



Malta Startup Residence Programme

Introduction

The Malta Startup Residence Programme (the “SRP”) was introduced in Malta in 2022 and is designed to attract startups’ founders, their core employees and their respective families to take up residence in Malta. The said individuals need to be third country nationals and the startup must satisfy certain requirements and conditions. Beneficiaries of the SRP would be entitled to residency in Malta, with the ability to stay, work and reside in Malta for up to eight years (six years for core employees). Moreover, the beneficiaries would also be entitled to enjoy visa-free travel across the Schengen Area (90 days out of 180).

The expected processing time by Malta Enterprise and Residency Malta Agency is about 3 months from the submission of the complete and correct application pack.

Eligibility criteria

Every startup / scaleup should satisfy the following criteria:

- Must be a an innovative startup or scaleup
- Must be less than 7 years old
- Must have a minimum investment or paid share capital of EUR 25,000
- Moreover, every applicant should satisfy the following criteria:
- Must be the founder, co-founder or core employee (i.e. employees earning at least EUR 30,000 annually) of such startup / scaleup
- Must be at least 18 years of age, must not be a Maltese national or an EU/EEA/Swiss national
- Must be in possession of a valid travel document
- Must be in possession of a valid health insurance (hospital cover)
- Must purchase or rent a property in Malta or Gozo
- Must be a ‘fit and proper’ person – a due diligence investigation will be carried out on the applicant and dependants (if any), specifically looking at criminal background, business/professional affairs, source of wealth and health history.

Vistra

Vistra Residency Services Limited as an Authorised Registered Mandatory (‘ARM’), is able to assist applicants with their application process.

Besides assisting applicants to obtain Maltese residence status, Vistra can also assist beneficiaries to comply with all necessary recurrent requirements, including tax compliance and permit renewals. A dedicated team of experienced professionals can also provide concierge services which includes property management, lifestyle management and personal assistance.

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About Vistra

Here at Vistra, **our purpose is progress**. As a close ally to our clients, our role is to remove the friction that comes from the complexity of global business. We partner with companies and private capital managers along the corporate and private capital lifecycle. From HR to tax and from legal entity management to regulatory compliance, we quietly fix the operational and administrative frustrations that hamper business growth. With over 9000 experts in more than 50 markets, we can accelerate progress, improve processes and reduce risk, wherever your ambition takes you.

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