

PROVIDER ACCREDITATION OUTCOME DECISION

**Issued by the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA)
Following an External Quality Assurance (EQA) Audit of
Yhank Institute**

EQA Audit: Initial Accreditation

Licence Category: Higher Education Institution

Date of Issue: January 2026

INTRODUCTION

The MFHEA Board has received and endorsed the report from the Quality Assurance Committee, which was drafted by the external review panel set up to carry out an EQA audit of Yhank Institute, in line with the requirements of the *National Quality Assurance Framework for Further and Higher Education (NQAF)* and the regulations of the MFHEA. The review took place on the 21st and 22nd July 2025, and the report reflects the findings at that time.

All providers that undergo an MFHEA audit are measured against the 11 Standards laid down in the Maltese *National Quality Assurance Framework for Further and Higher Education*. These Standards are based on the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG), which inform the quality assurance systems of all countries signatory to the European Higher Education Area.

The Board is determined that the Authority should carry out its regulatory responsibilities for standards in higher education independently, even-handedly, objectively and in a transparent manner.

ANALYSIS

The quality audit is a tool for both development and accountability; it has reviewed the internal quality assurance system of Yhank Institute and assessed whether the system is:

- fit for purpose according to Yhank Institute courses and service users;
- compliant with Standards and regulations, and contributing to the development of a national quality culture;
- contributing to the fulfilment of the broad goals of Malta's National Education Strategy 2024-2030;
- implemented with effectiveness, comprehensiveness and sustainability.

The audit benchmarks the QA system and procedures within an institution against 11 Standards as outlined in the External Quality Assurance Provider Accreditation Manual for Higher Education Institutions, namely:

Standard 1: Mission and strategic management

Standard 2: Governance, organisational structure and administration

Standard 3: Quality management

Standard 4: Integrity, accountability and information management

Standard 5: Teaching and administrative staff

Standard 6: Design, monitoring and review of programmes

Standard 7: Student-centred learning, teaching and assessment

Standard 8: Student administration and student support services

Standard 9: Learning resources and facilities

Standard 10: Research, development and/or other creative activity

Standard 11: Institutional cooperation, service to society and internationalisation

The main lines of inquiry were focused on securing a better understanding and triangulating the information on the fitness for purpose and effectiveness of the internal quality assurance processes implemented by the provider. These include the set-up and structure of the quality management system, documentation and internal quality review and how these enhance the student learning experience.

FINDINGS

The panel considered 10 Standards. Yhank Institute was found fully compliant with standards 1, 2 4, 5 and 11, substantially compliant with standards 6 and 9, partially compliant with standard 3 and non-compliant with standards 7 and 8. Standard 10 is not applicable to Yhank Institute. The recommendations in the report are meant to improve the standards already in place and to enhance good practice.

DECISION

Based on the panel's findings, the criteria for outcomes were not met. The QAC validated the report and, consequently, the Authority did not proceed with the issuance of an institutional license to Yhank Institute.