



GOVERNMENT
OF MALTA



3rd Call Regulations 2024

This Scheme is administered by the Scholarships Unit
Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation



15th May 2024 – 21st June 2024
Noon – Local time



Co-funded by the
European Union

Website <https://education.gov.mt/myscholarships/>
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CONTENT

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Aims and Objectives	3
3.	Explanatory Notes	3
4.	Eligibility	5
5.	Tenure and Placement	8
6.	Choice of Institution	9
7.	Administration of ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme	10
8.	Application Form	10
9.	Eligibility, Selection Process and Procedure	11
10.	Selection Criteria	11
11.	MQF Level 7 Value of Awards and Payments	12
12.	MQF Level 8 Value of Awards and Payments	12
13.	Additional allowances for MQF level 7 and MQF level 8	13
14.	General Conditions of Award	14
15.	Termination prior to completion of programme	16
16.	ESF+ Publicity Obligations	16
17.	Information	16
18.	Funds Available	17
19.	Schedule I	18
20.	Schedule II	19
21.	Schedule III	22

1. Introduction

- 1.01 ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme is intended to support good quality tertiary education at MQF level 7 and MQF level 8 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 II Scheme which aims to address the above objectives is co-funded by the ESF+ 2021 - 2027

GENERAL REGULATIONS

2. Aims and Objectives

- 2.01 The key objectives of the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme are to:
 - ▶ assist people to pursue further levels of academic research.
 - ▶ 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 Educational 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 II Scholarships Scheme Project Leader. These Regulations shall be construed as forming part of the 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 **Assistance Allowance** shall mean an allowance given to awardees who were found eligible for Supplementary Allowances after 2017 by the Student Maintenance Grants Board MEYR for studies at MQF Level 6. Scholarship Awardees who will be confirmed eligible for the Grant by the Endeavour II Board/Office will benefit from an additional allowance of two thousand euro (€2,000) per annum
- 3.05 **Awardee** shall mean a person who is awarded a scholarship.
- 3.06 **Awarding Body** refers to an organization, recognised by the National Regulatory Authorities, whose purpose is awarding accredited qualifications.
- 3.07 **Bench Fees (applicable for MQF level 8 only)** shall mean fees being educational costs related to the execution of studies or research activity, but which are not covered by the tuition fees, and not related (but not limited) to general maintenance, travel, conference attendance (including registration fees), buying of books, registration to access libraries, use/purchasing of computer/laptops, hard disks, energy charges, health insurance, sports' membership or living costs/personal salaries of the Awardee. For bench fees above five hundred euro (€500) a breakdown of the costs needs to be provided by the Recognised Institution

before the signing of the Scholarship Agreement (as per clause 3.02). ONLY technical expenses directly related with the programme/course from the Recognised Institution are eligible. Failure by the Recognised Institution and/or the Awardee to provide such a breakdown, precludes the Board from the obligation to honour any claims for Bench Fees. All Bench Fees need to be declared in writing in the Unconditional Letter of Acceptance (ULA). Any increase in, or any additional Bench Fees cannot be claimed by the Awardee or the Recognised Institution if not included in the ULA submitted by the closing date.

- 3.08 **Blended Modality** shall mean that the course will have part carried out via online/distance learning and part carried out on campus.
- 3.09 **Commencement Date** of scholarship shall mean the date as specified in the ULA being the official start date of the study programme/course and is considered as the date on which payments to scholarship awardee will be calculated. SAA for full time Programmes abroad will be calculated as per boarding pass/airline confirmation of when awardees travel if they travel after the commencement date.
- 3.10 **Completion Date** shall mean the date when the programme/course is completed, and the final result is published.
- 3.11 **Course Duration** refers to the total length of the study programme/course as 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.
- 3.12 **ECTS** shall mean European Credit Transfer System.
- 3.13 **End Date** shall mean the date as specified on the ULA or the transcript, whichever is the earlier, and on which payments of allowances are calculated. Payments of the grant are calculated on the number of ECTS achieved in the case of MQF level 7 awardees and on invoices, receipts, and bank statements (up to the amount stipulated in Table 2 clause 12) in the case of MQF level 8 awardees.
- 3.14 **ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme** shall mean, for the purposes of these Regulations, and the Grant Agreement, a Scholarship scheme administered by the Scholarships Unit - within the Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research, and Innovation. The scheme is co-funded by the European Union through the ESF+2021 - 2027.
- 3.15 **ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships' Scheme Board** shall mean a Board appointed by the Minister responsible for Education, Sport, Youth, Research, and Innovation. This Board shall be entrusted with evaluation and ranking of Applicants and for the awarding of Scholarships overseeing of the scheme.
- 3.16 **ESF+ shall** mean European Social Fund Plus 2021 - 2027.
- 3.17 **Full-time studies** shall mean studying physically full-time on-campus at a Recognised Educational Institution.
- 3.18 **Full-time/distance learning/blended learning Programmes.** The Recognised Educational Institution is to inform the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Office as to which part of the programme will be held on campus and which part will be provided through distance-learning. If the Recognised Educational Institution does not provide such information by the deadline of **Friday, 11th October 2024 at 4.00 p.m.** (Local time), the course shall be considered as distance learning. For definition of full-time studies please refer to Clause 3.17 of these Regulations.
- 3.19 **HEI** shall mean Higher Education Institution
- 3.20 **ISCED** shall mean International Standard Classification of Education.
- 3.21 **Joint Degree** shall mean a degree/s issued by at least two Educational Institutions offering an integrated programme and recognised officially in the countries where the degree-awarding institutions are located. When an Applicant applies for a Joint Degree, a leading Institution must be identified. The ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board shall only consider/accept one Recognised Institution.
- 3.22 **Master's Programme** shall mean a second cycle higher educational programme that;
 - ▶ Leads to a Master level qualification offered by a HEI (including a University) with a minimum of 60 ECTS credits (based on the Bologna Process), and
 - ▶ Leads to a full MQF Level 7 qualification on an academic level.
- 3.23 **MEYR** shall mean Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research, and Innovation.
- 3.24 **MFHEA** shall mean Malta Further and Higher Education Authority.

