



LEGAL AID

MALTA[®]

Information on the services provided by Legal Aid Malta Agency on the Maltese Islands

188/189, Old Bakery Street, Valletta

☎ 2247 1500

✉ info.legalaidmalta@gov.mt

Office hours for Public:

Monday to Friday

16 June – 30 September: 08:30 – 12:30hrs

01 October – 15 June: 08:30 – 14:00hrs

Website: www.legalaidmalta.gov.mt

Internet search engine keywords: Legal Aid Malta

Meetings with the Officers of the Agency and Advocate for Legal Aid are
by appointment only.

How shall I apply for legal aid?

Civil Cases

Before scheduling an appointment with the Advocate for legal aid a person needs to present the following documents (or the applicable relative documents) to the Agency's official at the first meeting in order for a means test to be conducted and to assess whether the person is eligible to benefit from legal aid:

- Document from the Department of Social Security showing the income of the preceding twelve months that a person received from the State;
- FS3 of the work/s and payslips of the salaries/wages received during the preceding twelve months;
- A Bank statement of the preceding twelve months for every account held by the person applying for legal aid service;
- Official identity card or passport;
- Documentary evidence of a legal rental contract and receipts of payments if living in a rented place;
- Court decree ordering maintenance payment to the other party and children and receipts thereof;
- Court documents that the person applying for legal aid might have received;
- Other related documents, such as:
 - for marriage separation proceedings: marriage certificate and birth certificates of the children;
 - for marriage annulment or divorce: a copy of the marriage separation deed;
 - Amendments in Public Registry certificates: birth certificate / marriage certificate / death certificate;
 - Issues relating to wills: a copy of the will, etc.

A meeting with the Agency officials will establish whether the person is eligible to benefit from legal aid. If the person is eligible, an appointment is scheduled with the Legal Aid Advocate in order to discuss the case or problem under review. The Legal Aid Advocate will inform the client whether he/she has reasonable grounds to commence proceedings or to defend themselves in the proceedings according to the case.

Criminal Cases

A person appearing before the Criminal Court may on the day of the hearing request the presiding Court to be assisted by a legal aid lawyer. The Court will take note in the acts of the proceedings and refers the request to the Advocate for Legal Aid who will submit a note within two days from when it is received indicating whether the request will be acceded or not and, if in the affirmative, the name of the legal aid lawyer who will be assisting the person.

Otherwise, if a person received official notification by Police that she/he is being brought before the Court, she/he may bring the documents to our offices and we will act accordingly. No means test is undertaken.



Criminal Cases in Summary Proceedings

A person appearing before the Court of Magistrates in summary proceedings may on the day of the hearing request the presiding Magistrate to be assisted by a legal aid lawyer. The Magistrate is to appoint the lawyer according to the daily roster.

Otherwise, if a person received official notification by Police that she/he is being brought before the Court, she/he may bring the documents to our offices and we will act accordingly. No means test is undertaken.

Criminal Appeals

A person who wants to use legal aid in order to appeal from a judgement of the Court of Magistrates, must immediately on that same day inform the assigned Legal Aid Lawyer. The assigned Legal Aid Lawyer will assess whether there are grounds for appeal. If there are sufficient grounds, the appeal needs to be submitted to the Criminal Court Registry within twelve working days from date of judgement. No means test is undertaken.

Person held for interrogation and /or under arrest

A person called by the Police for interrogation or held under arrest has the right to be assisted by the legal aid lawyer on the daily roster. This person may request the police officer that is interrogating him/her or that has arrested him/her to be assisted by a legal aid lawyer. The same lawyer who advises the person during interrogation and/or when under arrest will continue to assist the person when brought to Court. No means test is undertaken.

Victims of Crime and Domestic Violence

A person falling within the definition by law as a victim of crime and /or victim of gender based violence and domestic violence may request to be assisted by a legal aid lawyer. The person must immediately refer the matter to the Police. A victim of crime will initially be assigned a legal aid lawyer for advice only. Thereafter, if the person needs to be assisted as a third party in Court proceedings the person is referred to the Agency who will give the necessary directions to the client. No means test is undertaken.

For office use by the Agency for Legal Aid

Only if a person is eligible for the service will an appointment be scheduled with Advocate for Legal Aid.

Name and surname of the beneficiary :

Identity card number: _____

Date of appointment: _____

Time: _____

Signature of the Officer at the Agency

Direction from the main entrance of the Law Courts in Republic Street towards the offices of the Agency for Legal Aid at 188/189 Old Bakery Street, Valletta.

