

REFERENCE YEAR 2019

UNDERSTANDING OF APPRENTICESHIPS IN THE NATIONAL CONTEXT

Q1. Is there a stable legal basis for apprenticeships in your country?

		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN DEVELOPMENT

The main legal documents relevant to apprenticeship include:

(i) the **Work-based Learning and Apprenticeship Act (Cap. 576)** is the legal document which has reformed the regulation of apprenticeships. It was established on 6th March 2018. It includes the basis for: the accreditation of the training programme; the constitution of qualifications and awards; the acquisition of the relevant Skills card/s; training programme plan as part of the training agreement; the rights and obligations of the VET provider; the rights and obligations of sponsor; the rights and obligations of the learners; termination; operational boards; disputes between parties involved; power of regulation.

(ii) the **Employment and Training Services Act (Cap. 343)**, is the legal document which includes the terms and conditions for employers to engage apprentices (refer to Part VII of this Act dedicated to the recruitment of apprentices and trainees).

Subsidiary legislation defines matters related to: (i) the qualifications required for apprentices; (ii) period of apprenticeship and working hours; (iii) remuneration; (iv) practical training that the employers provide; (v) holidays, additional remuneration, etc.

Q2. Is there an official definition of 'apprenticeship' or 'apprentice' in your country?



✓ YES

✓ NO

As per Article 2 of the 'Work-Based Learning and Apprenticeship Act' (Cap. 576), an 'apprentice' is a "learner engaged in training programmes for apprenticeships in accordance with this Act".
Furthermore, in the same Act an 'apprenticeship' is defined as a "programme in which apprentices are engaged on joint programmes of school-based learning at a licensed VET provider and work-based learning with a registered sponsor, leading to a recognised vocational qualification or award."
(<http://justiceservices.gov.mt/DownloadDocument.aspx?app=lom&itemid=1280...>)

Q3. At which level do apprenticeship schemes exist in your country?



✓ AT UPPER
SECONDARY LEVEL



✓ AT POST-
SECONDARY (NOT
TERTIARY)



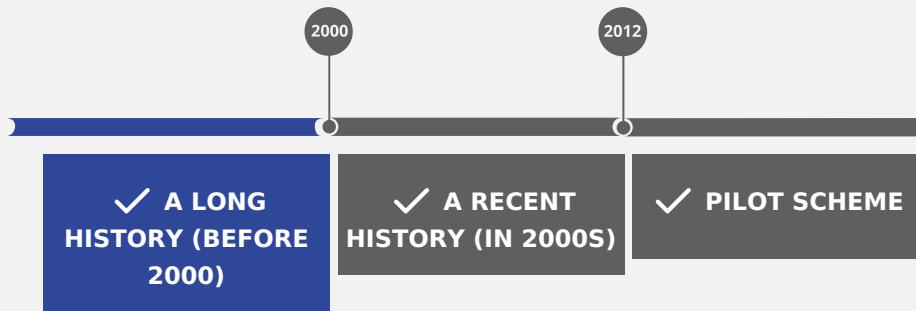
✓ AT TERTIARY
LEVEL



✓ AT SECTORAL
LEVEL

However the 'Work-Based Learning and Apprenticeship Act' does allow for apprenticeship schemes at higher levels to be offered.

Q4. How well-established are apprenticeship schemes in your country?



Apprenticeships in Malta have a long history and already existed as a form of financial incentive for youth back in the early 19th century. The first official state technical school dates back to 1893 when apprenticeships were offered in carpentry, joinery, carving and stucco work.

Q5. Relevant information that is essential to understanding the specificity of apprenticeships in the country.

There are other forms of work-based learning in Malta that may be legally regulated in the same way as apprenticeships as per Cap. 576:

1. it takes place in tertiary education as well as in VET in teacher-training, healthcare sector, medicine, pharmacy, etc.;

Also, there are other forms of work-based learning in Malta that are not legally regulated in the same way as apprenticeships include:

1. non-apprenticeship VET courses students where students spend time at the workplace;
2. the Jobsplus offers work placements or traineeships to job seekers (to all unemployed, among them young people) to facilitate their transition into work;
3. Malta has a number of private VET providers where some of their courses also include work-based learning;
4. training opportunities for persons with disability are offered through the Lino Spiteri Foundation.

<https://jobsplus.gov.mt/job-seekers-mt-MT-en-GB/guidance-services/inclu...>