

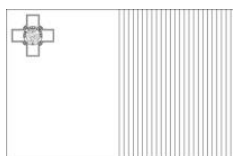


[ESF.03.015]

5th Call Regulations 2019

17th July 2019 – 9th August 2019
Noon – Local time

**This scheme is administered by the
Students' Maintenance Grants and the Scholarships Unit
Ministry for Education and Employment**



Operational Programme II
European Structural and Investment Funds 2014 - 2020
*"Investing in human capital to create more opportunities and
promote the wellbeing of society"*
Scholarships part-financed by the European Social Fund
Co-financing rate: 80% EU Funds; 20% National Funds



TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
1. Introduction	3
General Regulations	3
2. Aims and Objectives	3
3. Explanatory Notes	3
4. Eligibility	6
5. Tenure and Placement	8
6. Choice of Institution	9
7. Administration of Endeavour Scholarships Scheme	10
8. Application Forms	10
9. Eligibility, Selection Process and Procedure	12
10. Selection Criteria	13
11. Types of Scholarships	13
12. Additional Allowances	15
13. General Conditions of Award	16
14. Termination Prior to Completion of Programme	19
15. ESF Publicity Obligation	19
16. Information	20
17. Schedule I	21
18. Schedule II	24
19. Schedule III	25

1 Introduction

- 1.01 **ENDEAVOUR** Scholarships Scheme is intended to support good quality tertiary education and to ensure that the Maltese labour market is supplied with the right individuals and to guarantee that it is in a better position to compete at an international level. The scheme is aimed to support those pursuing this path to succeed both at the level of education attainment as well as contributing effectively towards the economy.
- 1.02 Postgraduate education forms an increasingly important part of any country's economic and social agenda. It supplies a key element of many people's continuing professional development.
- 1.03 The ENDEAVOUR Scheme which aims to address the above objectives is part-financed by the European Union Operational Programme II – Cohesion Policy 2014 – 2020.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

2 Aims and Objectives

- 2.01 The key objectives of the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme are to:
- assist people to pursue further levels of academic research;
 - improve the quality and relevance of the education system;
 - reduce skills mismatches particularly within the priority economic sectors;
 - support further research in science and technology; and
 - increase the capacity and level of research, innovation and development activity in Malta.

3 Explanatory Notes

- 3.01 **Academic Record** shall mean an official document issued by a Recognised Institution. The document shall show the marks/grades obtained by the Applicant and where it is the norm, the final grade/classification.
- 3.02 **Agreement** shall mean a legally binding document to be signed by the Scholarship Awardee as beneficiary of the Scholarship and the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Project Leader. These Regulations shall be construed as forming part of the Agreement. The Agreement has to be signed by not later than three (3) months after the commencement of studies or the publication of rankings, whichever comes last unless otherwise justified. Following the initial payment the remaining monetary amounts shown in the Agreement shall be disbursed upon presentation of a provisional transcript showing the credits covered and any other relevant documents which will be verified for eligibility and correctness, with the last 5% to be disbursed on confirmation of attainment of the required number of ECTS as per scholarship Grant Agreement. In the event of any inconsistency or discrepancy between the Agreement and these Regulations, these Regulations shall prevail in all cases and the Grant Agreement shall be amended to the extent of the discrepancy or inconsistency with these Regulations.
- 3.03 **Applicant** shall mean a person who submits a scholarship application.
- 3.04 **Awardee** shall mean a person who is awarded a scholarship.
- 3.05 **Awarding Body** refers to an organisation recognised by the National Regulatory Authorities

whose purpose is awarding accredited qualifications.

- 3.06 **Commencement Date** of scholarship shall mean the date as specified on the ULA being the start date of the programme/course on which payment to Awardee commences.
- 3.07 **Completion Date** shall mean the date when the programme/course is completed and the final result is published.
- 3.08 **Course Duration** is to be established by the Recognised Institution. For courses of more or less than 12 months, the allowances shall be calculated pro rata over the number of months.
- 3.09 **ECTS** shall mean European Credit Transfer System.
- 3.10 **End Date** shall mean the date as specified on the ULA . Payments are calculated on the number of ECTSs achieved.
- 3.11 **ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme** shall mean, for the purposes of these Regulations, and the Grant Agreement, a Scholarship scheme administered by the Students' Maintenance Grant' and Scholarships Unit - within the Ministry for Education and Employment. The scheme is part-financed by the European Union Operational Programme II – Cohesion Policy 2014-2020 *“Investing in human capital to create more opportunities and promote the wellbeing of society”* - European Social Fund.
- 3.12 **ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board** shall mean a Board appointed by the Minister responsible for Education and Employment. This Board shall be entrusted with the evaluation and ranking of Applicants for the awarding of Scholarships and overseeing of the scheme.
- 3.13 **ESF** shall mean European Social Fund.
- 3.14 **Full-time studies** shall mean studying **physically** full-time on-campus at a Recognised Institution. This excludes learning or studying from any other place that is not designated as being part of the campus of that Educational Institution. The Board may ask the Institution to confirm the physical presence and the duration on campus of the Awardee.
- 3.15 **Full-time/distance learning programmes.** The Recognised Institution is to inform the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Office with that part of the programme which is to be held on campus and that which is by distance-learning. If the Recognised Institution does not provide such information within two weeks from being notified by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board, the course shall be considered as distance learning. For definition of full-time studies please refer to Clause 3.14 of these Regulations.
- 3.16 **ISCED** shall mean International Standard Classification of Education.
- 3.17 **Joint Degree** shall mean a single degree issued by at least two Educational Institutions offering an integrated programme and recognized officially in the countries where the degree-awarding institutions are located. For the purpose of these Regulations, when an Applicant applies for a Joint Degree, a leading Institution has to be identified. The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board shall only recognise one Recognised Institution.
- 3.18 **Masters Programme** shall mean a second cycle higher educational programme that;
- Leads to a Masters level qualification offered by a HEI (including a University) with a minimum of 60 ECTSs (based on the Bologna Process), and
 - Leads to a full MQF Level 7 on an academic level.
- 3.19 **MQF - Malta Qualifications Framework** shall act as a translation device to make national

