



## **MALTA GAMING LICENCE**

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**Legislation, Licence Types &  
Administrative Licence Fees**

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# LEGISLATION

## *Key legal framework*

MALTA IS WIDELY CONSIDERED THE GOLD STANDARD FOR ONLINE GAMBLING REGULATIONS IN EUROPE AND WAS THE FIRST EU NATION TO ENACT A COMPREHENSIVE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK SPECIFICALLY FOR REMOTE GAMING.

Malta, located in the Mediterranean, south of Sicily, is known for being one of the most attractive jurisdictions for online gambling due to its robust regulatory framework and highly favourable tax system.

Malta has been a pioneer in regulating online gambling and its regulations have served as a model for other jurisdictions within the European Union.

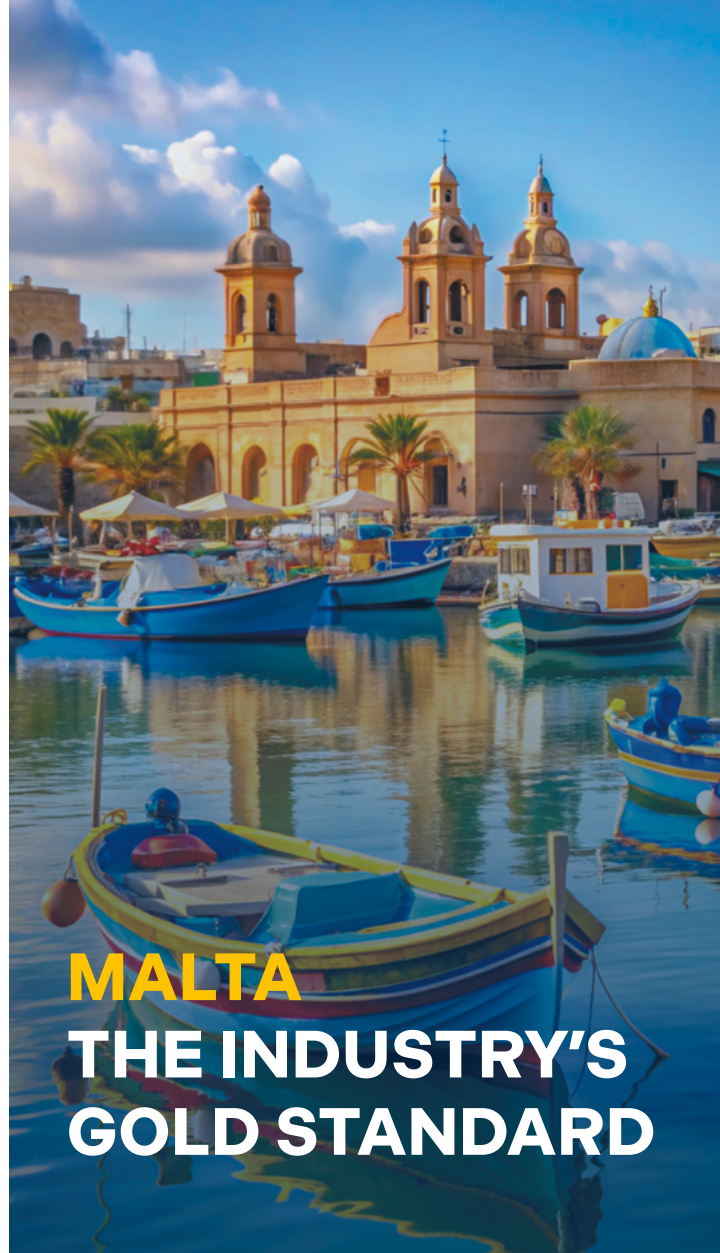
The key legislative milestones in Malta's online gaming regulation include:

### **01 Lotteries & Other Games Act (2001)**

This legislation laid the foundation for regulating the online gaming sector in Malta, making it the first EU country to regulate remote gaming activities. The act established the Malta Gaming Authority (MGA), the body responsible for regulating the industry.

### **02 Remote Gaming Regulations (2004)**

These regulations outlined the specific requirements for obtaining and maintaining a remote gaming licence, including technical standards, player protection and AML (Anti-Money Laundering) measures. This marked Malta's strong entrance into the online gambling regulatory framework.



