

# 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)

<b>1</b>	<b>Pre-Departure Course is completed</b> And also approved before the Single Permit application is submitted.
<b>2</b>	<b>Your employer initiates the application</b> Via the Identità Single Permit Online Portal. You confirm your details digitally.
<b>3</b>	<b>Inter-agency review begins</b> Identità, Jobsplus and the Police Immigration Office run checks simultaneously. Allow up to 4 months.
<b>4</b>	<b>Approval in Principle (AIP) issued</b> Valid for 180 days. You must apply for your visa within the first 60 days of receiving it.
<b>5</b>	<b>Apply for your National Long-Stay (D) Visa</b> Through the Central Visa Unit or a Visa Application Centre in your country.
<b>6</b>	<b>Travel to Malta and attend biometrics</b> Pre-book your appointment at Identità in Msida. Bring all original documents.
<b>7</b>	<b>Receive your Interim Receipt</b> Check for the words 'Temporary Authorisation to Work' (TAW). If present, you may start work immediately.
<b>8</b>	<b>Collect your eResidence Card</b> 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](https://homeaffairs.gov.mt/predeparture-course)

[skillspass.org.mt](https://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
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

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

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

<b>30 days</b> <i>Automatic upon termination</i>	<b>+30 days</b> <i>With proof of financial self-sufficiency</i>	<b>Total: 60 days</b> <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](https://konnekt.com/jobs)

Send your CV: [konnekt.com/register](https://konnekt.com/register)

## SOURCES

- [identita.gov.mt](https://identita.gov.mt)
- [jobsplus.gov.mt](https://jobsplus.gov.mt)
- [homeaffairs.gov.mt](https://homeaffairs.gov.mt)
- [legislation.mt](https://legislation.mt)
- [hpd.gov.mt](https://hpd.gov.mt)

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