qualifications more readable across Europe, promoting workers' and learners' mobility between countries and facilitating their lifelong learning.

- 3.20 **MQF Level 7 Qualification** shall mean any qualification referenced at Level 7 of the Malta Qualifications Framework.
- 3.21 **MQRIC** shall mean Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre within the National Commission for Further and Higher Education.
- 3.22 **NCFHE** shall mean National Commission for Further and Higher Education.
- 3.23 **Per Annum** shall mean twelve (12) calendar months.
- 3.24 **Project Leader (PL)** shall mean the person who is entrusted with the overall financial and legal responsibility for the implementation of the project.
- 3.25 **Recognised Institution** shall mean a Higher Educational Institution, or an Awarding Body recognised by the competent authorities in the country where the institution is registered and mutually recognised by NCFHE (in the case of foreign institutions) or locally registered Educational Institution accredited by NCFHE.
- 3.26 **Scholarships' Appeals Board** shall mean a Board appointed by the Minister for Education and Employment, entrusted with assessing and delivering final decisions in respect of petitions submitted by Applicants contesting decisions taken by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board and/or the Project Leader as administrator of the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme on the interpretation of these Regulations. Any decision taken by the Scholarships' Appeals Board shall be regarded as final and irrevocable for all intents and purposes of the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme.
- 3.27 **Study Abroad Allowance** shall mean an additional allowance amounting to two thousand and five hundred euro (€2,500) awarded to Awardees who would be abroad (that is outside the Maltese territory), studying on campus at a Recognised Institution throughout the duration of their programme/course.

In case of study visits, Awardees following part-time / distance learning programmes will be entitled to an allowance amounting to two hundred euro (€200) per visit abroad up to a maximum of two thousand and four hundred euro (€2,400) over a 12-month period. This allowance will only be paid on presentation of the related boarding passes and a letter of confirmation from their Institution.

- 3.28 **Transcript** shall mean the same as **Academic Record**.
- 3.29 **Unconditional Letter of Acceptance (ULA)** shall mean a letter issued to the Applicant by the Registrar (or a delegated high authority) of the Recognised Institution which shall have the following details:
- A clear statement by the Recognised Institution that it is **unconditionally** accepting the Applicant to follow a programme of study.
 - The **Commencement Date** of studies.
 - The **End Date** of studies.
 - The **Modality of study** (that is whether it is distance learning or part time or full time studies);
 - The **Number of ECTSs** pertaining to the programme of study.
 - The **Number of obligatory visits** on University campus (This is required only in the case of applicants following Part-time or Distance Learning programmes with Educational Institutions outside the Maltese territory. Visits should be indicated either per annum or for the whole duration of the programme on the ULA or in a

- separate document by the University.
- Any other information required by the Project Leader.

Applicant shall note that the Agreement to be signed at a later stage (should he/she be awarded a Scholarship) shall include only the information printed on the ULA provided by the deadline of **Friday, 4th October 2019 by not later than 4.00 p.m. (Local time)**.

ALL APPLICANTS shall be obliged to submit the Unconditional Letter of Acceptance by, **Friday, 4th October, 2019 by not later than 4.00 p.m. (Local time)**.

It is the duty of the Applicant to ensure that when he/she chooses a Recognised Institution, this institution is in a position to issue such a ULA with all the above details. This has to be in the form of an original letter, signed by the Registrar of the University (or delegated high authority). Scanned, PDF copies or other electronically transmitted formats shall be accepted PROVISIONALLY in terms of Clause 6.2 unless the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Office receives them directly from the Recognised Institution. If not, the original copy of the ULA must be produced before the signing of the Scholarship Agreement.

In the event where the Recognised Institution issues solely electronic copies of the ULA, the ULA shall be emailed directly by the Institution to the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Office. Scanned or emailed copies of the ULA forwarded to the Applicant shall not be accepted.

