

Working in Malta as a TCN

Your Quick Reference Guide - 2025/2026

As a Third-Country National (TCN) - a citizen of a country outside the EU, EEA, or Switzerland - you need a **Single Permit** to legally live and work in Malta. Here is everything you need to know before you apply.

✓ WHAT IS THE SINGLE PERMIT?

The Single Permit is one document that combines your **work authorisation** and **residence permit**. It is issued by **Identità** and is tied to a specific employer and job role. You cannot work for a different employer or in a different role without a new application. Your right to reside in Malta is directly linked to your continued employment.

✓ HOW TO APPLY - STEP BY STEP (FROM ABROAD)

1	Your employer submits the application Via the Identità Single Permit Online Portal. You confirm your details digitally.
2	Inter-agency review begins Identità, Jobsplus and the Police Immigration Office run checks simultaneously. Allow up to 4 months.
3	Approval in Principle (AIP) issued Valid for 180 days. You must apply for your visa within the first 60 days of receiving it.
4	Apply for your National Long-Stay (D) Visa Through the Central Visa Unit or a Visa Application Centre in your country.
5	Travel to Malta and attend biometrics Pre-book your appointment at Identità in Msida. Bring all original documents.
6	Receive your Interim Receipt Check for the words 'Temporary Authorisation to Work' (TAW). If present, you may start work immediately.
7	Collect your eResidence Card Once all checks are complete, Identità sends a collection letter to your registered address.

PRE-DEPARTURE COURSE - MANDATORY FROM MARCH 2026

All first-time, still-abroad applicants must complete this course before arrival.

Covers: Living and Working in Malta | Workplace Rights and Obligations | English Proficiency Interview

Official cost: 250 EUR - only pay via the official government portal. Any agent charging more is a red flag.

More info here:

homeaffairs.gov.mt/predeparture-course

skillspass.org.mt

WORKING IN MALTA AS A TCN - QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

OFFICIAL FEES - 2025/2026*

Fee	Amount
First-Time Single Permit Application	600 EUR
Change of Employer	600 EUR
Change of Designation (same employer)	300 EUR
Permit Renewal - No Changes	150 EUR/yr
Permit Renewal - With Changes	300 EUR
Live-in Carers	27.50 EUR
National Long-Stay (D) Visa - Standard	150 EUR
National Long-Stay (D) Visa - Premium	300 EUR
Pre-Departure Integration Course	250 EUR
Skills Pass (Tourism and Hospitality)	230 EUR

*These are official fees only. Also budget for: private health insurance (min. 100,000 EUR coverage), registered accommodation deposit, and any IDCU health screening costs. These are market costs, not government fees.

✓ KEY DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

Identity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full passport copy (every page, PDF) - min. 8 months validity from application date
Employment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Signed employment contract (role must match application exactly) 2. Proof of job being advertised for at least 3 weeks on EURES and Jobsplus (provided by employer) 3. Declaration of Suitability - Form ELU FM-038 (signed by employer) 4. Europass CV signed by the applicant
Accommodation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Registered lease 2. Housing Authority approval 3. Attestation Form stamped by Maltese lawyer or notary
Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IDCU health approval certificate (not just proof of tests) 2. Chest X-ray if from high TB-risk country (within 6 weeks of application) 3. Sector vaccinations: Hep B (healthcare); Hep A and Typhoid (food handlers)
Other	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pre-Departure Course Certificate 2. Private health insurance proof (100k EUR min)

✓ IF YOU LOSE YOUR JOB - THE 60-DAY GRACE PERIOD

30 days <i>Automatic upon termination</i>	+30 days <i>With proof of financial self-sufficiency</i>	Total: 60 days <i>To find a new employer</i>
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A Change of Employer application costs 600 EUR and requires a new Labour Market Test. Act quickly as processing takes time.

Losing your job does not mean immediate departure - you have the right to remain in Malta during the grace period.

READY TO FIND YOUR NEXT ROLE IN MALTA?

Konnekt works with employers across finance, technology, healthcare, hospitality and more.

Explore jobs: konnekt.com/jobs

Send your CV: konnekt.com/register

SOURCES

- identita.gov.mt
- jobsplus.gov.mt
- homeaffairs.gov.mt
- legislation.mt
- hpd.gov.mt

This guide is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice.