

Legal Notice 349 of 2014 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19,320 – 3 October 2014
Amended by:
Legal Notice 413 of 2021 – Malta Government Gazette No. 20,728 – 2 November 2021
Legal Notice 103 of 2023 - Malta Government Gazette No. 21,046 - 28 April 2023

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Statute for the Matriculation and Secondary Education Certificate
Examinations

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred upon him by articles 74(5) and 75(6) of the Education Act, the Chancellor of the University of Malta has promulgated the following statute made by the Council of the University of Malta in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by articles 72(h), 75(2) and 77(c) of the said Act:

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) This statute may be cited as the Statute for the Matriculation and Secondary Education Certificate Examinations.

(2) “Examinations” means various forms of assessment.

Applicability

2. This statute shall be applicable from 2 June 2014 onwards.

General

3. (1) There shall be a Matriculation Examination held at two levels: Advanced (AM) and Intermediate (IM), a Secondary Education Certificate (SEC) Examination and a Secondary Education Applied Certificate Examination (SEAC).

(2) In each year there shall be continuous assessment and two sessions of the Examinations as specified in the syllabi and learning and assessment programmes.

(3) The Examinations and continuous assessment shall be under the control of a Matriculation and Secondary Education Certificate Examinations Board (MATSEC Board) appointed in terms of article 4 (2).

The Matriculation and Secondary Education Certificate Examinations Board

4. (1) The functions of the Matriculation and Secondary Education Certificate Examinations Board shall be:

(i) to make recommendations to Senate regarding regulations required for the proper conduct of the Examinations and continuous assessment;

(ii) to conduct the Examinations and continuous assessment in accordance with the regulations approved by Senate;

(iii) to make recommendations to Senate regarding syllabuses and learning and assessment programmes which would be prepared after consultation with curriculum experts from the schools, the Directorates of Education, the University of Malta (UM), the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST) and the Institute for Tourism Studies (ITS), as appropriate;

(iv) to make recommendations to Senate regarding the appointment of syllabus and learning and assessment programme panels, paper setters' panels, markers' panels and external and standards verifiers, as appropriate;

(v) to make recommendations to Senate on all matters related to assessment and examinations and on relevant matters referred to it; and

(vi) to make recommendations to Council regarding resources so that the MATSEC Board shall execute all its functions.

(2) The Matriculation and Secondary Education Certificate Examinations Board (the "Board") shall consist of twelve members and a chair as follows:

(i) a Chair (the Rector or nominated deputy);

(ii) three members of the academic staff appointed by the Senate of the University;

(iii) one member appointed by the Council of Institutes of MCAST;

(iv) one member appointed by the Institute for Tourism Studies;

(v) two members from the Directorates of Education appointed by the Minister responsible for education;

(vi) one member nominated by, and from, the membership of the Church Schools Association;

(vii) one member nominated by, and from, the membership of the Independent Schools Association;

(viii) one representative from the trade union representing the largest number of teachers duly warranted by the Council for the Teaching Profession (as it may be reconstituted from time to time) in terms of the applicable law;

(ix) the Executive Director of MATSEC; and

(x) the Registrar.

(3) The Secretary of the Board shall be the Registrar or nominated deputy.

(4) The number of members required to form a quorum shall be seven. All Board members shall have the power to deliberate and decide on any matter brought before the Board in accordance with its remit hereunder. In the absence of unanimous approval by the Board members on any matter on which it deliberates, decisions may be validly taken if supported by a minimum of fifty percent plus one of all Board members present at any board meeting, subject to quorum.

(5) The Vice-Chair shall be the Executive Director of MATSEC.

(6) Members shall be appointed for a term of three years, which may be renewed.”

Regulations and Syllabuses

5. Regulations made by Senate for the examinations leading to the Matriculation and Secondary Education Certificates and the syllabi or learning and assessment programmes for each subject shall normally be published each year. Advanced and Intermediate Level syllabi shall normally be published two years in advance of the final assessment. SEC and SEAC syllabi and learning and assessment programmes shall normally be published three years in advance of the final assessment.

Certification

6. Expressly notwithstanding Articles 2.2 (a) and (c) of Statute 6 – the Principal and Other Officers of the University (Schedule 2 of the Education Act – Cap. 327), certification attesting to the performance of candidates in examinations leading to the Matriculation and Secondary Education Certificates shall bear the signature of the Executive Director of MATSEC.

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