4 Eligibility

4.01 In order to apply for an ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme, an Applicant shall by the closing date of the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme application:

- 4.01.1 (a) Be a Maltese citizen who has been residing in Malta for the past five (5) years. Provided that a Maltese citizen who has been residing outside Malta for study, health or work purposes or any other purpose which the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board may consider, will still be eligible to apply and this period of time during which the citizen was abroad **will not** be taken into consideration for the purpose of calculating the five (5) year requirement; **or**
- (b) Be a Maltese Citizen who is a worker or self-employed person in Malta; **or**
- (c) Be a national of an EU/EEA state or a family member of such EU/EEA national (as defined in SL460.17 and in SL217.04 respectively for EU and EEA nationals), provided that such person has obtained permanent residence in Malta in accordance with SL460.17 and in SL217.04 respectively for EU and EEA nationals; **or**
- (d) Be a national of an EU/EEA state who is in Malta exercising his/her Treaty rights as a worker, self-employed person or person retaining such status in accordance with SL460.17; **or**
- (e) Be a third country national that has been granted long-term residence status under SL217.05.

4.01.2 Be applying to follow programme of study at MQF level 7 *that is up to not more than three (3) years / 36 months duration.*

4.02 Applicants who are already in possession of a Level 7 master's degree may also apply to read for another master's degree, BUT they are not allowed to apply under this scheme to read for programmes of studies below master's degree, such as Post Graduate Diploma.

Applicants already in possession of an MQF Level 8 qualification cannot apply under this scheme.

4.03 Applicants shall start their course leading to a Qualification at MQF Level 7 between **17th July 2019 and 31st December 2019.**

4.04 Applicants who have already started an MQF level 7 programme of study before 17th July 2019 (launching date of the scheme) are not eligible to apply.

4.05 Applicants who by closing date of application are still undergoing another programme of study may still apply, provided that such programme is to be concluded and results published by December 2019, before entering into agreement, if awarded an ENDEAVOUR Scholarship.

4.06 The complete online Application Form shall be submitted by **Friday, 9th August 2019** at noon (Local Time). Transcript, Unconditional Letter of Acceptance and MQRIC report or copy of receipt (where applicable) shall be submitted by **Friday, 4th October, 2019 at 4.00 p.m.**

4.07 If applying for a scholarship in which the programme of study leads to MQF Level 7, the Applicant shall hold by **Friday, 4th October 2019 at 4.00 p.m. (Local time)** a ULA from at least one Recognised Institution for a programme/course at MQF Level 7 indicated on the Application Form.

4.08 An Applicant who is starting a programme of study leading to MQF Level 7, but part of the programme/course is referenced to MQF Level 6 shall NOT be eligible to apply under this scheme but shall be eligible to apply under the Malta Government Undergraduate Scheme (MGUS) / Students' Maintenance Grants'.

4.09 It is the responsibility of Applicants, in possession of qualifications at MQF Level 5 or higher awarded by a foreign or local Institutions (excluding University of Malta (UOM), Malta College of Arts Science and Technology (MCAST) and the Institute for Tourism Studies (ITS) to produce an evaluation report / receipt of an MQRIC application on equivalence and comparability of qualifications issued by the Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre (MQRIC) within the National Commission for Further & Higher Education (NCFHE) (as per Education Act – Act XXIV of 1988 in accordance with the Mutual Recognition of Qualifications Act – Act XVIII of 2002). A copy of the said report / receipt of an MQRIC application issued by the MQRIC, or the designated authority in case of warrants, shall be attached to the application, with the original presented at the interview.

Applicants not in possession of this report may still apply, provided that they submit a copy of the report or receipt to the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme as soon as it becomes available and in any case by not later than **Friday, 4th October 2019 at 4.00 p.m. (Local Time).**

- 4.10 Applicants in possession of other national/EU (or a combination of both) public grants or national/EU/Commonwealth (or a combination) scholarships for the same course or programme shall be deemed ineligible under the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme if not notified and approved by the Board. Any scholarships or other supplementary grants awarded to the Scholarship Awardee shall be notified to and approved by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board, whether such are awarded to the Applicant prior to the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme or throughout the duration of the Scholarship. In the event that an Applicant is granted an ENDEAVOUR Scholarship and the Project Leader / MEDE discovers, after the grant of such ENDEAVOUR Scholarship, that the Scholarship Awardee was, at any point in time, whether prior to the award of the ENDEAVOUR Scholarship, or after such award, in receipt of any national/EU public grant or national/EU scholarship, the Scholarship Awardee shall be liable to refund all the amount/s up to then paid to him/her or on his/her behalf in full, and this without prejudice to any other legal action which may be taken in his/her regard.

In addition, applicants awarded under the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme [ESF.03.015] cannot benefit in full or in part from any other scholarship administered by the Scholarships Unit within the Ministry for Education and Employment, including but not limited to the Tertiary Education Scholarship Scheme (TESS), Malta Arts Scholarships Scheme and the Malta Sport Scholarship Scheme for the same course / programme.

- 4.11 Applicants shall become ineligible for a Scholarship if s/he is in breach of any part of the Regulations.
- 4.12 Applicants may apply to follow programmes of studies in any Area of Study specified in Schedule I of Section 17 of these Regulations.

5 Tenure and Placement

- 5.01 Awards are tenable at any local or international Recognised Institution for a specific programme of study or research. Only those institutions recognised by the NCFHE shall be taken into consideration by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board.
- 5.02 It is the responsibility of Applicants, applying for qualifications awarded by foreign Recognised Institutions to produce an evaluation report on comparability of qualifications issued by the Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre (MQRIC) within the National Commission for Further & Higher Education (NCFHE). A copy of the said report issued by the MQRIC, shall be attached to the application, with the original presented at the interview. Applicants not in possession of this report / receipt of an MQRIC application may still apply, provided that they submit a copy of the report or receipt to the ENDEAVOUR Scholarship Scheme Office by not later than **Friday, 4th October 2019 at 4.00 p.m. (Local time)**. The provisions contained in Clause 4.11 of these Regulations shall apply mutatis mutandis.

