

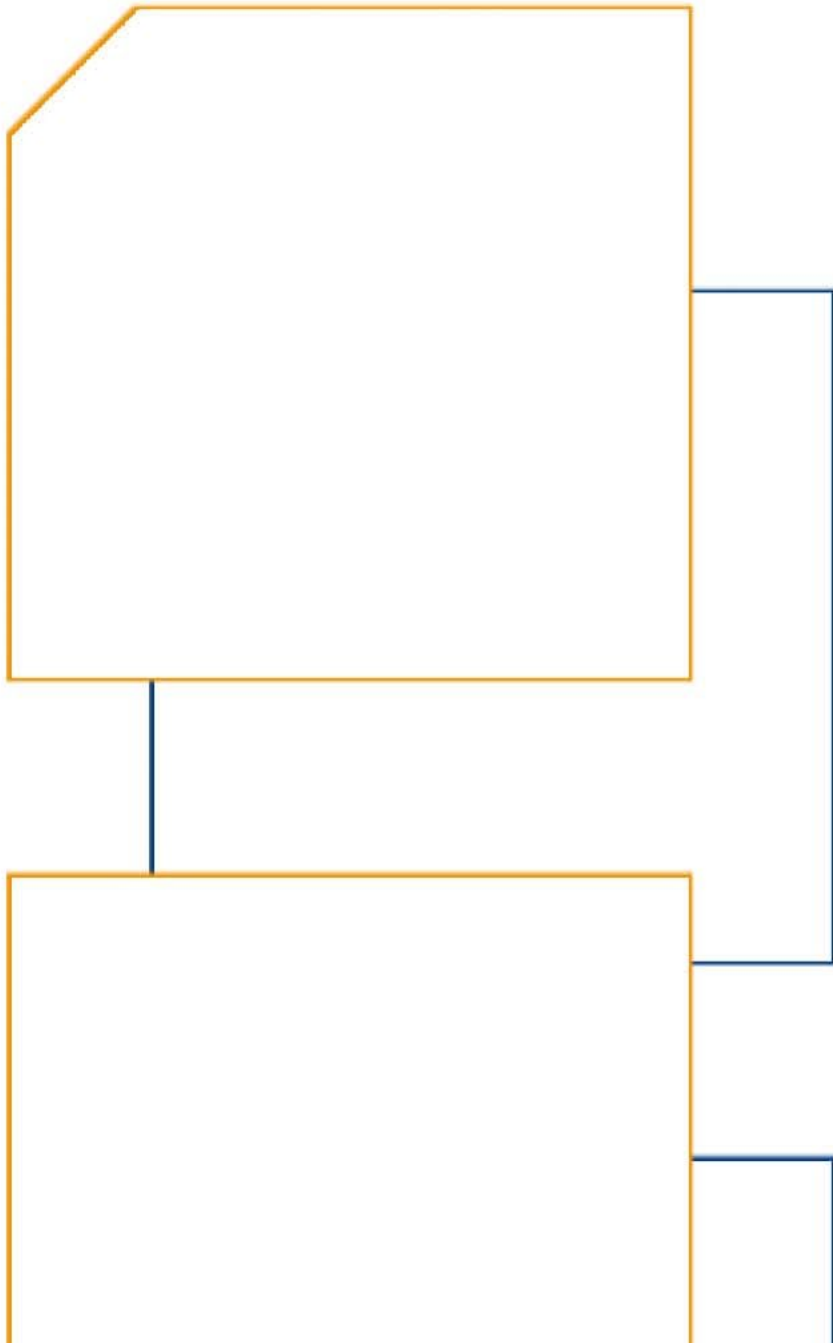
IDENTITY MALTA AGENCY CENTRAL VISA UNIT

OVERVIEW OF THE VISA APPLICATION PROCESS

June 2023

Mr Jean Claude Attard – Unit Coordinator Central Visa Unit





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VISA APPLICATION

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LONG STAY (TYPE D/NATIONAL) VISA APPLICATION

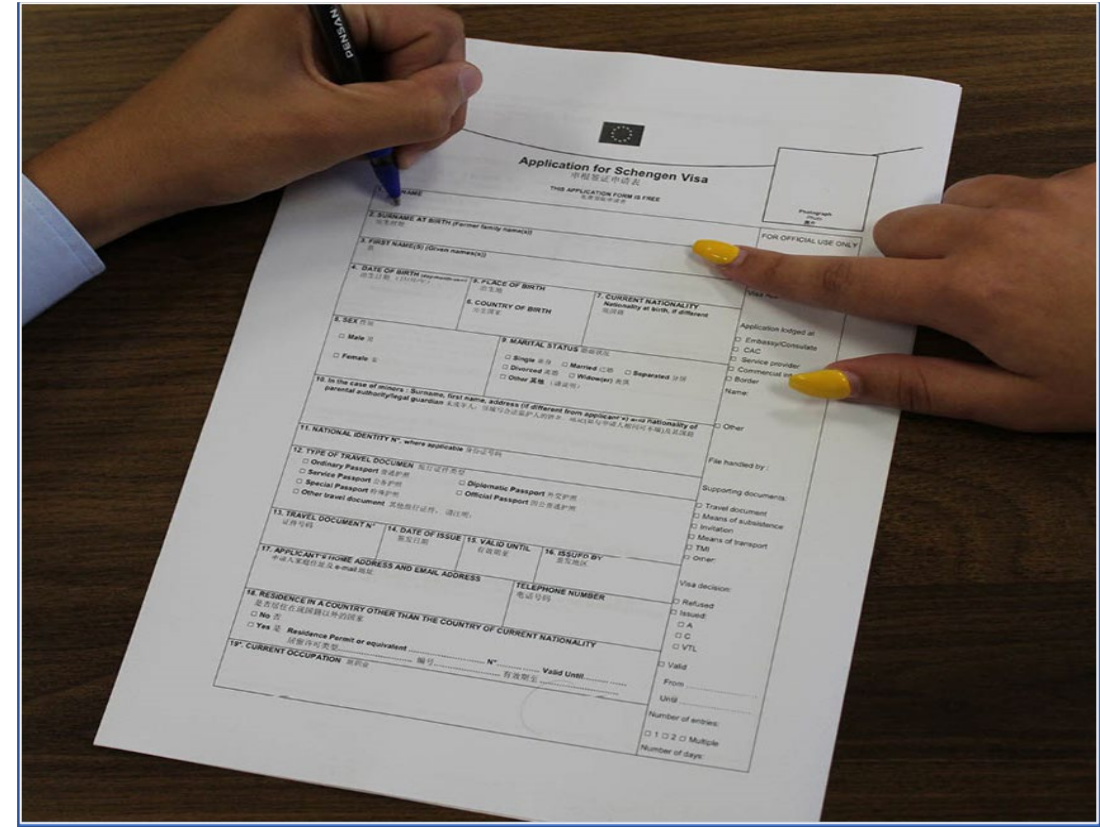
PREMIUM VISA SERVICE

REQUIREMENTS FOR VISA APPLICATION

TIME LIMIT FOR PROCESSING & COST

VISA APPLICATIONS

- TCNs need to be in possession of a valid Visa before entering Malta.
- TCNs who must be in possession of a visa when travelling, must apply for a Visa in their country of domicile at the Diplomatic Mission (Embassy or Consular).



NON-EXEMPT & EXEMPT NATIONALS

WEBSITE:

www.identitymalta.com/unit/central-visa-unit/#Who-Requires-A-Visa

NON-EXEMPT COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN – ALGERIA – ANGOLA –
ARMENIA – AZERBAIJAN – BAHRAIN
– BANGLADESH – BELARUS – BELIZE –
BENIN BHUTAN – BOLIVIA –
BOTSWANA – BURKINA FASO –