- 3.25 **MQF - Malta Qualifications Framework** shall mean the translation device that acts to make national qualifications more readable across Europe, promoting workers' and learners' mobility between countries and facilitating their lifelong learning.
- 3.26 **MQF Level 7 Qualification** shall mean any qualification referenced at Level 7 of the Malta Qualifications Framework.
- 3.27 **MQF Level 8 Qualification** shall mean any qualification referenced at Level 8 of the Malta Qualifications Framework.
- 3.28 **MQRIC** shall mean Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre within the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority.
- 3.29 **Per Annum** shall mean twelve (12) calendar months.
- 3.30 **Project Leader** (PL) shall mean the person who is entrusted with the overall administrative, financial, and legal responsibility for the implementation of the project.
- 3.31 **Recognised Educational Institution** shall mean a Higher Educational Institution (HEI), or an Awarding Body recognised by the competent authorities in the country where the institution is registered and mutually recognised by MFHEA (in the case of foreign institutions) or locally registered Educational Institution accredited by MFHEA.
- 3.32 **Scholarships' Appeals Board** shall mean a Board appointed by MEYR, entrusted with assessing and delivering final decisions in respect of petitions submitted by Applicants contesting decisions taken by the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships' Scheme Board and/or the Project Leader as administrator of the ENDEAVOUR II 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 II Scholarships' Scheme.
- 3.33 **Second deadline**, that is 11th October 2024, shall mean the deadline by which the ULA, MQRIC report/ receipt and transcripts, and disability card are to be submitted to the Endeavour II office.
- 3.34 **Study Abroad Allowance (SAA)** shall mean an additional allowance covering costs for studies abroad on Full Time basis. In case of PT/DL/Blended courses, awardees will be entitled for additional allowance covering visits abroad [See also clause 13]
- 3.35 **Transcript** shall mean the same as Academic Record.
- 3.36 **Tuition Fees (applicable for MQF level 8 only)** shall mean enrolment, administration, registration and/or examination fees charged by a Recognised Educational Institution so that the Applicant follows an MQF Level 8 programme. Tuition Fees covered shall be those charged directly by a Recognised Educational Institution as they appear on the ULA. Any subsequent increase in Tuition Fees cannot be claimed by the awardee if not stated in the ULA submitted by the closing date.
- 3.37 **Unconditional Offer/Letter of Acceptance (ULA)** shall mean an official document issued to the Applicant by the Registrar (or a delegated high authority) of the Recognised Educational Institution which shall include the details in clause 4.08.

4. Eligibility

- 4.01 To apply for an ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme, an Applicant shall by the closing date of the ENDEAVOUR II 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 II 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 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 and has been residing in Malta for the past five years; or

