

**EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)**

Regulations for Micro-credential Awards, 2024

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred upon him by articles 74(5) and 75(6) of the Education Act (Cap. 327), the Chancellor of the University of Malta has promulgated the following regulations made by the Senate of the University of Malta by virtue of the powers conferred upon it by articles 75(3) and 79(b) of the said Act:

Citation and interpretation

1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Regulations for Micro-credential Awards, 2024.

(2) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires -

“the Award” means a University Award;

“the Board” means the Board of the Faculty offering the Micro-credential Award;

“ECTS credits” means the credits awarded according to the guidelines of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System;

“the Faculty” means the faculty, institute, centre or school offering the Micro-credential Award;

“Micro-credential/s” means a record of the learning achieved following a small volume of learning. Micro-credentials can refer to individual units of learning, or units that are grouped thematically as a short course; and

“the Senate” means the Senate of the University of Malta.

Applicability

2. These regulations shall apply from 1 October 2024 onwards.

Registration for Micro-credentials

3. (1) The University may, at the discretion of the Senate or the Faculty concerned, offer the possibility to persons to register as visiting students for:

(a) self-contained study-units that are offered within University undergraduate and postgraduate courses; or

(b) study-units that are designed *ad hoc* for particular needs, and approved by Senate. Such Micro-credentials shall be offered either individually, or thematically as a short course. They shall normally be assigned not less than 4 ECTS credits and not more than 25 ECTS credits.

(2) During an academic year, visiting students shall be allowed to register for Micro-credentials to which a total of not more than 60 ECTS credits are assigned.

(3) (i) On successful completion of a Micro-credential comprising an individual study-unit, visiting students shall be entitled to an academic transcript indicating the title of the Micro-credential, the MQF level of the Award, the number of ECTS credits assigned to the study-unit and the mark/grade achieved.

(ii) On successful completion of all study-units included in the programme of a thematic short course, visiting students shall be entitled to an Award, indicating the title of the thematic short course, the MQF level of the Award, and the title, the number of ECTS credits and the mark/grade achieved in each study-unit included in the programme for the short course.

(4) The Board of a Faculty offering a certificate, diploma, higher diploma or degree course may accept the transfer of Micro-credential/s to one of its courses if the content and level are comparable, and if the study-units concerned have been completed not more than seven years previously.

Admission Requirements

4. (1) Applicants shall be in possession of those qualifications and/or any other requisites which are required to follow the Micro-credential with profit.

(2) Where applicable, the registration of visiting students on any Micro-credential shall be made on the recommendation of the Board.

Applications

5. (1) The University shall announce the Micro-credentials that shall be offered during the academic year through the Course Finder facility which is available on the University's website. The applicable admission requirements and the number of places available shall be published prior to the commencement of each Micro-credential.

(2) Applicants shall apply to register for Micro-credentials on the prescribed form, and within the time specified by the Office of the Registrar.

Attendance

6. Attendance for lectures, seminars, tutorials and other learning experiences shall be compulsory and visiting students may be precluded from being assessed for a study-unit if attendance is not regular.

Assessment

7. Assessments shall be conducted under the same University of Malta regulations and practices prevailing at the time the study-unit is offered.

Certification

8. Visiting students registered on any Micro-credential shall be eligible for certification as defined in paragraph (3) of regulation 3 of these regulations, if they:

(a) complete the study-unit/s, are awarded the credits assigned to it/them, and satisfy all the requirements prescribed in these regulations; and

(b) satisfy any other requirements prescribed in any other relevant statutes, regulations and bye-laws of the University.

General Provision

9. In matters not provided for by these regulations, the Board shall be guided by the provisions of the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2019, or the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2021, as applicable.

Repeal

10. The Individual Study-Units and Awards Regulations, 2020 published as Legal Notice 292 of 2020, shall be deemed to cease to be in force as from 1 October 2024, provided that visiting students registered on study-units before the 1 October 2024 shall continue to be governed by the regulations that were in force at the time of their registering on the study-units.