BURMA/MYANMAR – BURUNDI –
CAMBODIA – CAMEROON – CAPE
VERDE – CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
– CHAD – CHINA – COMOROS –
CONGO – COTE D'IVOIRE – CUBA –
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO –
DJIBOUTI – DOMINICAN REPUBLIC –
ECUADOR – EGYPT – EQUATORIAL
GUINEA – ERITREA – ESWATINI –
ETHIOPIA – FIJI – GABON – GAMBIA –
GHANA – GUINEA – GUINEA-BISSAU
GUYANA – HAITI – INDIA –
INDONESIA – IRAN – IRAQ – JAMAICA
– JORDAN – KAZAKHSTAN – KENYA –
KUWAIT – KYRGYZSTAN – LAOS –
LEBANON

LESOTHO – LIBERIA – LIBYA –
MADAGASCAR – MALAWI –
MALDIVES – MALI – MAURITANIA –
MONGOLIA – MOROCCO –
MOZAMBIQUE – NAMIBIA – NAURU
– NEPAL – NIGER – NIGERIA – NORTH
KOREA – OMAN – PAKISTAN – PAPUA
NEW GUINEA – PHILIPPINES – QATAR
– RUSSIA – RWANDA – SAO TOME
AND PRINCIPE – SAUDI ARABIA –
SENEGAL – SIERRA LEONE – SOMALIA
– SOUTH AFRICA – SOUTH SUDAN –
SRI LANKA – SUDAN – SURINAME –
SYRIA – TAJIKISTAN – TANZANIA –
THAILAND – TOGO – TUNISIA –
TURKEY – TURKMENISTAN – UGANDA
– UZBEKISTAN – VANUATU –
VIETNAM – YEMEN – ZAMBIA –
ZIMBABWE