- c. 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 and has been residing in Malta for the past five years or
 - d. Be a third country national who has been living in Malta for the past five years 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 or MQF level 8 with start date as per clause 4.03.
- 4.01.3 Final documentation is expected to reach the Endeavour II office by /before end of November 2029.
- For MQF level 7; Failure to provide evidence of achieved ECTS and that the course has been successfully completed, by end of November 2029, may result to remaining payments due being annulled.
 - For MQF level 8; Failure to provide evidence that the course has been successfully completed, by end of November 2029, the Endeavour II Board/Office may request the awardee to refund back all monies paid to them through the scholarship.
- 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 eligible 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 Qualification at MQF Level 7 or MQF level 8 **between 15th May 2024 and 30th April 2025.**
- 4.04 Applicants who have already started the course **before 15th May 2024 are not eligible to apply.**
- 4.05 The complete online Application Form shall be submitted by Wednesday, **21st June 2024 at noon** (Local Time). Transcript, Unconditional Letter of Acceptance/Offer, MQRIC report or receipt, Confirmation from university re area of study, and, Disability Card, shall be submitted by not later than **Friday 11th October 2024 at 4.00 p.m.**
- 4.06 If applying for a scholarship at MQF Level 7 the Applicant shall hold by **Friday 11th October 2024 at 4.00 p.m.** (Local time) a ULA from at least one Recognised Educational Institution for a programme/course at MQF Level 7 indicated on the Application Form. University must confirm by email sent directly to Endeavour II Office that the programme of studies applied for falls under the area of study chosen. **The deadline is 11th October 2024 at 4.00pm local time.**
- 4.07 If applying for a Scholarship in which the programme/course leads to MQF Level 8 (**Full Time ONLY**), the Applicant shall hold by Friday, 11th October 2024 at 4.00 p.m. (Local time), the following:
- a) a first cycle Degree (MQF Level 6); and / or
 - b) a second cycle Degree (MQF Level 7) at Master's level; and
 - c) a ULA from at least one Recognised Institution for a programme/course at MQF Level 8 (Full time Only) as indicated on the Application Form. University must confirm by email sent directly to Endeavour II Office that the programme of studies applied for falls under the area of study chosen (only one of the above). The deadline is 11th October 2024 at 4.00pm local time.
- 4.08 **The ULA** shall have the following details:
- A clear statement by the Recognised Educational Institution that it is **unconditionally** offering the Applicant to follow a programme of study.
 - The **Commencement Date** of studies (Indicating the exact day, month, and year).
 - The **End Date of studies** (Indicating the exact day, month, and year).
 - The **Modality of study** (that is whether it is distance learning, part time, blended or full-time studies).
 - The **Number of ECTS** or any other internationally recognised academic award credit system equivalent. **(Applicable only to MQF level 7)**
 - The **Number of obligatory visits** on university campus. For Joint full time/Part-time/Blended/Distance Learning Programmes with Educational Institutions outside the Maltese territory. Visits must be indicated either per annum or for the whole duration of the programme on the ULA or in a separate document by the University. For those whose visits on university campus are 30 consecutive days or longer these have to be confirmed on ULA or via e-mail directly from the University by **11th October 2024.**

- ▶ **The Tuition Fee (Applicable only to MQF Level 8)** shall be indicated on the ULA. The tuition fees quoted must be indicated per annum or for the whole duration of the course. Applicants shall note that the Agreement to be signed at a later stage (should they be awarded a Scholarship) shall include only the information printed on the ULA provided. The Scholarships Unit shall not accept any revisions in Tuition Fees other than those that reflect the information and/or data provided by the ULA submitted by the deadline of 11th October 2024. The fees paid, as Tuition Fees, is the amount shown and specified as such on the ULA submitted up to the maximum amount indicated in clause 12 table 2.
- ▶ **The Bench Fees (where applicable for MQF Level 8 only)** shall mean fees being educational costs related to the execution of studies or research activity, but which are not covered by the tuition fees, and not related (but not limited) to general maintenance, travel, conference attendance (including registration fees), buying of books, registration to access libraries, use/purchasing of computer/laptops, hard disks, energy charges, health insurance, sports' membership or living costs/ personal salaries of the Awardee. For bench fees above five hundred euro (€500) a breakdown of the costs needs to be provided by the Recognised Institution before the signing of the Scholarship Agreement (as per clause 3.02). ONLY technical expenses directly related with the programme/ course from the Recognised Institution are eligible. Failure by the Recognised Institution and/or the Awardee to provide such a breakdown, precludes the Board from the obligation to honour any claims for Bench Fees. All Bench Fees need to be declared in writing in the Unconditional Letter of Acceptance (ULA). Any increase in, or any additional Bench Fees cannot be claimed by the Awardee or the Recognised Institution if not included in the ULA submitted by the closing date.
- ▶ Any other information required by the Project Leader.

Applicant shall note that the Agreement to be signed at a later stage (should the applicant be awarded a Scholarship) shall include only the information printed on the ULA provided by the deadline of **Friday 11th October 2024 at 4.00 p.m.** (Local time)

It is the duty of the Applicants to ensure that when they choose a Recognised Educational Institution, this institution is able to issue such a ULA with all the above details. This must be in the form of a document, 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 6.02 unless the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Office receives them directly from the Recognised Educational Institution. The ULA shall be emailed directly by the Institution to the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Office. Scanned or emailed copies of the ULA forwarded to the Applicant by the recognised educational institution shall not be accepted.

