

MFHEA COMMUNICATION MFHEA/07/2023

Title: Updated Fee Structure for Provider External Quality Assurance (EQA) Audits
From: Head Accreditation, Validation and Quality Assurance, MFHEA
Date: 27/12/2023

Dear colleagues,

Article 38 of Subsidiary Legislation 607.03 obliges licensed education providers in Malta to undergo periodic provider and programme quality audits, as per regulation 37(1)(c), every five years.

By the provision of S.L. 607.03, regulation 34(2)(h), the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) shall “charge fees to providers seeking any type of accreditation under these regulations, including costs related to any quality audit carried out under its responsibility”. The same legislation, under regulation 39(2)(b), also provides for the MFHEA to “appoint external experts to carry out quality audits, including, as appropriate, one or more students, ensuring that such experts are chosen on the basis of their expertise and on the requirement that there arises no conflict of interest in undertaking the quality audit with respect to the provider undergoing such quality audit”.

To that effect, the MFHEA is updating its fees for Provider External Quality Assurance (EQA) audits of education providers licensed in Malta. This communication will come into effect on 1st January 2024 and replaces Communication MFHEA/10/2021.

The fee structure for all types of providers is outlined below.

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Fee Structure for Provider External Quality Assurance (EQA) Audits

Standard fee

The Standard Fee includes the costs for a three-member peer-review panel for a one-day accreditation visit and an administrative fee. The latter covers costs of actions and initiatives taken by the MFHEA to ensure that the EQA audit runs smoothly, including an induction meeting, meetings with the peer-review panel members, meetings between the EQA audit review panel and the education provider and proofreading services.

Additional fees

- cover additional costs for extra local peer and/or student review panel member(s) per day of the accreditation visit;
- cover additional costs for extra international peer and/or student review panel member(s) per day of the accreditation visit, including per diem, as required.

All fees indicated do not include:

- costs of flights and/or other travel expenses incurred by international peer reviewer(s) and/or international student reviewer(s);
- costs for interpreter and/or translator;
- costs for the execution of financial due diligence as required by S.L. 607.03, regulation 39(3)(g).

These costs will be included in the invoice that the MFHEA issues to the Provider. The Provider is to pay the Standard Fee prior to commencement of the EQA audit and the remainder of the amount invoiced by the MFHEA at the conclusion of the EQA audit.

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Fee Structure for Provider External Quality Assurance Audits as from 1st January 2024

Administrative fee	
University	€10,000
Further and Higher Education Institution	€3,000
Higher Education Institution	€2,000
Further Education Institution	€1,000
Further Education Centre	€600
Tuition Centre	€500
Peer reviewer per day of accreditation visit	
Chair	€750
Peer	€700
Student	€700
Per diem fees for international peer-reviewer	€205
Other fees	
Flight Expenses	As per flight tickets
Interpreter/translator	As per the service provided
Financial Due Diligence	As per costs incurred by the MFHEA

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