



National Commission for
**Further and
Higher Education**
Malta

Regulation of the terms ‘University’, ‘Higher Education Institution’, ‘Further Education Institution’ and ‘Further Education Centre’

By the provision of Subsidiary Legislation 327.433, Regulation 53, the NCFHE is publishing these guidelines for the protection of the use of the terms, ‘University’, ‘Higher Education Institution’, ‘Further Education Institution’, and ‘Further Education Centre’. The terms here shall be regulated and their restricted use shall be in line with provisions of SL 327.433 and parameters established below. Any institution that wishes to make use of these terms shall be obliged to be in contact with the NCFHE.

University:

In the Maltese territory, the term ‘University’, and its equivalent translations, shall be used only by accredited institutions as determined in Subsidiary Legislation 327.433.

Anyone in the Maltese territory, as well as, all providers which were granted a license in the categories, ‘higher education institution’ ‘further education institution’ ‘Further Education Centre’ and ‘Tuition Centre’, shall refrain from using the following words in any media, advertising, published material, promotional material or in any information otherwise supplied to intending students, parents or the public:

- a) The word ‘university’ or any abbreviation or acronym of such, in any part of their name; and
- b) The word ‘university’ in any title of, or with reference to, any programme provided or award conferred by them

Higher Education Institution:

In the Maltese territory, the term ‘Higher Education Institution’ shall be used only by accredited institutions as determined in Subsidiary Legislation 327.433.

Higher Education Institutions shall not use the word ‘University’, or any abbreviation, or acronym, of such, in any media, advertising published material, promotional material or in any information otherwise supplied to intending students, parents or the public in relation to any part of their name or in any title of, or with reference to, any programme provided or award conferred by them.

Exemption: Such licensees shall not be prohibited from using the word ‘university’ in any title of, or with reference to, any programme, or part thereof, accredited in accordance with the subsidiary legislation or by the NCFHE and provided by them in agreement with a licensed university or an overseas university, whether by means of a joint programme or

otherwise. This proviso shall apply only where such programme has met the requirements for the Recognition of foreign qualifications and serve to obtain a national qualification at MQF Level 5 or higher and is awarded by a licensed university or a foreign qualification at a comparable level which is awarded by an accredited overseas university.

Further Education Institution:

In the Maltese territory, the term ‘Further Education Institution’ shall be used only by accredited institutions as determined in Subsidiary Legislation 327.433.

Further Education Institutions shall not use the words ‘Higher’ or ‘University’, or any abbreviation, or acronym of such, in any media, advertising published material, promotional material or in any information otherwise supplied to intending students, parents or the public in relation to any part of their name. Further such providers shall not use the word ‘University’, ‘degree’, ‘masters’, ‘master’ or ‘higher’ or in any title of, or with reference to, any programme provided or award conferred by them.

Further Education Centre:

In the Maltese territory, the term ‘Further Education Centre’ shall be used only by accredited institutions as determined in Subsidiary Legislation 327.433.

Further Education Centre shall not use the words ‘Institute’, ‘Institution’, ‘Higher’ or ‘University’, or any abbreviation, or acronym of such, in any media, advertising published material, promotional material or in any information otherwise supplied to intending students, parents or the public in relation to any part of their name. Further such providers shall not use the word ‘University’, ‘degree’, ‘masters’, ‘master’ or ‘higher’ or in any title of, or with reference to, any programme provided or award conferred by them.

Sanctions

By the authority vested to the NCFHE in Subsidiary Legislation 327.433, Regulations 5 and 5A, any provider which fails to comply with the above regulations shall be liable to an administrative fine not exceeding four thousand Euros (€4000). Furthermore, the NCFHE may impose an additional penalty not exceeding one hundred and sixteen euro and forty-seven cents (€116.47) for each day during which these regulations are transgressed.