- 4.09 The Project Leader reserves the right to request information directly from third parties related to this Scholarship grant.
- 4.10 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 (example but not limited to Medical Doctor) 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'.
- 4.11 It is the responsibility of the Applicants, in possession of qualifications at MQF Level 5 or higher awarded by a foreign or local Educational 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 Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) for those Educational Institutions and qualification that do not feature in the "List of Accredited Courses offered by Licensed Institutions". 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.

Applicants not in possession of this report may still apply, provided that they submit a copy of the report or receipt to the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme as soon as it becomes available and in any case by not later than **Friday 11th October 2024 at 4.00 p.m.**

- 4.12 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 II Scholarships Scheme if not notified and approved by the Board/Office. Any scholarships or other supplementary grants awarded to the Scholarship Awardee shall be notified to and approved by the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board/Office, whether such are awarded to the Applicant prior to the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme or throughout the duration of the Scholarship. In the event that an Applicant is granted an ENDEAVOUR II Scholarship and the Project Leader / MEYR discovers, after the grant of such ENDEAVOUR II Scholarship, that the Scholarship Awardee was, at any point in time, whether prior to the award of the ENDEAVOUR II 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 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 II Scholarships Scheme cannot benefit in full or in part from any other scholarship administered by the Scholarships Unit within the Ministry for Education, Sports, Youth, Research, and Innovation, including but not limited to the Tertiary Education Scholarship Scheme (TESS), Malta Arts Scholarships Scheme, the Malta Sport Scholarship Scheme and Veterinary Scholarship for the same course / programme.

- 4.13 **Applicants shall become ineligible for a Scholarship if they are in breach of any part of the Regulations.**

- 4.14 Applicants may apply to follow programmes of studies in any Area of Study listed below;

- ▶ **Education**
- ▶ **Environmental Studies and Sustainability**
- ▶ **Finance**
- ▶ **Health**
- ▶ **Information and Communication Technology**
- ▶ **Management related studies**
- ▶ **Maritime related studies**
- ▶ **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM),**
- ▶ **Tourism and Hospitality Studies**
- ▶ **Transport and Logistics**
- ▶ **Veterinary related studies**

- 4.15 University must confirm by email sent directly to Endeavour II Office that the programme of studies applied for falls under the area of study chosen (only one of the above). The deadline is 11th October 2024 at 4.00pm local time.

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 Educational Institutions recognised by the MFHEA shall be taken into consideration by the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board.
- 5.02 It is the responsibility of the Applicants, applying for qualifications awarded by foreign or local Recognised Institutions not featuring in the “List of Accredited Courses offered by Licensed 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 on comparability of qualifications issued by the Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre (MQRIC) within the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA). 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 II Scholarship Scheme Office by not later than **Friday 11th October 2024 at 4.00 p.m.** (Local time). The provisions contained in Clause 4.13 of these Regulations shall apply mutatis mutandis.

5.03 The MQRIC may be contacted as follows:

**Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre (MQRIC) /
Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA)
J. Abela Sclaro Street, Hamrun HMR1304
Tel. no. 153
E-mail: info@mfhea.mt
Website: www.mfhea.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, that is **Friday 21st June 2024 at noon (Local Time)**.
- 6.02 Applicants shall submit at least one Unconditional Letter of Acceptance (ULA) from a Recognised Educational Institution listed on their Application Form. The last day of submission of ULA shall be **Friday 11th October 2024 at 4.00 p.m.** (Local Time).¹
- 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 II Board. Applicants should note that several educational institutions / university departments require the 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 II funds. Applicants should check admission requirements carefully at the time of application.

7. Administration of ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme

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

All correspondence is to be addressed to:

**ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Scholarships Unit
Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research, and Innovation
Room 115, Education Building Great Siege Road,
Floriana VLT 2000, Malta
Tel. No.: 153
E-mail : endeavour.meyr@gov.mt
Website: <https://education.gov.mt/myscholarships/>**

1 Applicants are urged to apply to the Recognised Institutions for the Programmes/ course they consider most appropriate listed on their application before closing date of application, that is, 21st June 2024.

8. Application Form

- 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: <https://education.gov.mt/myscholarships/> and log in with their e-I.D. It is the responsibility of the Applicants to ensure that their application is successfully submitted, 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 is to be uploaded with the application:

