

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Health Screening Renewals

Eligibility and Renewal Requirements

1. What is a Health Screening Renewal?

A Health Screening Renewal is a repeat health screening required for some third-country nationals renewing their work permit in Malta.

This refers only to the Health Screening process and not to the renewal of the work permit or ID card itself.

2. Who needs a Health Screening Renewal?

You may need a Health Screening Renewal if:

- you come from a country, or have lived for more than 6 months, in a country classified as very high risk for Tuberculosis (TB), or
- you work in certain professions that require ongoing health monitoring.

3. When is the Health Screening Renewal required?

The renewal screening is required one year after the first Health Screening was carried out.

This means some applicants will need Health Screening during their first two years working in Malta.

4. Are Health Screening renewals always required?

Some applicants may need one repeat Health Screening depending on:

- the countries where they have lived
- their job category

5. Who does NOT need a Health Screening Renewal?

You do not need a Health Screening Renewal if:

- you are not from a **very high-risk** TB country and have not lived there for 6 months or more, and
- you have already been working in Malta in one of the following professions (you are not applying for your work permit for the first time):
 - administrative workers
 - construction/manual workers
 - footballers
 - hairdressers and makeup artists
 - transport workers
 - cleaners and housekeepers
 - security guards
 - delivery personnel
 - laboratory technicians working outside the medical field

If you meet these conditions, you may proceed directly with your work permit renewal through Identity Malta.

6. Which professions require a Health Screening Renewal?

The following professions **must** apply for renewal screening:

- doctors, dentists, nurses, and midwives
- professions complementary to medicine
- carers
- nannies and child carers
- food handlers
- beauticians, beauty therapists, spa therapists, and massage therapists
- tattooists

7. Do applicants from very high-risk TB countries always require renewal screening?

Yes. Applicants who were born in, or lived for 6 months or more in, a country classified as very high risk for TB must undergo a Health Screening Renewal regardless of their job type.

8. Can the TB country risk classification change?

Yes. The list of high-risk and very high-risk TB countries is regularly updated according to World Health Organization (WHO) guidance.

Someone previously exempt from renewal screening may later become subject to it if their country's classification changes.

Application Process

9. How do I apply for a Health Screening Renewal?

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

Paper applications and applications sent by email are no longer accepted.

10. Who should submit the online application?

The employer or HR representative must start and submit the application — not the employee.

11. What documents are required?

The employer or HR representative must upload:

- the signed Employee–Employer Declaration Consent Form
- 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.

12. 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.

13. 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.

14. Do all medical tests need to be done in Malta?

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

15. Can documents be submitted in another language?

No. All documents submitted for Health Screening Renewal must be in English.

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 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.

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

22. Can more than one doctor complete the Health Screening Renewal?

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 presented 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. What vaccination requirements apply for renewal?

Applicants must complete the full vaccination course required for their particular application before the renewal screening.

26. What if I do not have vaccination records/I have incomplete records?

If vaccination records are unavailable/incomplete:

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

27. Are vaccinations received abroad 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.

28. 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

29. Do I need a Chest X-Ray?

Applicants born in, or who lived for 6 months or more in, countries classified as very high risk for TB must undergo a Chest X-Ray for the health screening renewal.

30. How recent must the Chest X-Ray be?

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

31. 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 Renewal

32. How will I know if the Health Screening Renewal 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.

33. Should I book my Identità appointment before approval?

No. Appointments with Identità should only be booked **after Health Screening approval has been received**.

Processing Times

34. 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.

35. 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

36. 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.

37. 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.

38. 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.

1. 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

39. 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