5.03 The MQRIC may be contacted as follows:

Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre (MQRIC) /
National Commission for Further and Higher Education (NCFHE)
J. Abela Scolaro Street,
Hamrun HMR1304
Tel. no. 153
E-mail: qric.malta@gov.mt
Website: www.ncfhe.gov.mt

6 Choice of Institution

6.01 Applicants are expected to identify not more than five (5) Recognised Institutions and programmes/courses that they consider most appropriate on the Application Form. No changes to the list of institutions are accepted after the closing date of application **Friday, 9th August 2019 at noon (Local Time)**.

6.02 Applicants shall submit at least one Unconditional Letter of Acceptance (ULA) from a Recognised Institution listed on their Application Form. The last day of submission of ULA shall be **Friday, 4th October 2019 at 4.00 p.m. (Local Time)**.

6.02.1 The Unconditional Letter of Acceptance must be accompanied by a declaration from the Applicant that s/he is intending to complete the programme of studies, and presentation of thesis and / or project *early enough to ensure that by 30th June 2023¹ the HEI/University shall be in a position to confirm that the awardee will be awarded the degree. (Please refer to Schedule III of the Regulations)*

6.03 Many courses have strict admission deadlines and Applicants must take the necessary steps to secure admission to their preferred institutions in advance of any Scholarship's application to the ENDEAVOUR Board. Applicants should note that a number of institutions / university departments require an Applicant to demonstrate a valid Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) or Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score before an offer of admission can be made. The fees for these tests shall not be covered by ENDEAVOUR funds. Applicants should check admission requirements carefully at the time of application.

¹ This might be extended further in case of justifiable circumstances

7 Administration of ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme

- 7.01 The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme is administered by the Scholarships Unit within the Ministry for Education and Employment. The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board is responsible for the selection and ranking process and for overseeing the scheme.

All correspondence is to be addressed to:

ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme

Scholarships Unit

Ministry for Education and Employment

Room 115, Education Building

Great Siege Road,

Floriana VLT 2000,

Malta

Tel. No.: (+356) 25982433 / 25982127 / 25982390 / 25982263 / 25982815

E-mail: endeavour.mede@gov.mt

Website: www.myscholarship.gov.mt

8 Application Forms

- 8.01 In line with government policy and to enhance the Scholarships Unit environmental social responsibility **ONLY online applications are accepted**. Applicants are invited to apply using the appropriate online Electronic Application on: www.myscholarship.gov.mt and log in with their e-I.D. It is the responsibility of the Applicants to ensure that their Application is successfully submitted, to keep a printed copy of the Application Form and to print a copy of the electronically generated acknowledgement. This shall be the Applicants' proof that an Application is submitted successfully online, and on time.

A scanned copy of the below supporting documents must be uploaded with the application:

- i) Curriculum Vitae
- ii) The three (3) Appendices: i.e. Appendix 1, Appendix II and Appendix III;
- iii) Applicant's HEI (including University) transcripts(if already available);
- iv) Unconditional Letter of Acceptance for the Recognised Institution applied for (if already available);
- v) MQRIC evaluation report / receipt of application (if already available) as per Clauses 4.09 and 5.02;
- vi) Applicant's disability identity card issued by the Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability (CRPD) (where applicable);
- vii) Permanent Residence permit (where applicable);
- viii) Statement that s/he intends completing the course in time (to fill in and upload schedule III of the Regulations
- ix) Gozo residents are to upload the required certificates as per Clause 12.01.3.

The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board shall give considerable weight to the contents of these Sections in the application form: -

- Appendix I: The relevance of Study / Research to the identified Priority Area (Selected from Schedule 1);
- Appendix II: The relevance of Study / Research to Malta's Strategic Priorities and the EU2020 Strategies;
- Appendix III: The Impact of Study /Research on the development of Malta.

Thus, the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board may penalise Applicants who fail to submit the required Appendices with the Application Form.

- Appendix I: Applicants applying to read for an MQF Level 7 qualification shall submit a clear overview of the relevance of how the course / research is related to the identified priority area (Schedule I) of not more than three hundred (300) words.
- Appendix II: Applicants applying for a scholarship to support studies leading to MQF Level 7 have to state the relevance of their study / research to Malta's Strategic Priorities and the EU2020 Strategy in approximate three hundred (300) words.
- Appendix III: Applicants applying for a scholarship to support studies leading to MQF Level 7 have to state: what is the likely impact of their study / research on the Development of Malta in approximately three hundred (300) words.

In all cases the word count does not include references, bibliographies or footnotes.

