

Portuguese Host Language Course (PLA) Levels A1+A2



Elementary Level Course A1-A2 Portuguese Host Language

What are they?

The Portuguese Host Language (PLA) courses aim to respond to the needs of learning the Portuguese language by migrants and, thus, enhance full inclusion and social cohesion. Their specific objectives are to promote the mastery of the Portuguese language, in the context of reading, writing and speaking, as well as to respond to the requirement of knowledge of the Portuguese language provided for in the legal regimes for the acquisition of Portuguese nationality, granting of permanent residence permit and long-term residence status, a process framed by ([Ordinance No. 183/2020, of 5 August](#), amended by [Ordinance No. 184/2022, of 21 July](#)).

For whom?

PLA courses are aimed at citizens, aged 16 or over, whose mother tongue is not Portuguese and/or who do not have basic, intermediate or advanced skills in Portuguese, according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), regardless of their regular situation in the country.

Recipients must hold a residence permit, under the terms of the national legislation applicable to foreign citizens, or must present one of the following documents:

- (a) Proof that the procedure for the extension of the stay in national territory or for the granting or renewal of a residence permit has been initiated;
- (b) Proof of submission of the application for international protection or temporary protection;
- (c) Proof of the attribution of the Social Security Identification Number (NISS). The PLA courses are also intended for citizens holding short-stay visas for seasonal work, temporary stay or residence.

How are the Courses organized?

PLA courses are organized by skills and training frameworks that appear in the [National Qualifications Catalogue](#) (CNQ), which correspond to language proficiency levels according to the CEFR and the respective workload.

The PLA courses that certify level A1 + A2 – Elementary User are organized according to the following Short Term Training Units (UCFD):

Level	UCFD	Workload
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A1 – Elementary User	UFCD 6452 – Me and my daily routine	25h
	UFCD 6453 – Eating Habits, Culture and Leisure	25h
	UFCD 6454 – The Human Body, Health, and Services	25h
A2 – Elementary User	UFCD 6455 – Me and the world of work	25h
	UFCD 6456 – My Past and My Present	25h
	UFCD 6457 – Communication and Life in Society	25h

Frequently asked questions:

Q: How long is route A (A1 + A2) – Elementary User?

A: Route A (A1 + A2) has a maximum duration of 150 hours, plus 25 hours that can be mobilized when it is verified that the trainees use an alphabet other than Latin or another writing system.

Q: If I take the PLA course successfully, do I have to take the Portuguese Language Test, better known as the "Nationality Test"?

A: No, if you obtain a certificate of level A2 – Elementary User or higher, you are exempt from taking the Portuguese Language Test.

Q: Is the Certificate obtained at level A2 – Elementary User accepted in the application for Portuguese nationality?

A: Yes.

Q: Is the Certificate obtained at level A2 – Elementary User accepted in the application for permanent residence permit?

A: Yes.

Q: Is the Certificate obtained at level A2 – Elementary User accepted in the application for long-term resident status?

A: Yes.