

Invest Scheme

Support for Initial Investment Projects

The Malta Enterprise Invest scheme aims to sustain the regional industrial and economic development of Malta by facilitating initial investments through the **setting up of new establishments**, the **extension of the capacity of existing establishments** and the **diversification of existing businesses**, amongst other activities.

Support may be awarded through **loan guarantees, interest rate subsidies, cash grants and tax credits**. The support is aimed at facilitating access to funding and accelerating the return on investment made.

The measure is applicable **from 1st January 2024** and unless reviewed or updated shall remain in force **until 31st December 2026**. Applications must be **submitted by 30th September 2026**.



Eligible undertakings are **small and medium-sized enterprises** in terms of Annex I of the General Block Exemption Regulation, as well as **large enterprises**. To be eligible for aid through this incentive, an undertaking must **operate from Malta** and be incorporated in the European Union as a **partnership en nom collectif, en commandite or a limited liability company, co-operative or similar set-up**.

Qualifying Activities

Manufacturing	Information Technology - Data Processing services	Environmental Solutions	Digital video games	Hotels and Guest Houses
Repair, Overhaul or Maintenance	Information Technology - Electronic and mobile platforms	Life Sciences	Education and Tuition	Knowledge Intensive Services
Industrial Services	Call Centre Activities	Pharmaceuticals	Human inpatient and/or day care services	Restoration
Information Technology - Computer Programming	Research and Development, Design, and/or Innovation	Audio-visual productions	Logistics	Entertainment and Recreational Facilities
Information Technology - Data Processing and Hosting facilities	Waste Treatment	Audio recording	Industrial Packaging	

Eligible Projects

Support may only be awarded in respect of eligible investment projects **commencing on or after 1st January 2024 and by 31 December 2027** or later if the start of works was delayed due to factors outside the control of the beneficiary as shall be determined by the Corporation.

Investment Costs related energy generation (including renewable sources), distribution and infrastructure, shall not be considered as eligible.

Eligible Project Expenditure for:

1. Tangible Assets:-

- a) For the purpose of this incentive, 'Tangible Assets' means assets consisting of **land, buildings (including fittings and furnishings), plant, machinery and equipment.**
- b) The costs for the acquisition of **motor vehicles** shall be considered only in respect of vehicles that are new. The Corporation may limit support to clean vehicles or zero emission vehicles.
- c) **Lease of Tangible Assets (plant or machinery)** may only be considered if the lease agreement contains an obligation for the beneficiary of the aid to purchase the asset upon expiry of the term of the lease.
- d) **Land & Buildings** bought must be required to conduct economic activity for the company and is considered eligible for the scheme if the premises was acquired through cost of procurement or leasing of land & buildings. Costs incurred prior to the approval of an application can only be supported through tax credits.

2. Intangible Assets:-

Patents, licences, know-how or other intellectual property costs shall be considered for the calculation of investment costs if they fulfil all the following conditions:-

- a) are used exclusively in the establishment receiving the aid,
- b) regarded as amortisable assets,
- c) purchased under market conditions from third parties unrelated to the buyer,
- d) included in the assets register of the undertaking receiving the aid .

3. Calculating the value of investment on the basis of jobs created:

The qualifying expenditure may be calculated by considering the **wage costs of full-time jobs directly created as a result of the initial investment project**. When opting to calculate the qualifying expenditure by considering wage costs, the beneficiary would still be required to implement an investment project through the acquisition of tangible assets and provide proof of such investment.



The Incentive

The Aid provided under these Incentive Guidelines may be awarded **as Tax Credits, Cash Grant, Subsidies on loan interest, Loan Guarantees (for SMEs only)** or a combination of any of these forms of aid.

Eligible investment projects having a **start of works after 1st January 2024 but prior to the approval of the Corporation** may only be awarded aid in the form of tax credits. Applicants requesting **cash grants should await approval from the Corporation prior to the Start of Works**.

The total amount of aid for a given investment project shall not exceed the maximum intensities established in the table below:

Size of Applicant (Activity)	Investment project in an assisted area identified in Annex A	Investment project in Gozo and Comino	Investment project in other areas
Small undertaking excluding hospitality sector	30%	35%	20%
Medium-sized undertaking excluding hospitality sector	20%	25%	10%
Large undertaking	10%	15%	Not Eligible for Support
Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) operating in hospitality sector	15%	15%	10%

This article reflects the guidelines published by Malta Enterprise as of 1st March 2024.

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