

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Health Screening for First Time Applicants

## Eligibility and General Requirements

### 1. Who needs to undergo health screening for a work permit?

All **third-country nationals (non-EU nationals)** applying for a work permit in Malta must undergo health screening as part of the application process.

### 2. Is health screening required for both first-time applications and renewals?

Yes. Health screening applies to both:

- First-time work permit applications
- Some renewal applications (depending on eligibility criteria)

### 3. Do all first-time applicants need to undergo health screening?

Yes, all first-time applicants who are non-EU nationals must obtain health screening approval as part of their work permit application.

### 4. Do Health Screening tests need to be done in Malta?

Yes. All required medical tests, investigations, and vaccinations must be carried out locally in Malta through private healthcare providers.

### 5. Can documents be submitted in another language?

No. All documents submitted as part of the Health Screening process must be in English.

## Before You Apply

6. **I have never required health screening before. I am now changing my job and certain criteria have changed so I have been told that I now need to undergo health screening. What type of health screening should I choose when applying?**

In this case you should apply as a **first-time applicant** since you never underwent health screening before. Once the application is submitted, the employer can download a checklist for you to know exactly what the health screening consists of and any tests/vaccinations which need to be taken.

7. **I have already undergone health screening when I first applied for a work permit. I am now changing job. How do I know whether I am required to carry out health screening again or not?**

In this case you should input your details into the system, choose **Change of Job** as the type of application, and it will guide you as to whether you require further health screening or not.

8. **The system is requesting an ID card number of Residence System number (R number) before I can proceed with the application, but I do not have either one of these. What should I do?**

The applicant needs to obtain the Residence system number by starting an application for a residence permit with Identita'.

## Application Process

9. **How do I apply for Health Screening?**

Applications must be submitted online by the employers or their HR representatives through: [Health Screening Portal](#)

**10. Can applications still be submitted by email or paper form?**

No. As of **4th May 2026**, all applications must be submitted through the online system. Paper-based submissions are no longer accepted.

**11. Who should submit the online application?**

The application must be started by the employer or HR representative - not the employee.

**12. What documents are required for the application?**

The employer or HR representative must upload:

- the signed Employee–Employer Declaration Consent Form (the form has to have an original signature. Copied and pasted signatures are not accepted)
- a clear copy of the employee's passport biopage

**Food handlers** must also upload:

- the Food Handler's **card** issued by the **Food Safety Commission**
- scans of both the front and back of the card showing the QR code

**Food Handler certificates are not accepted.**

**13. I cannot find the exact job description for my employee in the job list. How do I know which job description to choose?**

The jobs listed in the health screening portal are linked to the JobsPlus list. Therefore, you should choose the Occupational Title applied for with JobsPlus.

**14. What are the employer's responsibilities?**

Employers or HR representatives must ensure:

- the application is correctly completed
- all contact details are accurate
- all uploaded documents are clear and complete
- the consent form is signed and dated

**Important:** If the **gender, job title, or country details** are entered incorrectly, the application must be aborted by IDCU and a new application submitted from the start, including another visit to the doctor. IDCU will not be liable for any additional costs incurred.

If any of the email addresses is wrongly typed the clearance letter will not be received.

#### **15. What happens if documents are incomplete or unclear?**

Applications with missing, incorrect, incomplete, or unclear documents will be returned for resubmission, which may delay processing.

### **After Submission**

#### **16. What happens after submission?**

- A list of approved doctors and checklist of required documents is provided – these are to be downloaded by the employer who is to pass them on to the applicant
- The health screening appointment must be booked
- The doctor completes and uploads the medical data during the health screening appointment

#### **17. How do I book the medical appointment?**

After the online application is submitted, applicants can download a list of authorised doctors and clinics

**The employer or employee must then book the appointment directly with the doctor.**

**18. How can I know what the health screening includes and what documents I need to take with me to the doctor's appointment?**

Once the employer submits the application, a screen appears with a downloadable checklist showing the health screening requirements for that applicant.

**19. The doctor/clinic is requesting an HS code. What is this and where do I find it?**

The HS code is a unique code that is generated on submission of an application. The person who submitted the application can find it listed next to the details of the application in the IN PROGRESS tab.

## **Health Screening Appointment**

**20. What should I take with me to my health screening appointment?**

Applicants need to take the following documents when visiting the doctor for their health screening to be carried out:

1. Original passport (copy/digital scan not accepted)
2. Medical reports/test results/vaccination records as indicated on the **checklist** that can be downloaded once the application is submitted

In addition, the employer needs to ensure that they have uploaded the consent/declaration form and scan of the passport biopage. If these are not uploaded, the incorrect documents have been uploaded or the documents are incomplete or unclear the doctor will not proceed with the health screening and will ask the employer to resubmit the application with the correct documents.

This will delay the processing time of your application

**21. What will happen at the doctor's appointment?**

The doctor will carry out the health screening, which can include taking a medical history, carry out an examination and reviewing the medical documents that you need to provide. Required vaccinations can also be administered.

The doctor will complete the health screening form on-line and upload the medical records that are required.

**22. Can more than one doctor carry out health screening?**

No. Only one doctor may complete the online Health Screening form. If an employee visits a doctor so that the screening form is assigned to this doctor, other doctors will not be able to access the form.

Therefore, you need to ensure that you visit the same doctor if multiple visits are required.

**23. What are the employee's responsibilities?**

Employees must:

- keep copies of all medical reports and vaccination records
- bring all required documents to the appointment
- provide accurate information during the medical visit

Failure to comply may result in the appointment not being completed.

**24. What happens if my medical results are abnormal?**

Any abnormal medical results must be shown to the doctor during the Health Screening appointment. The doctor will guide the applicant on the next steps and inform IDCU of these results for further management from their end.