### 03 **Malta Gaming Authority Act (2014)**

This act consolidated the role of the Malta Gaming Authority (MGA), granting it more regulatory powers and establishing Malta as a top-tier jurisdiction for online gaming. The MGA was entrusted with overseeing all forms of gambling, including land-based and online operations.

### 05 **Gambling Act (2018)**

A major update that streamlined Malta's gambling regulations, combining various gaming laws into a single piece of legislation. This law enhanced player protection, introduced stricter AML regulations and ensured compliance with international best practices.

### 07 **Player Protection Directive (2018)**

Focused on safeguarding players, this directive introduced robust responsible gambling measures, such as mandatory self-exclusion tools, clear advertising guidelines and player verification systems.

The Malta Gaming Authority (MGA) is responsible for licensing and regulating all online gambling activities in Malta. The MGA is renowned for its stringent oversight and its focus on transparency, fairness and player protection. The regulatory framework also aligns with EU standards, enabling operators to legally offer services across the European Union.

For more information and access to legal documents, the MGA maintains a legal section on its website where all pertinent regulations and directives can be found.

### 04 **Skill Games Regulations (2016)**

In response to the growing popularity of games of skill (e.g., fantasy sports), Malta introduced regulations specifically for skill-based games, providing clarity on their licensing and operational standards.

### 06 **Gaming Authorisations & Compliance Directive (2018)**

This directive detailed the procedures for applying for licences, ongoing compliance requirements and the obligations of licence holders. It ensures that all operators meet stringent standards in terms of due diligence, reporting and player safety.

### 08 **AML/CFT Regulations (updated 2019)**

In alignment with the EU's 4th and 5th Anti-Money Laundering Directives, Malta requires operators to implement comprehensive AML/CFT (Counter Financing of Terrorism) procedures to prevent illicit activities through their platforms.

# LICENCE TYPES

*Single licence covers all gaming activities*



SINCE 2018, THE MALTA GAMING AUTHORITY (MGA) HAS STREAMLINED ITS LICENSING STRUCTURE, OFFERING A SINGLE LICENCE THAT COVERS ALL GAMBLING ACTIVITIES, CATEGORISED INTO B2C AND B2B LICENCES, DEPENDING ON THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS.

The MGA offers two primary licence categories: one for operators (B2C) offering gaming services directly to players and one for suppliers (B2B) providing critical gaming supplies. Each licence is issued for a period of 10 years, with the ability to offer a range of gaming activities under a single licence.

## Gaming Service Licence (B2C)

This licence is issued to operators that provide gaming services directly to players. It covers various types of gaming, including casino games, betting and poker. B2C operators are responsible for player management, including KYC, AML and responsible gaming practices.

## Critical Gaming Supply Licence (B2B)

This licence is for businesses that provide essential gaming components to operators, such as game software, platform management and RNG systems.

B2B licence holders typically do not interact with players but are required to meet high technical standards to ensure the fairness and integrity of the games they supply.

The MGA further categorises gaming activities under the following four types:

### Type 1

Games of chance where the outcome is determined by a random number generator (RNG), such as casino games (e.g., blackjack, roulette), lotteries and virtual sports.

### Type 2

Games of chance based on events or competitions where the outcome is external to the game itself (e.g., sports betting).

### Type 3

Games of chance where the operator earns revenue through commissions or charges based on stakes or prizes (e.g., poker, bingo and betting exchange).

### Type 4

Games of skill, such as fantasy sports, where the outcome is predominantly determined by the player's skill rather than by chance.

## Recognition notice

The MGA also issues recognition notices, which allow operators licensed in other reputable jurisdictions (typically EU or EEA countries) to operate in Malta without needing a full MGA licence, provided they comply with Malta's regulatory framework.

## Corporate Group Licence

Corporate groups may apply for a group B2B licence, which covers multiple entities within the same group, provided that the group's parent company holds over 90% of the shareholding or voting rights of its subsidiaries.

# ADMINISTRATIVE & LICENCE FEES

## *Breakdown of administrative & licence costs*

The Malta Gaming Authority (MGA) charges both non-refundable application fees and annual licence fees. These fees vary depending on the type of licence and the scope of the gaming activities being conducted.

