

**PANEL OF
 LEGAL AID LAWYERS IN CRIMINAL MATTERS
 with Legal Aid Malta Agency
 appointed under Articles 89 and 911 (6) of Chapter 12 of the Laws of Malta**

Job title	Legal Aid Lawyer in Criminal Matters and Court Representation
No. of positions to be filled	Criminal (Malta) – 29 lawyers Criminal (Gozo) – 6 lawyers
Appointment term	3 years starting from 1st January 2027 though appointments entered at a later date, from the official result list, will not exceed the appointment term later than 31st December 2029. Selected candidates who are appointed as legal aid lawyers may opt-in to be appointed as curators on the roster list of the Civil Court Registrar.
Remuneration: Communication allowance: After Court Registry hours, weekends and public holidays allowance:	€ 21,000 yearly €180 yearly €3,000 yearly The appointed legal aid lawyers will be paid the remuneration and allowances following every quarter of the year on a pro-rata basis. Appointed legal aid lawyers will also be permitted to claim fees due as per articles 95 and 921 of Chapter 12 of the Laws of Malta, if applicable, after obtaining an official bill of costs issued by the Court Registrar or as decreed by Court.
Deadline	Applications will be received by email on hr.legalaidmalta@gov.mt by 16th October 2026 indicating the relevant reference number in the email subject, as indicated below: Malta: LAM 15/2026 (Criminal - Malta) Gozo: LAM 17/2026 (Criminal – Gozo) Applications after the closing date will not be considered. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure they receive an acknowledgement confirming receipt of their application by the closing date.
Reservations	Candidates applying for this panel cannot form part on any other legal aid panel unless specified otherwise in other calls.
Submission of application	Applicants are required to submit: i. Motivation letter in the email content not more than 150 words. ii. Updated Curriculum Vitae, in Europass format <u>including ID number</u> . iii. Copies of original certificates (degree) in PDF format (unless already submitted previously). iv. Copy of the Warrant to practice as a lawyer at the Courts of Law on the Maltese Islands (unless already submitted previously). v. Police Conduct Certificate which cannot be issued earlier than two months from date of submission of application.

	vi. A Good Standing Certificate issued by the Commission for the Administration of Justice to be submitted within the first six months following appointment. However, should the certificate is not presented to the Agency or it may reveal any matter that adversely affects the appointee's standing, the Agency reserves the right to terminate the agreement and revoke the letter of appointment.
Due diligence	Applicants need to submit to the Agency a Good Standing Certificate issued by the Commission for the Administration of Justice within the first six months following the appointment.
Reporting to	Director Legal Aid Malta Agency and/or delegated authority
Duties, functions and responsibilities	1. Be as construed by the Laws of Malta. 2. Will be assigned on a specific legal aid panel on criminal matters as required by the exigencies of the Agency and appointed by the Minister of Justice. 3. The legal aid lawyer providing legal advice and assistance at interrogation and arrest stages will continue to assist the client when brought to Court under arrest and for the subsequent court sittings up to the appeal stage or/and up to the procedures for the disposal and closure of the case assigned. 4. Serve as an advocate and counsel to the accused, and provide full legal representation, including representation and attending court sittings at the Superior and Inferior criminal courts, to persons eligible for legal aid benefit in connection with their assigned legal issues. 5. Appearing before the Court for oral submissions. 6. Be available on call on the daily duty roster, issued by the Court or authorized entity, to assist persons requesting legal aid held for interrogation and/or under arrest and when requested. 7. Be available to assist the on duty legal aid lawyer when by reason of lawful impediment, is unable to undertake, or to undertake alone, the necessary defense to the accused. 8. Assist the charged or arrested person requesting legal aid during interrogation and when arraigned at the Court of Justice. 9. Represent the client as an accused and as a parte civile victim for the same related criminal charges. 10. Conduct any case reviews regarding clients being assisted with the benefit of legal aid and report to the Agency accordingly. 11. Provide the Agency with reports, as and when required, and other information as requested on cases and clients assigned for the benefit of legal aid. 12. Inform the Agency with the names and ID Cards of the persons assisted at interrogation and arrest stages whenever the legal aid lawyer is on duty on the day and update the legal aid case management system (LAMS) when in operation. 13. Updating legal aid case management system (LAMS), online databases, and any available databases with information on their assigned cases. 14. Updating scheduled appointments given by legal aid lawyers with legal aid clients on the legal aid case management system (LAMS). 15. Prepare in a professional manner the cases assigned to the legal aid lawyers and do the necessary research to ensure that

