



Visa Application Guidelines – Malta

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am Language Studio offers students support in their application for an entry visa in Malta. Through an agreement made with the Maltese government students coming to Malta on an English language programme may apply for a visa of up to one year provided that all the supporting documentation is presented.

- Students who have freedom of movement or Maltese citizenship can visit Malta without a visa.
 - To view all Nationalities that do not require an entry visa to visit Malta - <https://identitymalta.com/who-requires-a-visa/>
- Students who have a multiple Shengen Visa can visit Malta without a Maltese Visa
- Students who have a one time entry Shengen visa can visit Malta without a Maltese Visa under the condition that they are coming to Malta before visiting a country from the Shengen zone.
- Students who have a citizenship in one of the countries which belongs to the Shengen zone can visit Malta without Maltese visa.
- Students who want to visit a third country after visiting Malta and before coming back to the country of their citizenship have to have a visa for that third country before they apply for their Maltese visa.
- All other foreign nationals who are not listed have to apply for a visa for Malta which is issued by the Immigration Police. All foreigners who are currently residing in countries where there is an Embassy, High Commission or Consulate of Malta should apply at any of these offices where applications are processed and visas may be issued or refused.
- If an applicant lives in a country / state where no Maltese Embassy / High Commission or Consulate exists, the applicant will find visa representation for Malta in either the Austrian or the Italian embassy that will represent Malta for this purpose. Please refer to the list provided <https://identitymalta.com/representation-agreements-list/> - for details of this representation.

Should you need our assistance to apply for your visa please follow the procedure below:

Applying for a Visa:

First apply for your course with am Language Studio and follow the procedures as indicated in our policies. Once we have accepted your booking you will need to apply for your visa.

Please follow the instructions indicated below:

- Allow for a minimum of 4 weeks when applying for a visa
- Fill in a visa application form. This should be acquired from the Maltese Embassy, High Commission or Consulate.
- Provide a copy of your passport. Ensure that your passport does not expire at least 3 months from the date that your visa would be valid for.
- Provide at least 2 color passport photos on a white background.
- Provide copies of your return travel tickets or a copy of your travel reservations with the stamp of the company which made the reservation on your behalf with your application.
- Provide your signed and stamped **Letter of Acceptance** as issued by am Language Studio showing clearly the address of your stay in Malta, together with your booking confirmation to show that you will be in Malta for the purpose of studying English and that your accommodation as well as tuition fees have been settled.
- The Maltese Embassy reserves the rights to ask for any other documents plus to the ones mentioned above and also ask for a personal interview with any applicant.
- While we cannot guarantee that your visa application will be accepted, the Ministry of Education as well as the Ministry of Tourism in Malta promotes the Learning of English in Malta and has an open policy towards genuine students from all over the world. Please inform us should you encounter difficulties in your visa application as we will do all we can to assist you in your successful application.

It is important for the authorities to understand your purpose of travel and to know that you have paid for this service before applying for an entry visa into Malta. The more evidence you can give to this effect, the higher your chances of your visa request being accepted.

Whenever applying for a visa bear in mind the following tips:

Student's accommodation:

Students should provide the authorities with their accommodation details. It is important that the student decides beforehand where he/she is going to stay. If the student does not book his / her accommodation through the school, he/she will still have to provide all the details of accommodation to the authorities.

Details of Funds:

It is expected that the student can demonstrate that they are carrying enough money to support themselves throughout their stay. Students should have enough money to cover their whole stay, that is 25EURO daily if their accommodation is already paid for or 48EURO daily if accommodation is not yet paid for. Visa Applications from students who cannot demonstrate that they have prepaid for their accommodation and course stand a chance of not being considered favorably. Students who produce a valid credit card may be admitted on the strength of the credit value of the card, which the police can verify if they deem fit.

Proof of Payment for English Language Course and accommodation.

Students need to show proof of payment prior to their arrival. This will show the authorities that you have paid for your course and accommodation fees which will facilitate your application process.