- a. **Work and Education Form²** (to fill in and upload **Schedule II** of the Regulations) In the case of discrepancies between the work experience on Schedule II and the application form, the content reflected in Schedule II will prevail for the purposes of the interview and marks allocations. **(Mandatory)**
 - b. **Motivational Letter which has to include the importance of the Prospective Study related to the priority area chosen.** Applicants applying for a scholarship to support studies leading to MQF Level 7 or MQF Level 8 qualification shall submit a motivational Letter including the importance of the Prospective Study to the priority area chosen (Appendix1) of approximately three hundred (300) words. The ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships' Scheme Board shall give considerable weight to the contents of this Section in the application form. **(Mandatory)**
 - c. **Applicant's HEI** (including University) transcripts/results (if already available).
 - d. **Unconditional Offer/Letter of Acceptance** from the Recognised Educational Institution applied for (if already available).
 - e. **MQRIC evaluation report / receipt** of application (if already available) as per Clauses 4.11 and 5.02 (if required).
 - f. **Applicant's EU disability card** issued by the Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability (CRPD) (where applicable).
 - g. **Permanent Residence permit (Mandatory for foreign nationals).**
 - h. **Declaration** (to fill in and upload **Schedule I** of the Regulations) **(Mandatory).**
 - i. **Confirmation re area of study from HEI** - University must confirm by email sent directly to Endeavour II Office that the programme of studies applied for falls under the area of study chosen (only one of the applicable areas) (see clauses 4.14 & 4.15) (if already available)
 - j. **Assistance Allowance Declaration** (to fill in and upload **Schedule III** of the Regulations) **(Mandatory).**
- 8.02 **Mandatory documents that are not submitted by the deadline of the application, that is Friday, 21st June 2024 at noon, will render the application ineligible.**
- 8.03 Supporting documents not uploaded with the online application are to be forwarded to the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Office via email on the email address: endeavour.meyr@gov.mt
- 8.04 The Applications' deadline is **Friday 21st June 2024 at noon (Local Time) as shown on the Malta Information Technology Agency (MITA) system. Only in the case of the MQRIC statement/receipt, Transcript, Unconditional Letter of Acceptance, Disability Card, Confirmation re Area of Study from HEI, shall be submitted by Friday 11th October 2024 at 4.00 p.m.**
- 8.05 **Late and incomplete applications shall not be considered by the ENDEAVOUR II 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. **MEYR cannot be held responsible for any delay due to such difficulties.**
- 8.06 Applicants are to ensure that they apply online by the stipulated deadline. The ENDEAVOUR II 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.
- 8.07 Applicants may be asked to adhere to any further requests that can be made in the future in relation to EU funding regulations/ obligations

2 With regards to information provided by the applicant on the Work and Education Form, the Endeavour II office may seek official documentation from other legal bodies to verify this information.

9. Eligibility, Selection Process and Procedure

- 9.01 The Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research, and Innovation has set up the ENDEAVOUR II 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 Applicants whose application satisfies all criteria as stipulated in the Regulations governing this call 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 them 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. Exceptional circumstances shall be examined, and such alternative date and time may be agreed to by the Board, at the Board's discretion.
- 9.03 MQF level 8 applicants will also be required to deliver a presentation related to their studies for their interview. A copy of such presentation is to be sent to this office preferably before the date of the interview.
- 9.04 Applicants who do not turn up for their interview will be considered that they are no longer interested and thus they will be considered ineligible by the Board, unless the applicants inform the ENDEAVOUR II Office / Board that they cannot make it due to exceptional circumstances.
- 9.05 Attending the interview does not mean that the applicant will be awarded the scholarship.
- 9.06 The mode and medium by which the interviews will be conducted will be decided by the Board. The ENDEAVOUR II 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 II Scholarships Scheme Board depending on the circumstances which led to the failure of such an interview.
- 9.07 The Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research, and Innovation 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 II Scholarships Scheme Board (Refer also to Clause 9.01).
- 9.08 If an Applicant disagrees with the ENDEAVOUR II 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.meyr@gov.mt within six (6) working days from the date of the written correspondence sent by the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships' Scheme Board communicating its decision to the Applicant in writing through registered mail and/or via e-mail. In the petition, the Applicants must clearly state the reasons why they are contesting the decision taken by the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board.
- 9.09 The Scholarships' Appeals Board shall only address appeals arising from decisions taken by the ENDEAVOUR II 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 II Scholarships' Scheme Board or change the ranking of an Applicant because of such score.
- 9.10 The decision of the Scholarships Appeals Board is final and conclusive.

10. Selection Criteria

- 10.01 Applications are considered based on the following selection criteria:
- Academic merit of the Applicant** (20%) – Only qualifications at MQF Level 5 or higher will be taken into consideration. **Academic Marks will only be given for the highest qualification. If multiple certificates with the same level are presented, marks will be allocated for only one certificate.** Marks are only allocated upon submission of the relevant transcript/certificate/academic record confirming receipt of award, by 11th October 2024.
 - Motivational Letter which has to include the importance of the Prospective Study related to the priority area chosen.** – Appendix I (65%).
 - Previous work experience** (Schedule II – Work and Education Form) (15%).