EXEMPT COUNTRIES

ALBANIA – ANDORRA – ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA –
ARGENTINA – AUSTRALIA – BAHAMAS – BARBADOS –
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA – BRAZIL – BRUNEI –
CANADA – CHILE – COLOMBIA – COSTA RICA –
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC – EL SALVADOR – NORTH
MACEDONIA – GEORGIA – GRENADA – GUATEMALA –
HOLY SEE (VATICAN CITY STATE) – HONDURAS – ISRAEL –
JAPAN – KIRIBATI – MALAYSIA – MARSHALL ISLANDS –
MAURITIUS – MEXICO – MICRONESIA – MOLDOVA –
MONACO – MONTENEGRO – NEW ZEALAND –
NICARAGUA – PALAU – PANAMA – PARAGUAY – PERU –
SAMOA – SAN MARINO – SERBIA – SEYCHELLES –
SINGAPORE – SOLOMON ISLANDS – SOUTH KOREA – ST
KITTS AND NEVIS – ST LUCIA – ST VINCENT AND THE
GRENADINES – TIMOR-LESTE – TONGA – TRINIDAD AND
TOBAGO – TUVALU – UKRAINE – UAE – USA – UK –
URUGUAY – VENEZUELA

EMPLOYMENT VISA

- To apply for an Employment Visa, the applicant would need to find a prospective employer in Malta.
- The employer applies for the applicant's Single Permit AS STILL ABROAD.
- Once the applicant is approved in principle, he/she would be able to apply for a visa from abroad at the Maltese diplomatic mission/consular post or through the new extended service offered by IMA.



APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE LETTER

- A Visa appointment CANNOT be scheduled unless the Expatriates Unit issue an 'Approval in Principle' letter.



NATIONAL D VISA APPLICATION

- Issued for a period of 91 days in circumstances where the applicant will finalise a Residence Permit application to be valid for 1 year.





TIME LIMIT & FEE

- a) As per the Visa Code, visa processing takes about 15 working days from the date the visa payment and passport are submitted.
- b) In exceptional cases, visa processing time may exceed the 15 working days.

EXTENDED SERVICE

- As from **28th March 2023** Identity Malta Agency has introduced a new system whereby applicants from Bangladesh, India, and Nepal may apply for a VFS appointment directly online through the Extended Service for an Employment Visa.
- This extended service is currently applied in the following Visa Application Centres:
 - India – Delhi, Cochin, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Lucknow**
 - Bangladesh – Dhaka**
 - Nepal – Kathmandu**
- Only valid Approval in Principle Letters will be accepted by the new system. If your Approval in Principle Letter expires before your new appointment, you may request an extension by contacting visa.ima@gov.mt.



CURRENT STATE

Third Country Nationals who are issued with the approval in principle letter and require an employment visa to travel to Malta

- 1. Applicant residing in a country where Malta does not have a Maltese Mission present: (South Africa & Nigeria)**
 - Premium Visa Service (door to door service offered by IMA).
 - Email request sent by the prospective employer on visa.premium.ima@gov.mt with a copy of the applicant's passport and Approval in Principle Letter.
 - Applicant is issued with a token to initiate the visa processing through the Online Visa Portal and upload the documentation requested by CVU.
 - Once the application is vetted, the applicant is requested to settle the visa fee and the courier will deliver the passport from the applicant's country of residence to Malta for processing.

CURRENT STATE

- Once the application is vetted by the stakeholders and CVU, the applicant may be asked to conduct an online interview.
- Once the visa is granted or refused, the passport will be sent back to the applicant in his country of residence.
- This process takes around **6-8** weeks.
- €300 including the visa fee and courier expense.

FIRST QUARTER 2024

Third country nationals who are issued with the approval in principle letter and requires an employment visa to travel to Malta

- 1. Applicants residing in a country where Malta does not have a Maltese Mission present: (South Africa & Nigeria)**
 - Extended Service offered by IMA/CVU.
 - Appointment booking through the VFS portal. A slot can be found within 3 weeks.
 - Application is submitted at the Visa Application Centre run by VFS.
 - The passport is then shipped from the VAC to Malta for processing.
 - The application is vetted by the stakeholders and CVU, the applicant may be asked to attend an online interview or at the VAC.



ADVANTAGES

1. Service Guarantee

- Appointments within 3 weeks.
- Security (R number verification integrated with the internal IMA systems) - (Payment confirmed).
- No refund policy to eliminate abuses.

2. Service Reachability

- More Visa Application Centres across the globe.
- Less travelling for applicants.





identitymalta.com

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