- 8.02 Supporting documents not uploaded with the online application are to be forwarded to the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Office via email on the email address: endeavour.mede@gov.mt
- 8.03 The Applications' deadline is **Friday, 9th August, 2019 at noon (Local Time) as shown on the Malta Information Technology Agency (MITA) system. Only in the case of the MQRIC statement/receipt, Transcript / Academic Records, Unconditional Letter of Acceptance, the date of submission is extended to Friday, 4th October 2019 at 4.00 p.m. (Local Time).**
- 8.04 Late and incomplete applications shall not be considered by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board. Applicants are strongly advised not to wait until the last day to submit their application since heavy internet traffic or a fault with the internet connection could lead to difficulties in submission. MEDE cannot be held responsible for any delay due to such difficulties.
- 8.05 Applicants are to ensure that they apply online by the stipulated deadline. The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board and the Scholarships' Appeals Board shall not consider any petitions stating that the Application Form was submitted without tangible proof as evidence.

9 Eligibility, Selection Process and Procedure

- 9.01 The Ministry for Education and Employment has set up the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board to operate the process of selection. This Board shall be responsible for all matters concerning selection according to pre-established criteria identified in Clause 10.01 and determination of appropriate awards according to the Regulations.
- 9.02 Eligible Applicants shall be called for an interview. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to make sure to be available on the date and time communicated to him/her for the interview. No alternative arrangements shall be made to change the date and time of the interview unless there are exceptional circumstances (supported by written proof) that warrant the change of such date and time. The aforementioned exceptional circumstances shall be examined and such alternative date and time may be agreed to by the Board, at the Board's discretion. Interviews are expected to be scheduled between August and October during week days from Monday to Friday from 8.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.
- Applicants who do not turn up for their interview will be considered no longer interested and thus they will be considered ineligible by the board, unless the applicant informs the ENDEAVOUR Office / Board that he / she cannot make it due to exceptional circumstances.
- 9.03 In the case of applicants who are unable to attend on the given date and time for the interview due to being abroad, such interviews shall take place via **SKYPE only** at the given date and time. The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board does not assume any responsibility if the interview fails to materialise properly due to any technical reason. In exceptional cases, an alternative date for interview may be given by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board depending on the circumstances which led to the failure of such an interview.
- 9.04 The Ministry for Education and Employment has also set up the Scholarships' Appeals Board to deal with objections raised by Applicants after they are informed in writing of the decisions of the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board (Refer also to Clause 9.06).
- 9.05 If an Applicant disagrees with the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board, **only** the Applicant may present a petition by registered mail addressed to the Scholarships Appeals Board or by email on email address; scholarshipsappeals.mede@gov.mt within six (6) working days from the date of the written correspondence sent by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board communicating its decision to the Applicant in writing through registered mail. In the petition, the Applicant has to state clearly the reasons why he / she is contesting the decision taken by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board.
- 9.06 The Scholarships' Appeals Board shall only address appeals arising from decisions taken by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board on matters related to procedure or interpretation of the Regulations in terms of eligibility, awards, and other decisions related to the granting of a Scholarship. Under no circumstance shall the Scholarships Appeals Board alter the Regulations, the score of the Applicants derived from interviews by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board, or change the ranking of an Applicant as a result of such score.
- 9.07 The decision of the Scholarships Appeals Board is final and conclusive.

10 Selection Criteria

10.01 Applications are considered on the basis of the following selection criteria:

- (a) Academic merit of the Applicant (20%) – *Only qualifications from MQF Level 5 will be taken into consideration;*
- (b) How study / research is related to the identified priority area (25%);
- (c) The relevance of the study / research to the Malta's Strategic Priorities and to the EU2020 Strategy (20%);
- (d) The likely impact of the study / research on the development of Malta (20%);
- (e) Previous work experience in the area of specialisation applying for and/or work with voluntary organisations (15%).

10.02 An Applicant is considered to have passed the interview if the Applicant obtains a pass mark (that is 50% of the total allotted marks) in the criteria (b), (c) and (d) above. Obtaining a pass mark does not automatically mean that a scholarship is being awarded.

11 Types of Scholarships

11.01 Applicants must be applying to read for a programme of study leading to a qualification at MQF Level 7².

11.02 Applicants awarded a scholarship shall be available to commence their programme /course leading to a qualification at MQF Level 7 between **Wednesday, 17th July 2019 and 31st December, 2019.**

11.03 Programmes / courses eligible under this scheme and value of awards are included in the table below for ease of reference: -

² For further information about the Malta Qualification Framework, contact the National Commission for Further and Higher Education or visit the website <http://www.ncfhe.org.mt/>. For comparative purposes, MQF level 7 is equivalent to ISCED Level 7. For more information on the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 2011), visit the link: <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/isced-2011-en.pdf>.

Table 1: Scholarship Grant

Level of programme	Max. Duration of programme	Value of Scholarship Grant
MQF Level 7	Up to not more than 3 year (36 months)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For study programmes at MQF Level 7 undertaken in Malta, where the qualification is awarded by a recognised institution registered in Malta: €58 per ECTS. ▪ For study programmes at MQF Level 7 undertaken in other countries that is, where the qualification is awarded by a recognised foreign institution (excluding Malta) and Joint Programmes of Study: €100 per ECTS.

11.04 **Value of Awards and Payments**

11.04.1 **Programmes / Courses at MQF Level 7:**

For Programmes/courses provided by a Recognised Institution through distance learning/part-time/full-time, the value of the scholarship grant will be based on the number of ECTS achieved. For students reading for a course in Malta, the amount paid for every ECTS achieved will be €58, whereas for students reading for a course abroad the amount paid for every ECTS will be €100.