	effective and competent legal advice, assistance, representation and information is provided to clients in an efficient, zealous, client-centered, and compassionate manner. 16. Prepare and sign correspondence on behalf of legal aid clients and negotiate with another party or their legal representative. 17. Prepare and draft all types of legal documents including applications, notes, replies, pleadings, subpoenas and warrants as appropriate to be presented at the Court Registries. 18. Act in the best interest of the person admitted to the benefit of legal aid and may never request any form of payment from the party admitted to the benefit for legal aid unless it is provided in law. 19. Due to the limited number of Legal Aid Lawyers appointed for the islands of Gozo and Comino, when necessary, due to exigencies, they can be assigned duties from different panels. 20. Attend obligatory courses and meetings as directed by the Agency in relation to the work assigned and the exigencies for continuous professional development in the appointed role. Lacking to attend courses and meetings, without proven sufficient reason, will make the legal aid lawyer liable to have their remuneration deducted to the equivalent of their weekly remuneration.
Other obligations:	21. The legal aid lawyer is obliged to treat legal aid clients equally to any other client requesting legal services and without bias and privilege. 22. The legal aid lawyer agrees to submit to the Agency the official mobile number, office telephone number and email address and hereby authorizes the Agency to forward these means of communication to their assigned legal aid clients, to the Police Force for clients assigned with legal aid at the Criminal Court and to the Court of Law Registrars. 23. The legal aid lawyer agrees to inform the Agency immediately of any changes of the details regarding means of communication in paragraph 22. 24. The legal aid lawyer is obliged to make use of officially available IT related applications, provided by the Agency and the Legal Aid Management System (LAMS) to update the records of their assigned clients without delay. 25. The legal aid lawyer is obliged to make use and be responsible of the official email address provided by the Agency, to keep it updated and available. The Agency will only communicate with the legal aid lawyers through their official email address. 26. The legal aid lawyer is obliged to schedule meetings as soon as possible with legal aid clients to discuss the issues for their assigned remit and update the Legal Aid Management System (LAMS). 27. The legal aid lawyer is obliged to give their assigned legal aid clients held in correctional facilities (prisons), with the day, time and means of communication to be able to discuss their assigned cases. The legal aid lawyer is obliged to facilitate their legal assistance in such cases, including attending the prison facilities to meet their clients. 28. The legal aid lawyer is obliged to give their assigned legal aid clients the day, time and place or address where they will meet

