

Checklist for third-country nationals applying for a residence permit on the basis of study – [Subsidiary Legislation 217.22]

Third-country nationals who are following a course of study in Malta beyond the expiry of their authorisation of stay must have their immigration position covered by a residence permit.

Applications must be submitted in person and the student is required to fill up the relevant forms together with all the requested supporting documentation, contact details, dates and signatures.

- CEA Form N (Non-EU) – Application for a residence permit on the basis of study. The form must be endorsed by the educational establishment with an official stamp and signature of the responsible official;
- Form ID 1A – Identity Registration Form – Non-Maltese Nationals together with an application fee of €27.50.

All supporting documentation must be presented in original format. The Department retains a copy of the following list of documents:

1. Travel and identity documents

Full copy of the applicant's valid passport, including the blank pages, showing a valid visa granted for study purposes. Upon renewal, the applicant must return his previous residence permit together with a copy of the passport's biometric page.

2. Course information

The acceptance letter from the education establishment indicating the exact period of study, the title of the course and the settlement of the tuition fees. Tuition hours must exceed 15 hours per week. The details have to be presented on an official letter head of the establishment and signed by the responsible official.

Where the applicant is following a course of study which leads to a higher education qualification, he must present a confirmation from the education institution that he has sufficient knowledge in the language of the course which he would be following.

3. Means of subsistence

Bank statement or money transfer receipts of the previous 3 months showing adequate funds in Euro to support the applicant's stay in Malta during the whole period of study. The funds must amount to 75% of the national minimum wage for every month of study.

When relying on a foreign bank account, the applicant must confirm accessibility to the funds through a debit/credit card and corresponding withdrawal chits from a local bank.

An applicant whose stay in Malta is financially supported by a third party must present a signed declaration from the sponsor together with a copy of one of the sponsor's identity documents. The latter has to include the date and the contact details of the sponsor himself. The bank statement of the applicant must show the funds being deposited to his account.

4. Health coverage¹

Comprehensive health-insurance policy, showing all aspects being covered, which supports the applicant in the eventuality of requiring any type of medical assistance or hospitalisation during the whole period of stay in Malta.

5. Residential address

Lease agreement or purchase agreement of property which makes clear reference to the applicant. If renting property, the applicant is required to present a Rental Declaration Form signed by the owner of the same property.

Students using the accommodation offered to them by the education institution are exempted from presenting a lease agreement. The relevant information must be included in the acceptance letter referred to in Point 2. The information must state that the property is being used by the institution for the purpose of accommodating its own students in it.

Students being hosted in a local household must present a copy of the license issued by the Malta Tourism Authority to the host. The latter should also be complemented by a Rental Declaration Form.

6. Minor students

Parental declaration authorising students less than eighteen years of age to reside in Malta for the purpose of study, during the whole duration of the course.

7. Other documents

Students have their return flights already booked are required to submit a copy of the tickets within their application. The return date must be not later than 10 days after the end of the course.

Students renewing their residence permit must submit evidence by the education institution concerned of the successful completion of their previous period of study. Such evidence should give priority to the attendance record of the student, the progress registered by the student and the final results of any type of academic assessment.

8. Employment

Students holding a residence permit may take up employment for a maximum period of 20 hours per week, as long as they are in possession of an employment license. Further information in this respect is available at: jobsplus.gov.mt

Notes

Documents in a foreign language must be translated to Maltese or English by a translator registered with the Maltese authorities. Identity Malta retains certified/apostilled copies of the said documents where original documentation would not be possible to retain.

¹ The health sickness requirement applies to those students who are not exempt under the Healthcare Fees Regulation 2004 (Legal Notice 201/2004).

Identity Malta and other related stakeholders reserve the right to request any further documentation that they may deem necessary in the evaluation process of the application.

Successful applicants are issued a residence permit issued for a maximum period of one year, depending on the duration of the studies, provided that the issue of such permit is not contrary to public policy, public security or public health.

Identity Malta may revoke or refuse to renew a residence permit of a student:

- a. when the residence permit has been fraudulently acquired;
- b. wherever it appears that the student did not meet or no longer meets the conditions laid down in the provisions of the Subsidiary Legislation;
- c. when the student does not respect the limits imposed by the employment licence;
- d. when the student does not make any acceptable academic progress in the studies;
- e. when the student fails to attend a significant amount of lectures or any other course commitment;
- f. on grounds of public policy, public health and public security.

The decision of Identity Malta to reject an application for a residence permit may be contested at the Immigration Appeals Board within three days from the date of receipt of the decision.