- 11.04.2 The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board may consider extension for completion of studies. ONLY one Extension beyond the completion date indicated on the scholarship agreement may be considered by ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board. Any request for extensions are to be addressed to the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board supported by the approval of the Recognised Institution. Any request for extension is at the discretion of the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board to approve or otherwise. No funds will be allocated or paid for this extension if approved by the Board.

Requests for extensions beyond 30th June 2023³ shall not be approved.

³ This might be extended further in case of justifiable circumstances

- 11.04.3 Payments of Scholarships grant are effected as follows:

30% of the number of ECTS as stated in the Unconditional Letter of Acceptance will be paid upfront upon signing of the agreement. Interim payments will be made upon presentation of provisional transcripts. The last 5% will be paid upon confirmation by university of award/qualification.

12 Additional allowances

12.01.1 Scholarship Awardees studying abroad:

For an Awardee selected by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board and who is following *full-time studies* at a foreign Recognised Institution outside Malta, a Study Abroad Allowance of two thousand and five hundred euro (€2,500) per annum is awarded. This amount shall be in addition to the amounts mentioned above and shall be given to cover additional costs related to studying abroad - provided that studying abroad shall mean, resident abroad (that is outside Malta) throughout the programme of studies. Proof of residence abroad must be provided from time to time. The Board reserves the right to ask the applicant for any further evidence of his/her residence abroad and if such further evidence is not forthcoming, the Board may decide to demand a refund of this allowance if already paid. The Awardee is entitled to such an allowance if he / she presents Boarding Pass showing details of flight and destination For further definition of Study Abroad Allowance, please consult Clauses 3.23 and 3.27 of these Regulations.

Awardees following *Part time or Distance Learning programmes / courses who during the course of their studies* are required to attend sessions physically on campus at the foreign Institution as indicated on their ULA or on their programme of study will be entitled to two hundred euro (€200) per visit abroad subject to the provision of boarding passes and a letter of confirmation from their respective Institution confirming the purpose of their visit, up to a maximum of two thousand and four hundred euro (€2,400) over a 12 month period.

12.01.2 Scholarship Awardees with Children under 16 years of age:

For an Awardee with children or otherwise has legal custody of children, a child allowance is payable at the rate of one thousand and one hundred seventy euro (€1,170) per annum for the first child, and seven hundred euro (€700) per annum for any other additional child under the age of sixteen (16), provided that they are residing with their parent/s. This allowance is paid to one of the awardees when both parents / legal guardians are in receipt of an award. Proof of where is the residence of the child/children has to be presented in order for this allowance to be paid.

12.01.3 Gozo Residents

Awardees who **reside** in Gozo, following a programme/course, shall be entitled to additional maintenance supplement of one thousand and fifty euro (€1,050) per annum for the duration of the course. In order to benefit from this additional allowance, applicant shall present a School Leaving Certificate and/or Secondary School Certificate and Profile from any Gozo Secondary School and/or Gozo Sixth Form which certificate/s shows that the applicant attended at least three (3) years in a school in Gozo. This must be verified by the Ministry for Gozo.

12.01.4 Awardees with Disability:

Scholarship Awardees with a disability will benefit from two thousand euro (€2,000) per annum.

Table 2: Additional Allowances

MQF Level	Type of Allowance	What triggers the Allowance
7	Study Abroad Allowance	For visits of one month or more, the allowance will be calculated pro-rata For visits of less than one month, then the €200 per visit will apply
	Awardees with Children (under the age of 16) as per clause 12.01.2	€1,170 p.a. for 1 st child and €700 p.a. for any other child
	Gozo Residents as per clause 12.01.3	€1,050 p.a.
	Persons with Disability that need assistance as Clause 12.01.4	€2,000 p.a.

13 General Conditions of Award

13.01 The general conditions in this section apply to all Applicants under the scheme and to all Scholarship Awardees.

Application stage

13.02 Applicants shall be expected to seek prior visa approval (where applicable) for any proposed studies abroad.

13.03 Supplementary Scholarship awards or supplementary grants for the same course of programme of studies from the chosen recognized institution must be declared at the point of interview or before formally accepting the other awards. All declarations require approval from the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board. The Board may ask for additional documentation before taking any decision. Any unapproved supplementary Scholarship awards or supplementary grants additional to ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme for the same course or programme shall be deemed to be in breach of the agreement. As a result, cancellation of award and refund of all funds granted by then shall be required by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board. The Board considers this as fraud and may proceed with a criminal liability suit against such Awardees. Please refer also to Clause 4.10.