- 10.02 An Applicant is considered to have passed the interview if the Applicant obtains a pass mark (that is 50% of the allotted marks) in the criteria [b]. Obtaining a pass mark does not automatically mean that a scholarship is being awarded.
- 10.03 An additional 5 marks will be allocated in the marking criteria to applicants who are deemed eligible by the Endeavour II Board/Office for the Assistance allowance or to those who hold an EU Disability Card, provided that such applicants obtain a pass mark (that is 50% of the allotted marks) in the criteria [b]. (Refer to clauses 10.01 and 10.02).

11. MQF Level 7 Value of Awards and Payments

- 11.01 Full Time/Part-time/Distance/Blended Programmes/courses eligible under this scheme and the value of awards are listed below for ease of reference.

Table 1: Value of Grant

Scholarship Grant for Full Time, Part Time, Distance Learning and Blended Programmes
For study programmes at MQF Level 7 undertaken in Malta, where the qualification is awarded by a recognised educational institution registered in Malta: €64 per ECTS.
For study programmes at MQF Level 7 undertaken in other countries that is, where the qualification is awarded by a recognised foreign educational institution (excluding Malta) and Joint Programmes of Study: €111 per ECTS.

The value of the grant will be based on the number of ECTS achieved in the case of MQF 7.

- 11.02 Payments of Scholarships grant for MQF level 7 are affected as follows:

- ▶ The first 50% out of the number of ECTS or the equivalent, as indicated on the Unconditional Offer/ Letter of Acceptance will be paid upfront after the signing of the Endeavour II Scholarship Grant Agreement.
- ▶ Interim payments will be paid upon presentation of provisional documentation confirming that the first 50% of the number of ECTS have been achieved and exceeded.
- ▶ The last 5% out of the number of ECTS or the equivalent, as indicated on the Unconditional Offer/ Letter of Acceptance will be paid upon confirmation by university of award/qualification including Code/Name of module and ECTS achieved, which must be received by end of November 2029.

In addition, the documents mentioned in Clause 14.14 must also be provided to the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Office.

12. MQF Level 8 Value of Awards and Payments

Table 2 : Value of Grant

MQF level	Modality	Grant Value (€)
8	Full Time	Up to €32,000* for the whole duration of the course

* Payments are effected only upon presentation of invoices, receipts and bank statements. This amount excludes allowances.³

³ Please refer to table 3 for allowances (if applicable).

- 12.01 **For programmes/courses provided by a recognised institution on full time basis ONLY.** Tuition fees and/or bench fees are to be paid by the Scholarships' Awardees directly to the Recognised Educational Institution. The fees paid shall then be reimbursed (up to the amount indicated in the table above) on presentation of invoice/s and the original official receipt/s of payment/s or equivalent (i.e., receipted invoice where applicable) issued by the receiving Recognised Educational Institution. Awardees are bound to provide a Bank statement as proof of payments/transaction. Documentation received by email direct from the institution, not through the awardee, is considered as original. Any fees paid by the applicant before 15th May 2024 cannot be claimed or reimbursed.
- 12.02 Payments of Scholarships grant for MQF level 8 are affected as follows:
- The maximum payable grant per annum cannot exceed €11,000⁴. In case of invoices that exceed the amount of €11,000, eligible fees not covered in the previous years, from the start date of the programme of studies, (but which were settled on or after 15th May 2024) these can be carried on to subsequent years provided that the total grant never exceeds the capping of €32,000 over the duration of the course. (Refer to Table 2)
- 12.03 In the case of supplementary Scholarship awards or supplementary grants (please refer also to clause 4.12) when a Supplementary Scholarship award or Supplementary Grant covers in full Tuition Fee and/or Bench Fee, then ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme shall not cover for the Tuition Fee and / or Bench Fee. When a Supplementary Scholarship award or Supplementary Grant covers part of the Tuition Fee and/or Bench Fee, then ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme shall cover the remaining part of the Tuition Fee and/or Bench Fee not covered, provided that the thresholds in Table 2 above are not exceeded. When a Supplementary Scholarship award or Scholarship Grant is not intended to cover Tuition Fee and/or Bench Fee, then the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board shall reserve the right to revise the amount of the Endeavour II Scholarships Scheme grant.

13. Additional allowances for MQF level 7 and MQF level 8

13.01 Scholarship Awardees studying abroad:

For an Awardee who is following full-time studies at a foreign Recognised Institution outside Malta, a Study Abroad Allowance of four thousand euro (€4,000) per annum is awarded to cover additional costs related to studying abroad (that is outside Malta) throughout the programme of studies. This amount is paid pro rata. Awardees are entitled to such an allowance if they present Boarding Pass/airline confirmation showing details of flight, dates, and destination. 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.

For Joint full-time programmes where one of the institutions is in Malta and the other is a recognised foreign institution situated abroad, visits will be worked out as per table 3 below.

Awardees following Part time, Distance Learning or blended 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 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.

