# MALTA PAYMENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Payment Service Provider Set Up

GDP GROWTH 6.3% in 2015 (EC)

**REGULATOR** Malta Financial Services Authority

WORKFORCE Well qualified, English speaking

SIZE OF THE INDUSTRY 25% Annual growth EU Member of the EU & Eurozone

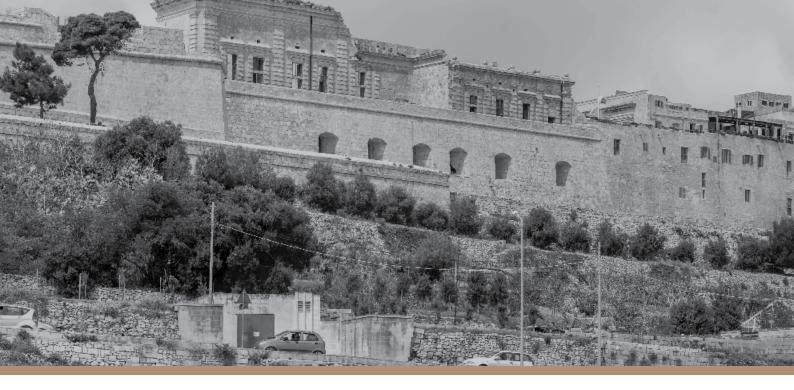
LEGISLATION Fully compliant with EU directives & regulation

ACCESS TO THE EU Passporting of licence into the EU

FINANCIAL SERVICES FRAMEWORK EU and OECD approved







## MALTA AND PAYMENT SERVICES

The number of Payment Server Providers (PSPs) licensed in Malta has seen significant growth over the last few years, and, alongside the thriving i-Gaming and e-Commerce industry, the Island has become the destination of choice for the set-up of Payment Server Providers.

PSPs may engage in various activities including: the execution of payment transactions, issuing and/ or acquiring of payment instruments, as well as money remittance.

Like other financial institutions, PSPs are not allowed to receive deposits or other repayable funds from the public and must use funds exclusively to provide payment services.

## LEGAL BASIS

PSPs are regulated in Malta under the Malta Financial Institutions Act (the "Act") which transposes the Payment Services Directive (the "Directive"), specifically under Schedule II of this Act. Such licence holders are authorized and regulated by the Malta Financial Services Authority (the "MFSA"), the supervisor of all the financial services industry.



**BENEFITS** 



EU passporting



5% Effective Corporate Tax Rate



Highly qualified persons benefits



Ability to open a branch in other European Member States (post one year of licensing)



No restrictions on activities



## KEY REQUIREMENTS

In assessing an application for the obtainment of a Payment Services Licence, the MFSA carries out a "fit and proper" test on the applicant. For the purpose of this test, the shareholders, directors and senior staff members must demonstrate solvency, competence and integrity in all their dealings.

#### **APPLICATION CRITERIA**

The following are the criteria set out by the MFSA for setting up a PSP in Malta:

- Completion of application documents
- Settling the initial license application fee of €3,500
- Capital requirement of €50K-€125K depending on the service provided

#### LOCAL PRESENCE

For one to obtain a PSP in Malta they must have a local presence, they must have a minimum of 3 directors with at least one of them being Maltese. Also one must have a minimum of 2 local operational staff members, a local MLRO and Compliance officer.

Furthermore, to set up a PSP in Malta one has to eventually need an office space in Malta



#### ELIGIBILITY













Local presence

Settling licensing fee

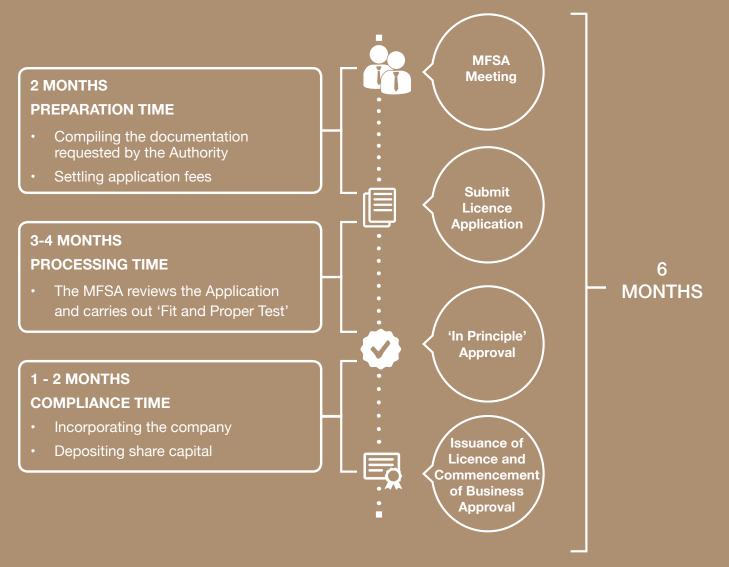
Application documents

Minimum capital; €50,000 - €125,000 depending on activities

Licence

## PAYMENT SERVICE PROVIDERS IN MALTA

### **Application Timeline**



## WHY WORK WITH US?



Success Rate: Problem Solving, Integrity, Honesty Chambers & Partners Global: Ranked Lawyers



We're lawyers: Lawyer - Client Privilege



15+ Years Experience in Financial Services



Malta-Cyprus Lawyers, Tax Advisors, Fiduciary Staff: 100+



Our Secret: Big Firm Expertise Personal Service



Malta



Dr Maria Chetcuti Cauchi

Partner, Financial Service

mcc@ccmalta.com

The materials contained in this document are provided for general information purposes only and are not intended to provide legal or other professional advice. We accept no responsibility for any direct, indirect or consequential loss or damage which may arise from reliance on information contained in this document. Readers are advised to seek confirmation of statements made herein before acting upon them; specialist advice should also be sought on your particular cases. Please feel free to contact us at your convenience.