Provisional Award stage

- 13.04 Applicants will be notified of their ranking by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board.
- 13.05 The Awardee shall be given a draft Agreement that stipulates the terms and conditions of such Award. The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board reserves the right to review and cancel the provisional award if new information reveals any change in information or conditions which renders the provisional Awardee ineligible for the Scholarship Award.
- 13.06 The Awardee shall conclude and sign the Agreement by not later than three (3) months after the commencement of studies or the publication of rankings, whichever comes last unless otherwise justified. Failure to present signed Agreement by the prescribed date shall lead to the award being awarded to others according to their respective ranking. As part of the signing of Agreement, the Awardee shall be required to fill in a number of forms, including, TR/S-9 Form and other forms that may be communicated by the Project Leader / MEDE.
- 13.07 Should any conflict arise between the interpretation of clauses in the Regulations and the Agreement, the Regulations shall prevail.
- 13.08 The Awardee shall be expected to take up the Scholarship award from the date stated by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board on the Grant Agreement. If for any reason, the Applicant cannot commence his/her studies on the date stated in the Grant Agreement, or requires a different start date s/he is duty bound to inform the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board as soon as possible. The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board reserves the right, on notification of such intention, to review the start date or else to cancel the Scholarship should the changes imply postponing the start date in breach of Clause 11.02.
- 13.09 The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board reserves the right to publish the names of Applicants provisionally selected for Scholarships on the website of the Ministry for Education and Employment and on the main notice board of the Education Information Unit, Education Building, Floriana. In applying for an award, the Applicant gives consent for such publication in the event that his/her application is successful.

Contracted award stage

- 13.10 The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board reserves the right to publish the names of Scholarship Awardees on the website www.myscholarship.gov.mt.
- 13.11 Scholarships cannot be extended to enable the Awardee to complete an additional or higher qualification other than that for which the selection was made.
- 13.12 Any intellectual property including patents directly arising from or derived from the research work funded by the Scholarship and carried out by the Awardee shall be covered by an Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) agreement that acknowledges that the research work carried out, is partially funded by the European Social Fund/ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme.

- 13.13 The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme shall not seek to obtain any rights in intellectual property owned by the Recognised Institution and/or the Awardee.
- 13.14 On award of a Scholarship, the Project Leader/MEDE of the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme shall make information obtained available to public authorities for accountability purposes.
- 13.15 Awardees who are found to have given false information or who have in any manner withheld information that would have influenced the awarding of the Scholarship and/or any grants in accordance with these Regulations, shall be immediately disqualified and shall be asked to reimburse any expenses and money granted to them or on their behalf . The Board may proceed with a criminal liability suit, without prejudice to any civil action for damages, against such Awardees.

Progress and completion

- 13.16 Every six (6) months, Scholarship Awardees shall ask their faculty supervisor to submit to the Project Leader/MEDE a short statement confirming progress, including number of ECTS gained and if applicable attendance of the Awardee. Failure to receive this information could lead to a halt in payments of further instalments of the Scholarship.
- 13.17 On completion of the studies, the below documentation shall be submitted to the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Office within two (2) months from the award of the qualification:-
1. Final report (directly from the institution via email) where the University confirms that the student has obtained the award;
 2. Soft copy of title and contents pages of thesis/dissertation/research work/project and abstract which shall include the ESF publicity as per Clause 15.
 3. Transcript and/or the Official Certificate awarding the Degree;

Soft Copy documentation shall be forwarded to the Endeavour Scholarships Scheme Office in PDF format by email on email address: endeavour.mede@gov.mt .

- 13.18 By accepting an ENDEAVOUR Scholarship, the Awardees shall be accepting that MEDE shall have the right to publish all publications by Scholarship Awardees. These shall be sent in electronic format to the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Office, within thirty (30) days of being made public, to be uploaded on the Scholarships Unit Portal created for such purpose.
- 13.19 Awardees shall be expected to write a minimum of one article on their work/studies in the Maltese public media within sixty (60) days of their graduation, where they publicly acknowledge that the degree was carried out following the award of an ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme and that the scholarship is part-financed by the European Union – European Social Fund . Such articles may be published on the website of the Scholarships Unit - MEDE. Awardees shall present a soft copy of the article.

14 Termination prior to completion of programme

- 14.01 Scholarship Awardees who for any reason discontinue their studies shall inform the Endeavour Scholarships Scheme Board in writing immediately.
- 14.02 The Endeavour Scholarships Scheme Board shall on thirty (30) days written notice terminate the award if -
- the Applicant's progress is deemed unsatisfactory by the Recognised Institution;
 - the Applicant discontinues the studies; and/or
 - an Applicant is in breach of any provision of these regulations and does not remedy the breach within thirty (30) days of receipt of written notice requiring him/her to do so.
- 14.03 When an Awardee has the Scholarship award terminated under conditions stipulated in Clause 14.02, the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board shall determine the amount to be reimbursed. The refund has to be made within three (3) months of failing the course or failing to complete the course of studies as the case may be.
- 14.04 Awardees shall not be deemed to be in breach of these regulations ONLY in case of serious illness and demise of the awardee. In case of serious illness, the awardee needs to provide medical certificates and testimonials to the ENDEAVOUR Board. Thus, awardees who cannot pursue further studies due to serious illness might be required to refund grants on a pro-rata basis as approved by and at the discretion of ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board.

In such situations, the Scholarship Awardee shall provide justifiable explanation as to why the course was not completed or why the Scholarship Awardee failed to obtain the qualification. Documented evidence, medical certificates and testimonials must accompany each claim. The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships' Scheme Board shall in no way be bound to waiver all claims put forward. The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board reserves the right to appoint its own expert, be it medical or otherwise, to advise and assess the case of the claimant.

