials from the Department of Foreign Affairs may enter the country using those credentials in place of a re-entry visa. Please direct all queries to the Protocol Office, Department of Foreign Affairs. Click here for contact details.