



Malta

Citizenship by Naturalisation for Exceptional Services by Direct Investment

Malta's Granting of Citizenship for Exceptional Services by Direct Investment Regulations (S.L. 188.05) (the Regulations) allow for the granting of citizenship by a certificate of naturalization to foreign individuals and their families who contribute to the country's economic development. This is possible following a 36-month (or, by exception, 12-month) residence period. Each application is subject to a stringent due diligence process, including thorough background checks. Community Malta Agency is the competent Maltese Government Agency responsible for administering the Regulations.

Population: 458,000

Languages: Maltese, English

Economy: Advanced and innovation-driven

Currency: Euro

Overview

- A minimum investment of EUR 738,000 (or EUR 888,000 by exception) depending on the residence status length (36 or 12 months, respectively)
- Applicants and all adult dependents must hold Maltese residence status for a minimum of 36 months (or 12 months, by exception) before they may apply for citizenship
- Under the direct investment regulations, the number of certificates granted (excluding those of dependents) shall not exceed 400 yearly and 1,500 in total

Why Malta?



Visa-free or visa-on-arrival travel to 186 destinations



Once the residence requirement has been fulfilled and the citizenship eligibility application has been approved, successful applicants may apply for Maltese citizenship



A transparent and reputable financial center and a jurisdiction for international business



Opportunity to include parents, a spouse, and children in the main application



World's strictest due diligence standards and vetting of applicants









An attractive place to live or own a second home in, strategically located, with excellent air links

Procedures

Community Malta Agency is the government entity responsible for administering and processing all Maltese citizenship-related matters. This includes accepting and processing applications for Naturalisation for Exceptional Services by Direct Investment in Malta. The application is thoroughly checked and assessed and undergoes a four-tier due diligence process.

- 1 Client contacts *Henley & Partners*
- 2 Initial due diligence checks completed
- 3 If successful, client agreement signed and retainer paid
- 4 Tier 1 due diligence checks completed by the Community Malta Agency
- 5 If successful, the application for a residence permit will be submitted to the Community Malta Agency
- 6 If successful, residence obtained
- 7 Citizenship eligibility application submitted to the Community Malta Agency
- 8 Due diligence checks (Tier 2, Tier 3, and Tier 4) completed by the Community Malta Agency, and the application and its findings are presented to the minister
- 9 Minister makes a decision on the applicant's eligibility to apply for citizenship
- 10 If successful, citizenship application submitted to the Community Malta Agency, after 36-month residence period (or 12-month residence, by exception)
- 11 The Community Malta Agency updates its due diligence on the applicant and presents its final findings to the minister
- 12 Minister decides if the applicant can be granted Maltese citizenship
- 13 If successful, applicant fulfills the exceptional investment, donation, and property requirements. Proof of fulfilling these requirements is required
- 14 Applicant is invited to visit Malta and takes the oath of allegiance
- 15 Maltese certificate of naturalization issued
- 16 Community Malta Agency conducts continuous monitoring for five years

Main applicant requirements

-  A minimum age of 18 years
-  An investment of at least EUR 600,000 (or EUR 750,000 by exception) depending on the residence status length (36 months or 12 months, respectively)
-  The purchase of a residential property in Malta of at least EUR 700,000, which must be held for five years starting from the oath of allegiance date. Alternatively, the lease of a residential property with a rental value of at least EUR 16,000 per annum, also held for five years upon swearing the oath of allegiance. Please note that the property cannot be sublet during this five-year period
-  A donation of at least EUR 10,000 to a registered sport, cultural, scientific, philanthropic, animal welfare, or artistic non-governmental organization or society, as approved by the Community Malta Agency
-  Legal residence of Malta for at least 36 months (or 12 months, by exception), which includes the lease of a residential property with a rental value of at least EUR 16,000 per annum, held for that same period. Applicants require a valid residence card in order to obtain citizenship
-  Community Malta Agency shall administer the due diligence and verification process

About us

Henley & Partners is the global leader in residence and citizenship planning. Each year, hundreds of wealthy individuals and their advisors rely on our expertise and experience in this area. The firm's highly qualified professionals work together as one team in over 30 offices worldwide. The firm also runs a leading government advisory practice that has raised more than USD 8 billion in foreign direct investment.