For those whose visit is 30 consecutive days or longer (see 4.08) the allowance will be calculated pro-rata on four thousand euro (€4,000) per annum subject to the provision of boarding passes and confirmation from their respective Institution confirming the purpose of their visit.

13.02 Awardees with Disability:

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

13.03 Assistance Allowance:

The Assistance Allowance is given to awardees who were found eligible for Supplementary Allowances after 2017 by the Student Maintenance Grants Board MEYR for studies at MQF Level 6. Scholarship Awardees who are deemed eligible for this Allowance will benefit from an additional two thousand euro (€2,000) per annum. (Please refer to Schedule III).

⁴ This amount excludes the allowances when applicable.

Table 3 : Additional Allowances MQF Level 7 and Level 8

Type of Allowance	Modality	What Triggers the Allowance
Study Abroad Allowance	Full Time (Physical Abroad on Campus)	For Full time studies abroad on campus €4,000 per annum
	Joint full time programmes where one of the institutions is in Malta and the other is a recognised foreign institution	For visits of 30 consecutive days or longer, the allowance will be calculated pro-rata up to not more than €4,000 per annum
	Part-Time/Distance/Blended (Applicable only to MQF level 7)	
	Joint full time programmes where one of the institutions is in Malta and the other is a recognised foreign institution	For visits less than 30 days, then the €200 per visit will apply up to not more than €2,400 per annum
	Part-Time/Distance/Blended (Applicable only to MQF level 7)	
Allowance for Persons with Disability	Full time/Part-Time/Distance/Blended	€2,000 p.a.
Assistance Allowance	Full time/Part-Time/Distance/Blended	€2,000 p.a.

14. General Conditions of Award

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

PROVISIONAL AWARD STAGE

Applicants will be notified of their ranking by the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board/office.

- 14.01 The Awardee shall be given a draft Agreement that stipulates the terms and conditions of such Award. The ENDEAVOUR II 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.
- 14.02 The Awardee shall submit the signed agreement. Failure to present signed Agreement 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 the Financial I.D. Form, and other documents that may be communicated by the Project Leader / MEYR.
- 14.03 Should any conflict arise between the interpretation of Regulations and the Agreement, the clauses in the Regulations shall prevail.
- 14.04 The Awardee shall be expected to take up the Scholarship award from the date stated by the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships' Scheme Board on the Grant Agreement. If for any reason, Applicants cannot commence their studies on the date inserted in the Scholarship Grant Agreement or requires a different start date they are duty bound to inform the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships' Scheme Board as soon as possible. The ENDEAVOUR II 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 4.03.
- 14.05 The ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board will publish the results including the marks, names and I.D numbers of the Applicants next to the rankings on the website <https://education.gov.mt/myscholarships/> . In applying for an award, the Applicants agree to such publication.

CONTRACTED AWARD STAGE

- 14.06 Scholarships cannot be extended to enable the Awardee to complete an additional or higher qualification other than that for which the selection was made.
- 14.07 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 co-funded by the ESF+ 2021- 2027.
- 14.08 The ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme shall not seek to obtain any rights in intellectual property owned by the Recognised Institution and/or the Awardee.
- 14.09 On award of a Scholarship, the Project Leader/MEYR of the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme shall make information obtained available to public authorities for accountability purposes.
- 14.10 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

- 14.11 Approximately every six (6) months, Scholarship Awardees are to ask their faculty supervisor to submit to the Project Leader/MEYR a short statement confirming progress, including number of ECTS achieved including code/name of module where applicable. Failure to receive this information despite reminders sent by the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships office will lead to a halt in payments of further instalments of the Scholarship.
- 14.12 The ENDEAVOUR II Office and/or ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board may consider extension for completion of studies. Any request for extension is to be addressed to the ENDEAVOUR II Office and/or ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board supported by the approval of the Recognised Educational Institution. Any request for extension is at the discretion of the ENDEAVOUR II Office and/or ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board to approve or otherwise. No funds will be paid or allocated for approved extensions. Requests for extensions beyond 15th October 2029 will not be considered.
- 14.13 Should Awardees finish their programme of study/course prior to the end date indicated in their Scholarship Agreement, they will be required to refund the allowances paid in excess following the new completion date communicated by the HEI to the Scholarships Office.
- 14.14 On completion of the studies, the below documentation must be submitted to the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Office: -
 - ▶ MQF Level 7:
 - ▶ Final report (directly from the institution via email) where the University confirms that the awardee has obtained the award including the ECTS achieved with code/title of modules ;
 - ▶ Soft copy of thesis which shall include the ESF+ publicity as per Clause 16
 - ▶ Transcript and/or the Official Certificate awarding the Degree;
 - ▶ MQF Level 8:
 - ▶ Final report (directly from the institution via email) where the University confirms that the awardee has obtained the award
 - ▶ Soft copy of thesis which shall include the ESF+ publicity as per Clause 16
 - ▶ Transcript and/or the Official Certificate awarding the Degree;

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

- 14.15 The Project Leader has the right to request information directly from third parties related to this scholarship grant.