## **Vaccination Requirements**

**25. Are vaccinations required?**

Yes. Certain vaccinations are mandatory depending on the applicant's role and circumstances.

**26. Is the Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccine mandatory?**

Yes. All applicants must demonstrate protection against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio.

Applicants are also required to receive one Polio/Diphtheria vaccine dose in Malta.

**Failure to comply will result in rejection of the application.**

**27. Who needs the MMR vaccine?**

MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccination is mandatory for:

- doctors, dentists, nurses, and midwives
- professions complementary to medicine
- carers
- nannies and child carers
- all female applicants, regardless of occupation

**28. Is MMR immunity blood testing still accepted?**

No. MMR immunity testing is no longer accepted as part of the screening process.

**29. Who needs Hepatitis B screening?**

Hepatitis B screening is required for:

- doctors, dentists, nurses, and midwives
- professions complementary to medicine
- carers
- beauticians and spa or massage therapists
- tattooists

**30. What is required to screen for Hepatitis B?**

Applicants must:

- complete a Hepatitis B surface antigen test (HBsAg) before vaccination
- undergo confirmatory testing if the result is positive
- provide proof of vaccination and take any necessary vaccinations

**31. Is Hepatitis B immunity testing still accepted?**

No. Hepatitis B immunity testing is no longer accepted.

**32. What if I do not have my vaccination records/I have incomplete records?**

If vaccination records are unavailable/incomplete:

- the full vaccination course must be repeated in Malta
- a booster dose alone will not be accepted

**33. Can vaccinations done abroad be accepted?**

Yes, if official vaccination records showing that the full course was taken are provided. However, applicants must still receive a booster dose in Malta.

**34. What happens if I refuse or am unable to receive certain vaccines?**

To meet the health requirements for the application, all required health screening criteria must be completed, including any mandatory vaccinations. If you choose not to receive a required vaccine, or if you are unable to receive it and do not meet the applicable health requirements, your application cannot be approved.

## **Tuberculosis (TB) Screening**

**35. Do I need a Chest X-Ray?**

Applicants born in, or who have lived for 6 months or more in, countries classified as high or very high risk for Tuberculosis (TB) must undergo a Chest X-Ray on First Time application.

**36. How recent must the Chest X-Ray be?**

For first-time applications/renewals:

- the Chest X-Ray must be taken within 6 weeks of the application date

For applicants changing jobs:

- a previous Chest X-Ray may be reused if it was taken within the last year

### **37. What happens if I refuse or am unable to undergo a chest X-ray?**

If a chest X-ray is a required part of your health screening process and you choose not to undergo the chest X-ray, or if you are unable to complete it for any reason, you will not have met all the required health screening criteria. As a result, your application cannot be approved.

## **Approval and Work Permit Process**

### **38. How will I know if my Health Screening is approved?**

Once approved, an automated notification email confirming clearance will be sent to the **email addresses provided in the application form**. It is therefore very important to ensure that the correct email addresses are inputted and that there are no mistakes, as the notification email will not reach the intended recipient.

Applicants must present this approval notification to Identità.

### **39. When should applicants book their Identità appointment?**

Appointments with Identità should only be booked **after receiving health screening approval**.

## **Change of Job and Change of Employer**

### **40. Do I need another Health Screening if I change jobs?**

Possibly. Additional screening may be required if the new role falls under a different job category requiring further medical investigations.

The online system will indicate whether additional screening is needed.

#### 41. **Do I need a new Health Screening if I change employer?**

Not usually. If the employee remains in the same job category, a new Health Screening application is generally not required.

However, renewal screening requirements may still apply.

### **Processing Times**

#### 42. **How long does processing take?**

Applications may take up to 15 working days from the date a correctly completed application is received.

Incomplete or incorrect applications may result in delays or refusal.

#### 43. **Can urgent requests be processed faster?**

No. Requests for urgent processing are not considered. This is why applicants are advised to book their appointments with Identità only **after receiving health screening approval**.

### **Managing Applications**

#### 44. **How can the employer or HR representative follow the progress of submitted applications?**

**Only the person who submitted the application can view its progress.**

Submitted applications appear in the **In Progress** tab. Once the application is cleared by both the doctor and IDCU, it moves to the **Closed** tab. If a document is missing or incorrect and the application is returned for correction, it will appear in the **Needs Attention** tab.

**45. What should I do if I receive an email asking me to resubmit a missing or incorrectly uploaded document?**

The person who submitted the application should open it from the **Needs Attention** tab. Under the **Documents** tab, they can replace the incorrect document or upload the missing one, then resubmit the application for review.

**46. How can I withdraw an application that has already been submitted?**

The person who submitted the application can withdraw it by opening the application from the **In Progress** tab on the dashboard and clicking the **Withdraw** button. This option is available only after submission and before the doctor has picked up the application. If the doctor has already picked it up, the doctor must abort the application before it becomes available again for the employer.

**47. I realised that I inputted incorrect information (e.g. wrong gender, wrong job title, wrong nationality/wrong country of birth) – what do I do now?**

In this case the application needs to be withdrawn and resubmitted by the person who submitted the application. Please refer to question 46 on how to withdraw an application.

If the gender, job title, or country details are entered incorrectly, the application must be aborted by IDCU and a new application needs to be submitted from the start. This will include another visit to the doctor. IDCU will not be liable for any additional costs incurred.

## **Further Assistance**

**48. What should I do if I have a query?**

If your query is not addressed through the information on the website or the FAQs send an email to: [workpermitqueries.idcu@gov.mt](mailto:workpermitqueries.idcu@gov.mt)

