

Information to applicants applying for an Authorisation A or B

Introduction

Electrical installations in Malta are regulated by the Electrical Installations Regulations S.L 545.24. Electrical installation works within the scope of these Regulations must be carried out under an authorisation issued by the Regulator for Energy and Water Services. There are two Authorisation types, Authorisation A for single phase installations, and an Authorisation B for single or three phase installations, certifying however installations up to 300Amps.

For further details you may access the aforementioned Regulations at the following link: http://justiceservices.gov.mt/DownloadDocument.aspx?app=lom&itemid=12372&l=1

An application submitted to the REWS for the issue of an Authorisation A or B in terms of these Regulations is assessed with respect to the relevant academic qualifications and the practical experience claimed by the applicant.

Academic Qualifications:

In Malta the common route to acquire the necessary academic qualifications is to sit for the relevant examination leading to an authorisation (A or B) held for this purpose by the Examinations Department and achieve a pass in the relevant examination. Please refer to the link: https://exams.gov.mt/articles/Boards/Local Licences Examinations.aspx.

The relevant examinations are held twice a year, normally in February and in July. For further information please contact the Examinations Department (telephone 2598 2967/8 or by email exams.department@gov.mt).

REWS is aware of three licensed institutions which provide courses leading to the Authorisation A and Authorisation B examinations; such as Tech Courses Centre, JobsPlus, MCAST.

Applicants for an Authorisation A or B that do not sit for the examination held by the Examination department in Malta but are in possession of alternative academic qualifications must provide with their application an original copy of the certificates (REWS will keep a copy and return the originals) and a certificate from the Maltese National Commission for Further and Higher Education - NCFHE (<u>http://www.ncfhe.org.mt/</u>) assessing the relevant academic qualifications presented by the applicant including the equivalent MQF Level.

Notwithstanding the NCFHE recognition and MQF Level assigned, the Regulator would need to assess these qualifications to ensure that the level of knowledge achieved is comparable with that achieved by applicants that sit for and are successful in the examination leading to Authorisation A or B held by the Examination Department in Malta. In order to enable this assessment by the REWS, applicants are required to submit to the REWS a transcript, in the English language, of the qualifications and the reference (e/mail address) of a contact person in



the relevant tuition body that issued the certificates of qualification. The aforementioned transcript must be submitted with the application to the REWS.

Electrical engineers holding a warrant issued by the Engineering Board in Malta may apply for an Authorisation B without being required to sit for the examination held by the Examinations Department.

Practical Experience:

All applicants for an authorisation A or B are required to provide proof of practical experience. Applicants for an Authorisation A must provide proof of one-year practical experience in single phase electrical installations works endorsed by an Authorised electrician A or B or a warranted electrical engineer. Applicants for an Authorisation B must provide proof of two years experience in three phase installations works endorsed by an Authorised electrician B or a warranted electrical engineer under whose supervision the aforementioned works were carried out.

Experience achieved while working in another EU-Member State will not be considered unless accompanied by documentation proving that the applicant held a licence/authorisation issued by another EU-MS, valid for at least one year in the case that authorisation being sought is an Authorisation A or two years in the case of an Authorisation B respectively. In such case the applicant must submit a copy of the license/authorisation document and a contact e/mail address of the competent authority where the said license/authorisation was issued for verification purposes.

Other requirements:

The application for an authorisation to the REWS (link to the application (<u>http://www.rews.org.mt/#/en/a/88-registered-and-authorised-providers</u>), apart from the documentation requested above must include a police conduct certificate, a declaration by a medical doctor that the applicant does not suffer from colour recognition issues, and the application fees.

All applicants that have the necessary academic qualifications and experience as determined by the REWS, are required to sit for a 30-45 minute face to face interview with a Technical Committee acting on behalf of the REWS. In the interview with the Technical Committee, applicants are assessed with respect to basic academic/practical aspects of electrical installation works with particular reference to the Maltese context. The interview is normally held in the Maltese language however an interview in the English language is also possible. Applicants that are successful in the interview are recommended by the Technical Committee for the issue of the relevant authorisation by the REWS.

Time frames:

Applications are processed on a first come first served basis, subject that they are received completed and with the required documentation.



The processing of applications submitted by foreign applicants including qualifications other than a pass in the local examination may take longer. In these cases, the REWS would start the evaluation of the application once it receives all the relevant documents, details and payment. Although the equivalence comparative exercise comparing the qualification held with the local examination held by the Examinations Department should be carried out by the applicant, the REWS may offer to carry this exercise with the institution which issued the certificate provided that the applicant provides the e.mail address of the teaching institution which issued the certificate.

In the case that equivalence comparative exercise is not carried out by the applicant, within a week from the submission of the complete application with all information, the REWS would correspond with the teaching institution, the issuer of the certificate of qualification submitted by the applicant. In the case of no reply within a week, the REWS would send a reminder keeping the applicant in copy with the correspondence in order to keep the applicant informed should he/she would like to follow-up with the teaching institution. However, in this case the reply to the REWS must come directly from the teaching institution and not from the applicant. The REWS may not be held responsible for any delays that may occur should it have to communicate with the teaching institution to carry out the qualifications comparative exercise.

In the case that the REWS cannot satisfactorily conclude the equivalence comparative exercise of the qualification presented, the applicant would be suggested an alternative to achieve the required qualification which could be to sit for the examination held locally by the Examinations Department.

In the case that it is determined by the REWS that the qualifications presented may be deemed to be reasonably equivalent to the qualification achieved through the local examination, the applicant is scheduled to sit for the interview and is informed by email/letter accordingly. The timeframes for the scheduling of the interview depends on the number of applications received and takes place on the first come first served basis.

As a norm interviews are held once a week provided that there are at least six candidates to set a session.