### Application and annual licence fees

LICENCE TYPE	APPLICATION FEE	ANNUAL FEE
Gaming Service Licence (B2C)	€5,000	€25,000
Gaming Service Licence (B2C - Type 4 only)	€5,000	€10,000
Critical Gaming Supply Licence (B2B)	€5,000	€25,000
Critical Gaming Supply Licence (B2B - Back-Office)	€5,000	€10,000

APPLICATION & ANNUAL LICENCE FEES

### Annual licence fees based on revenue (B2B)

ANNUAL REVENUE (X)	ANNUAL FEE
Revenue ≤ €5 million	€25,000
€5 million < Revenue ≤ €10 million	€30,000
Revenue > €10 million	€35,000

ANNUAL LICENCE FEES  
BASED ON REVENUE (B2B)

## Compliance contribution

The MGA requires operators to pay a compliance contribution, calculated monthly based on the gaming revenue accrued during the month. The contribution is due on the 20th day of the following month.

LICENCE TYPE	REVENUE BRACKET	RATE
B2C - Type 1 Services	First €3 million	1.25%
	Next €4.5 million	1.00%
	Next €5 million	0.85%
	Next €7.5 million	0.70%
	Next €10 million	0.55%
	Above €10 million	0.40%
B2C - Type 2 Services	First €3 million	4.00%
	Next €4.5 million	3.00%
	Next €5 million	2.00%
	Next €7.5 million	1.00%
	Above €10 million	0.80%
B2C - Type 3 Services	First €2 million	4.00%
	Next €3 million	3.00%
	Next €5 million	2.00%
	Above €5 million	1.00%

COMPLIANCE CONTRIBUTION



### Gaming duties

Operators are also subject to a 5% gaming tax on revenue generated from players located in Malta.



# COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

## *Compliance with global standards*

Malta maintains rigorous compliance standards for licensed entities, particularly those within financial services, iGaming and other regulated industries. Below are the key compliance requirements:

### **Annual licence renewal**

Licensed entities must renew their licences annually through the Malta Gaming Authority (MGA) or relevant regulatory authority. This involves submitting updated documents and fees as well as proving ongoing compliance.

### **AML/CFT obligations**

Licence holders are required to comply with stringent Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Counter Financing of Terrorism (CFT) standards, including comprehensive customer due diligence, transaction monitoring and regular reporting.

### **Quarterly and annual reporting**

Regulated entities must submit quarterly and annual reports detailing financial performance, player activity (if applicable) and compliance with gaming or industry-specific regulations to the MGA.

### **Technical compliance audits**

iGaming operators are required to undergo regular technical compliance audits to ensure that systems and platforms meet the standards set by the MGA, including data security, game fairness and responsible gaming features.

### **Data protection & GDPR compliance**

Licensed companies must adhere to General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) requirements, ensuring data privacy, security and regular assessments of data management practices.

### **Responsible gaming & social responsibility**

iGaming operators are required to implement and demonstrate ongoing responsible gaming practices, including player protection tools, self-exclusion options and educational resources on safe gaming.



## OUR SERVICES

### *All-encompassing services for iGaming licensing*



#### **Company formation**

Establishing and structuring your legal entity in multiple jurisdictions.



#### **Compliance & regulatory support**

Ensuring your operation meets local AML/CFT, KYC and responsible gaming requirements.



#### **Licence application**

Comprehensive support for the licensing process.



#### **Ongoing management**

Handling post-licensing requirements such as renewals, reporting and compliance.

## CONTACT US FOR PRICING

### *Get in touch for a custom quote*

With years of experience across the gaming sector—spanning roles with gaming companies, technical solution providers and strategic consultancy at operational and regulatory levels—we are well-equipped to help you navigate the industry's complexities.

Based in Malta, Curaçao and Cyprus we are well-equipped to handle any requirement and guide you through the industry's complexities.



**KEITH SEISUN**  
HEAD OF LICENSING

“My priority is to simplify the licensing process for our clients, ensuring they meet regulatory requirements while focusing on growing their business.”

***Focus on growth. Leave the red tape to us.***

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leave the red tape to us.*

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