15. Termination prior to completion of programme

- 15.01 Scholarship Awardees who for any reason discontinue their studies shall inform the Endeavour II Scholarships Scheme Board in writing immediately.
- 15.02 The Endeavour II Scholarships Scheme Board shall on thirty (30) days written notice terminate the award if –
- ▶ the Awardee's progress is deemed unsatisfactory by the Recognised Institution.
 - ▶ the Awardee terminates the studies; and/or
 - ▶ an Awardee is in breach of any provision of these regulations and does not remedy the breach within thirty (30) day of receipt of written notice requiring them to do so.
- 15.03 When an Awardee has the Scholarship award terminated under conditions stipulated in Clause 15.02, the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board shall determine the amount to be refunded. The refund must be made by the stipulated deadline as communicated by the office.
- 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 II 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 II Scholarships' Scheme Board.
- 15.04 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 II Scholarships' Scheme Board shall in no way be bound to waive all claims put forward. The ENDEAVOUR II 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.

16. ESF+ Publicity Obligations

- 16.01 ENDEAVOUR II Project is co-funded by the ESF+ 2021 – 2027. Since the project is co-funded by the ESF+ 2021 – 2027, all publications (including thesis/dissertation/research work/project) arising from the degree being sponsored by the ENDEAVOUR II shall reflect the following acknowledgement: The research work disclosed in this publication is partially funded by the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme. "The project is co-funded by the ESF+ 2021 - 2027".

17. Information

- 17.01 For further queries and information please contact:

ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Office
Scholarships Unit
Room 115, Education Building
Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research, and Innovation
Great Siege Road, Floriana,
VLT 2000
Telephone +356) 153
Email: endeavour.meyr@gov.mt
Website: <https://education.gov.mt/myscholarships/>

Please note that the official website of ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme is found on <https://education.gov.mt/myscholarships/>. Neither the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board, nor the Scholarships Unit - MEYR, shall assume any responsibility for any incorrect information found on other websites as regards the ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme.



**Co-funded by the
European Union**

18. Funds Available

Endeavour II Scholarships Scheme

ESF+ .03.185

3rd Call 2024

Available Funds

Endeavour II 3rd Call : €2,500,000

19. Schedule I

Declaration

To **ENDEAVOUR II Scholarships Scheme Board**

I, _____ hereby declare that;

- ▶ I have read and understood and am abiding with the Endeavour II Scholarship Scheme – 3rd Call Regulations 2024.
- ▶ The information provided on the Work and Education Form (Schedule II) is correct and I am agreeing that the Endeavour II Office will conduct the necessary checks.
- ▶ The information provided on the Declaration for Assistance Allowance (Schedule III) is correct and I am agreeing that the Endeavour II Office will conduct the necessary checks.
- ▶ All information provided in my application is correct.
- ▶ I am agreeing that the Scholarships' Unit will process and share with other Government entities my personal information in this Application Form for accountability and verification purposes.

Applicant ID number

Applicant Signature

20. Schedule II

Work and Education Form

Name

ID Card Number

Work Experience⁵

Indicate whether internship, traineeship, work or voluntarily	JOB TITLE	Employer/Organisation	Indicate if PART TIME OR FULL TIME	Insert NUMBER OF MONTHS

Internships, traineeship and/ or work with voluntary organizations must be clearly identified and listed in the work experience table

⁵ Only the content reflected in the Work experience table will prevail for the purposes of the interview and marks allocations.

Recognised Qualifications Achieved (MQF Level 5 or Higher)

INSTITUTION	COURSE NAME	MQF LEVEL	CLASSIFICATION	COURSE START AND END DATE

Language Skills:

Communication Skills:

Job Related Skills:

I hereby certify that all the information provided by me in this form is correct, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature



21. Schedule III

Declaration for Assistance Allowance

The Assistance Allowance is given to awardees who were found eligible for Supplementary Allowances after 2017 by the Student Maintenance Grants Board MEYR for studies at MQF Level 6. Scholarship Awardees who are deemed eligible for this Allowance will benefit from an additional two thousand euro (€2,000) per annum.

1. Have you ever received Supplementary Allowances after 2017 by the Student Maintenance Grants Board MEYR for studies at MQF Levels 6.

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. If the answer yes, provide the following details;

Name	
ID	
Year when you received Supplementary Grant from Students Maintenance Grants Board MEYR	

I _____ declare that the above information is true, and I am aware that the Endeavour II Scholarships Board and/or the Scholarships Unit will be verifying such information with other stakeholders/entities.

Signature