Student visa FAQs

Where do I should to apply for my student visa?

You can apply at this Consulate only if you are a resident or if you are student in our jurisdiction at the moment you submit your application (Florida, Georgia or South Carolina). You must provide a Driver's license and/or a Student Card to prove your legal residence in our jurisdiction. No exceptions will be made.

Do I need an appointment?

Applications will be accepted on a first come first serve basis. We do not give appointments.

How long in advance can I apply for the visa?

You can apply for the visa within 90 days on advance of the beginning of your program, and not less than 30 days.

How long does it take the approval of the visa?

Student visas are approved by the Spanish Government Delegation in the city where the applicant is going to study in about 2 to 4 weeks. We cannot expedite the approval process.

Can I mail my application over?

Your visa application must be submitted in person, not exceptions.

Can someone else submit my application on my behalf?

A representative can submit your visa application on your behalf, providing a notarized authorization letter signed by you.

How should I submit my application?

You must provide the documents requested in our website (original and copy), in the order listed.

Can I keep my Passport until the visa is granted?

If you need it, you can keep the passport during the process. Once your visa application is approved, you must come in person with your passport to pick up your visa.

When I must submit background check and medical certificate?

When your program in Spain exceeds 6 months.

Can I translate the documents requested by myself?

You must provide translations of the documents requested done by a sworn/official translator. You can find out translators in this website www.atanet.org.

What documents should be translated?
Criminal background check, medical certificate, and Birth and Marriage when are requested (minors and relatives). If the documents are in Spanish is not necessary to submit translations.

**What type of medical certificate do I need?**

Please find attached a medical form. We do not request blood test. We just need a certificate with this wording:

“This medical certificate certifies that Mr. / Ms. (...) Does not suffer from any diseases that may have serious implications for public health in accordance with the provisions of the International Health Regulations 2005”.

**How do you notify if the visa is granted?**

We do not notify the approval. You can come back in 4 weeks to pick your passport and visa up.

**What fee should I pay for the visa?**

Student visa fee for US citizens is $160. For the rest of nationalities (except Canada, Mauritania and Bangladesh) is $68.

**Can I pay with a credit card?**

Payment must be made by MONEY ORDER (not refundable). We do not accept any other type of payments.

**Why my visa is only valid for 90 days if my length of stay is longer than 6 months?**

When your studies exceed 6 months, visas are only valid for 90 days. Once in Spain you must apply, within the first thirty days, for the Foreigner Identity Card at the Comisaría de Extranjería in your city where you are taking classes. The card will be valid for as long as the student is enrolled in the program in Spain.

**My stay in Spain is for two years, can I renew my Foreigner Identity Card in Spain or do I have to apply for a new visa when my card is going to expire?**

Foreigner Identity Card will be valid for one year; before your card is expired you can renew it in Spain (in the same place where you get it the first time) without applying for a new visa.

**I would like to travel during my stay in Spain. What should I mark in the visa form in point number 22? More than two?**

By default, all student visas have multiples entries that will allow you to enter in Spain, as many times as you want, as long as your visa or Foreigner Identity Card is valid.

**My visa is valid for 180 days but my program has been extended. Can I have an extension of my stay in Spain or do I need to apply for a new visa?**

You can requests and extension at the Comisaría de Extranjería in your city where you are taking classes.

**If my visa is granted, can I enter in Spain as a tourist before my visa starts?**

You can enter in the Schengen area before your student visa is valid.
In the event you need to apply for a Foreigner Identity Card, you must apply it within first thirty days of validity of your visa.

If the duration of the studies does not exceed six months, the visa will be sufficient to document the stay.

Can I stay in Spain after my visa or my Foreigner Identity Card is expired?

If your nationality does not required visa to enter in Spain as a tourist, you can remain in Spain for maximum of 90 days after your visa or your Foreigner Identity Card is expired.

My family is moving with me, what type of visa should they request?

They must apply for student visa as a relative. In addition of the documents requested for students, they must provide documents to prove the relationship with the applicant.

Who is considered a relative?

Relative means, spouse, common-law partner, children under eighteen under their custody or guardianship, and children (regardless of age) with disabilities and not objectively able to provide for their own needs due to their health status.

I have been accepted as language and cultural assistant in Spain, what type of visa should I request?

You need to apply for a student visa, but instead of the certificate of admission, you need to provide letter of acceptance by the Regional Education Authorities. This letter must provide information on the school you have been appointed to (address, phone number, contact email).

Do I have to provide proof of economic means and proof of health insurance if I have been accepted as language and cultural assistant in Spain?

You don’t. Language and culture assistants have grant and insurance included in their programs.

Do I need to provide round trip tickets? And proof of accommodation?

We do not request round trip tickets or proof of accommodation for student visa applications.