	the clients to discuss their legal issues and update LAMS accordingly. 29. If during the first meeting with an assigned legal aid client it transpires to the legal aid lawyer that the client was being assisted by a private lawyer of his/her choice, immediately before the benefit of legal aid, a release letter would be requested to be provided by the client prior to being assisted; and inform the Agency and the Court accordingly. 30. If the client requests to terminate being assisted as a legal aid beneficiary, the legal aid lawyer is obliged to draw up a letter of release, and a copy would be forwarded to the Agency. 31. In assigned cases, the legal aid lawyer will liaise with the assigned legal aid procurator, if assigned, to present acts at the Court Registry on behalf of the clients, and follow cases in order to inform legal aid beneficiaries accordingly. 32. The Agency shall not be held liable for the legal aid lawyer's professional negligence and/or omission of proper legal advice and legal representation. The Agency shall not be held liable for the professional liability of the advice, assistance, and representation provided to the client. 33. The Agency may assign a University of Malta student following a legal course to assist the legal aid lawyer and guide them accordingly. 34. The Legal Aid Lawyer acknowledges that the provision of legal aid services constitutes an essential public function aimed at safeguarding access to justice. Accordingly, notwithstanding any industrial action, directive, collective measure, or similar initiative promoted by any professional body, association, union, or other entity, the Legal Aid Lawyer shall take all necessary steps to ensure that legally aided clients do not suffer prejudice, that statutory and judicial time limits are observed, and that the continuity of representation and access to legal remedies are maintained. 35. The legal aid lawyer may not ask from the legal aid clients, any monetary requests, any form of payment or any other gift unless provided in law. 36. The legal aid lawyer will make the best to write all acts in proper Maltese language using the Maltese fonts unless directed by the Court to have the acts in another language.
Work Ethics	37. Abide by the Laws of Malta. 38. Abide with the standard operational procedures (SOPs) and policies and internal memos issued by the Agency as updated from time to time, memorandum of understandings (MoUs), and agreements that the Agency enters into. 39. Always act according to the Code of Ethics for lawyers. 40. Hold in esteem the reputation of Legal Aid Malta Agency. 41. Follow any direction and/or duties assigned by the Director and delegated authority at Legal Aid Malta Agency.
Termination of agreement Revocation of appointment	42. The Agency reserves the right to forward a complaint to the Commission for the Administration of Justice through the Ethics Committee of the Chamber of Advocates for further investigation if the legal professional: i) Continuously, intentionally and without any sufficient good reason does not follow any of the conditions mentioned under 'Work Ethics'.

	ii) Is absent from the assigned work without notifying the Agency, or the Court in assigned cases, as early as possible. iii) Does not show satisfactory performance for the work assigned. iv) Is negligent in the assigned duties. 43. In any of the above cases the Agency reserves the right to suspend and/or terminate the agreement with the Agency and to propose to the Minister of Justice to suspend and/or revoke the appointment, pending the outcome by the Commission for the Administration of Justice.
Eligibility	Eligible applicants need to possess all the following: (a) Degree in Law from the University of Malta. (b) Warrant to practice as a lawyer at the Courts of Law on the Maltese Islands. (c) Proven experience, in criminal litigation and court representation. (d) Fluent in speaking and writing in Maltese and English languages. <u>Aptitude and character</u> Applicants should be of good moral character, trustable, team driven, and motivated to perform their duties diligently and zealously.
Selection of candidates	Eligible applicants will be interviewed by a selection board to assess their suitability for the posts. New applicants not previously appointed as legal aid lawyers must provide original certificates for verification during the interview. ALL applicants must provide an original official identity document (identity card or passport) during the interview. Candidates will be graded as follows: i. Legal aid experience (up to a maximum of 20 marks) ii. Legal aid knowledge (up to a maximum of 20 marks) iii. Court representation experience (up to a maximum of 10 marks) iv. Communication skills (up to a maximum of 30 marks) v. Organizational skills (up to a maximum of 30 marks) vi. Teamwork (up to a maximum of 20 marks) vii. Additional qualifications - other than required for call (up to a maximum of 10 marks) viii. Aptitude and motivation (up to a maximum of 30 marks) ix. Work ethics (up to a maximum of 30 marks) The maximum mark for this selection process is 200 and the pass mark is 100.
Publication of Results	The interview results will be sent individually to the applicants. The result of the interview will remain valid up to twelve (12) months following date of result.
Equal opportunity	Legal Aid Malta Agency is an equal opportunity entity and commits to select the right candidates irrespective of gender, ethnicity, culture, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, age, class, or disability.
Retention of documents	All applications will be retained for one (1) year after the expiry period for this panel, unless in the interim a petition by an applicant,

	in connection with his/her application, is filed to have his/her information and application removed in which case the applicant would be automatically declaring his/her withdrawal from the panel and the official result.
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