15 ESF Publicity Obligations

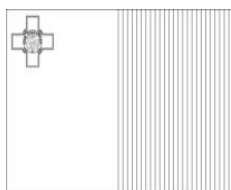
- 15.01 ENDEAVOUR Project is part financed by the Operational Programme II - European Structural and Investment Funds 2014 – 2020 “Investing in human capital to create more opportunities and promote the wellbeing of society”. Since the thesis / dissertation/ project is part-financed by the European Social Fund, the abstract of thesis needs to include the ESF Logo, the EU Flag, the National Flag of Malta and the co-financing text., Moreover, all publications (including thesis/dissertation/research work/project) arising from the degree being sponsored by the ENDEAVOUR shall reflect the following acknowledgement: The research work disclosed in this publication is partially funded by the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme. “The scholarship is part-financed by the European Social Fund”.

16 Information

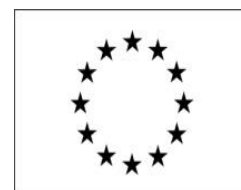
16.01 For further queries and information please contact:

ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Office
Scholarships Unit
Room 115,
Education Building
Ministry for Education & Employment
Great Siege Road,
Floriana, VLT 2000
Telephone :(+356) 25982433/ 25982127 / 25982390 / 25982263 / 25982815
Email: endeavour.mede@gov.mt
Website: www.myscholarship.gov.mt

Please note that the official website of ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme is found on www.myscholarship.gov.mt. Neither the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board, nor the Scholarships Unit - MEDE, shall assume any responsibility for any incorrect information found on other websites as regards the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme.



Operational Programme II
European Structural and Investment Funds 2014 - 2020
*"Investing in human capital to create more opportunities and
promote the wellbeing of society"*
Scholarships part-financed by the European Social Fund
Co-financing rate: 80% EU Funds; 20% National Funds



17 Schedule I

Priority Areas of Study in Terms of Clause 4.12

Creative Industries, including *but not limited to*:

- Design
- Films
- Graphic and multimedia designers

Education, International Education Services, including *but not limited to*:

- Andragogy
- Career guidance
- University and higher education teachers/lecturers
- Vocational/Professional education and training

Environmental Studies *including but not limited to*:

- Ecology
- Green economy and sustainability
- Resource efficiency building
- Sustainable product design and innovation ecosystem
- Sustainable manufacturing

Finance *including but not limited to*:

- Accountancy
- Auditing
- Banking
- Business administration (MBA)
- Compliance and regulatory requirements
- Fund administration
- Logistics and supply chain management
- Tax specialisations

Health *including but not limited to*:

- Medicine (General Practice, Specialised Medical)
- Nursing
- Personal Care (home based for aged or disabled persons)
- Pharmacy

Humanities and Arts *including but not limited to:*

- Anthropology
- Archaeology
- Cultural Heritage and Restoration
- History
- Geography
- Languages (Maltese/Italian /French/German/Latin/Spanish...)
- Philosophy
- Sociology
- Translation, Terminology and Interpreting Studies

Information and Communication Technology, including *but not limited to:*

- Artificial Intelligence
- Blockchain
- Cloud Computing
- Computer Engineering (Hardware & Software)
- Computer networking
- Computer Programming
- E-Business/Digital Marketing
- Gaming Developing
- Games Presenting
- Search Marketing
- Security
- Site Developing
- Systems analytics
- Tech Developing

International Affairs *including but not limited to:*

- Conflict Resolution
- Diplomatic Studies
- European Studies
- Governance in Small States
- Humanitarian Action
- International Relations
- Mediterranean Studies
- Migration

Maritime related studies, including *but not limited to:*

- Added Value to Artisanal Fishing
- Maritime Law
- Shipping, Ship Handling, out-of-dock servicing and logistics

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), including *but not limited to*:

- Advanced manufacturing
- Architecture and Civil Engineering
- Aviation Maintenance Engineering
- Bioinformatics
- Chemistry
- Electronics Engineering
- Genomics
- Geology Geophysics/space
- Life Sciences
- Molecular Biology
- Oceanography

Service and Retail *including but not limited to*:

- Entrepreneurship
- Equipping retail
- Retail Management

Tourism and Hospitality Studies *including but not limited to*:

- Business Tourism
- Cruise Liners Services
- Cultural Tourism
- Eco-Tourism
- Educational Tourism
- English Language Teaching to Speakers of other Languages (such as DELTA & TESOL)

Transport and Logistics *including but not limited to*:

- Aircraft Maintenance and Registration
- Merchant Shipping
- Ship Modification and Registration
- Ship Management and Ship Repair
- Super Yachting Services
- Yachting Crew Training

Veterinary related studies *including but not limited to*:

- Veterinary Care
- Veterinary Sciences
- Veterinary Services

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18 Schedule II



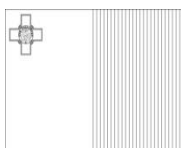
[ESF.03.015]

5th Call Regulations 2019

Available Funds:

ENDEAVOUR 5th Call:

€1.500, 000



Operational Programme II
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19 Schedule III



[ESF.03.015]

ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme 5th Call - 2019

To

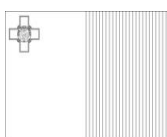
The ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Board

I undertake that the duration of my programme of studies applied for under the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme 5th Call will be according to Clauses 6.02.1 and 11.03 of the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Regulations

Applicants I.D. Card No.

Applicant's Signature

* Please note that no exceptions can be allowed on duration periods stipulated in Clause 11.03 of the ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme Regulations.



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