100% of the total invoice must be paid prior to am Language Studio issuing a visa letter.

Letter of acceptance from the school:

Upon payment, am Language Studio will provide the student with a letter of acceptance. This will show the authorities that your application to the school is in order that you have paid for your course and accommodation fees.

Obligations of the School:

am Language Studio is duty bound to ensure that students conform to the conditions of their visa. The school will immediately report any irregularities such as absenteeism from school and/or place of accommodation as well as any undertaking by a student which is deemed not to be in conformity with the laws of Malta such as working without a work permit or committing of crime of any nature. Please note that students on Visa cannot be absented for any lesson unless presenting a medical certificate to us

Copy of Return ticket

Each visa applicant must possess a valid return ticket prior to arrival in Malta. The application for the issue of a visa will be smoother with the clear understanding that the student can show a valid return ticket to the authorities.

Please understand that commencement of the Visa application procedure depends on the students and that am Language Studio is in no way liable or responsible for any losses incurred during the application process.

Visa Guidelines Summary

Other than the general guidelines list above, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued specific guidelines for students wishing to study English in Malta. The Notes below summarize the main points of these guidelines:

1. Courses of a maximum duration of 90 calendar days

Third Country National/s (TCN) attending courses of a duration that does not exceed 90 days are to be issued with a Schengen Short-Stay Visa (C-Visa).

If approved, the visa shall be granted on the basis of a multiple entry visa for the duration of the entire course, plus a 7-day grace period, provided that the total amount does not exceed 90 days.

2. Courses exceeding 90 calendar days

Applicants (including those TCNs who are visa exempt for 90 days) who apply for courses which exceed 90 calendar days are to be issued with a National Long Stay Visa (D-Visa).

If approved, the applicant will be provided with a multiple entry D-Visa for a period that does not exceed 180 days, or the duration of the entire course plus a grace period of 7 days, if the course does not exceed 180 days.

If the course is longer than 180 days, the provisions on the extensions of stay will be provided through the CVU or DCEA as explained below. It is important to note that extensions of stay are only granted subject to good performance and satisfactory attendance of students.

3. Extensions of stay

a. In all cases where the course exceeds 90 days, the further authorisation to stay in Malta shall be extended by a national D-visa for a maximum period of 365 days counting from the initial date of entry into the Schengen area.

b. Students who would require a further authorisation to stay in Malta are required to contact the CVU not before 40 days, and by not later than 21 days, before the expiry of their visa, and present all the required documents including proof of satisfactory performance and attendance.

c. If the duration of the course exceeds 365 days and the student would have already exhausted the validity of the national visa, or his/her stay in the Schengen area already exceeded 365 days, the student must apply for a residence permit in order to extend his/her stay in Malta. Applicants will be required to contact the DCEA not before 30 days and by not later than 21 days before the expiry of his/her visa and present all the required documents including proof of satisfactory performance and attendance.

e. To maintain eligibility to hold a student visa, all students are required to attend lessons regularly unless there are genuine reasons for absences as well as to make satisfactory progress. A minimum of 75% attendance is required. The Central Visa Unit-Identity Malta- Immigration Police can revoke visa of students who do not attend classes or make satisfactory progress. It is the students' responsibility to comply with the requirements to hold a student visa, and it is extremely important, as it may affect any future visa applications and studies in Malta. For instances of sickness/being unable to come to classes, students must inform School and provide the necessary certification. If there is another reason for absence (eg for travel or other reasons) approval must be sought from the School and the School must be kept informed at all times.

4. Employment

Students who do not qualify under the provisions of Subsidiary Legislation 217.09, and are following courses which exceed 90 days, may take up employment in Malta. Access to employment may be granted subject to conditions imposed by Jobsplus, including those sectors where these students would be allowed to work. Students will only be allowed to work a maximum of 20 hours per week after their first three months of study in Malta. These provisions are subject to change from time to time according to the discretion of the Ministry responsible for Jobsplus.