

LONG- STAY VISAS FOR STUDYING IN SPAIN

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

General Considerations

Any foreign national who is not a citizen of an EU/Schengen State and intends to enter and remain in Spain for the sole or primary purpose of undertaking any of the educational and/or training activities listed below for more than 90 days must first apply for and obtain a long-stay student visa, subject to the exceptions established in current regulations.

Except in cases g) and h), only applications from students over 18 years of age will be processed. As an exception, applications to pursue higher education exclusively [case a)] may be processed from individuals aged 17, provided they submit, along with the rest of the required documentation, an official document from the educational authority of their country of origin certifying that the student has high intellectual abilities and completed their pre-secondary studies at an age lower than the generally established minimum.

If the duration of the studies, training, or activity does not exceed 90 days, THOSE WHOSE NATIONALITY REQUIRES A VISA (Annex I, EU Regulation 2018/1806 of 14 November) must apply for a Schengen visa, not a student visa. The general rules for Schengen visas will apply to this application. THOSE WHOSE NATIONALITY REQUIRES A VISA (Annex II, EU Regulation 2018/1806 of 14 November) will not need to apply for any type of visa, but they will need to obtain travel authorization registered in the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) **when it comes into effect**. In both cases, the applicant must meet the entry requirements for Spain as established by current regulations, and should also be aware that border authorities may request documentation justifying the purpose of the trip.

If the intended studies are taught in Spanish, the applicant must demonstrate sufficient language proficiency in Spanish (especially if the intended studies are higher education and/or technical); basic knowledge of the language is not sufficient. This rule does not apply if the studies involve learning Spanish or any co-official language, nor to minor students participating in student mobility or humanitarian programs.

This visa can only be requested if the studies or training to be undertaken are full-time¹, and may be completed in person or in a blended learning format, provided that at least 50% of the program is delivered in person:

This visa allows the following studies:

a- Higher education studies at a recognized institution or center of higher learning in Spain (including international higher education centers located and authorized in Spain), within the framework of a full-time program leading to a higher education degree recognized in Spain or, in the case of international centers, recognized in other countries. For these purposes, higher education is considered to include university studies, advanced vocational training, higher artistic studies, advanced professional studies in visual arts and design, and advanced sports studies, including, where applicable, the completion of a preparatory course prior to such studies (provided the student has been previously admitted to them), as well as curricular or extracurricular non-work placements following completion of said studies (provided such placements form part of the studies previously completed in Spain and are mandatory).

b- Higher education studies undertaken by nationals of third countries not belonging to the EU/Schengen Area whose respective educational programs, whether or not covered by an EU program (for example, the Erasmus Program), include intra-Community mobility measures, provided that the higher education studies begin in all cases at an educational institution in Spain.

c- Doctoral studies.

¹A full-time study program will be understood as one in which the student has enrolled in at least 90% of the credits in the case of university studies, or, where applicable, in 90% of the study program.

d- Completion of preparatory courses for the competitive examinations for access to specialized healthcare training positions at an officially authorized and recognized educational center, provided that the applicant has obtained a Spanish Bachelor's or Master's degree in Medicine, Pharmacy, Nursing, or other university degrees that qualify them to participate in the annual competitive examinations for access to specialized healthcare training positions, or a foreign degree duly recognized or validated as equivalent to those stipulated in this paragraph.

e- Completion of post-compulsory secondary education studies (1st and 2nd year of Baccalaureate) leading to the award of the Baccalaureate degree, only at private educational centers authorized and recognized in Spain.

f- Completion of intermediate-level vocational training, including supervised internships (provided that such internships form part of the vocational training previously completed in Spain and are mandatory), leading to the award of a certificate of technical aptitude or professional qualification, only at private educational centers authorized and recognized in Spain.

g- Completion of compulsory secondary education (grades 1-4) or post-compulsory secondary education (grades 1-2) at officially authorized and recognized educational institutions in Spain, solely within the framework of student mobility programs.

h- Travel of minors aged 12 and over for the purpose of temporary schooling in Spain, exclusively within the framework of official humanitarian programs promoted by the Spanish public administration (national or regional).

i- Attendance at courses for learning Spanish or any of the co-official languages of Spain as a foreign language (provided it is not the mother tongue or the official language of the country of which the foreign national is a national), taught in person at official language schools or centers accredited in Spain by the Cervantes Institute or the equivalent public body for the corresponding co-official language.

j- Provision of unpaid volunteer services (except in the form of expense reimbursement, pocket money, or both), carried out exclusively in legally constituted volunteer organizations registered for this purpose, provided that the volunteering takes place within a program pursuing objectives of general interest for a non-profit cause, or within a program managed by the European Voluntary Service.

k- Unpaid internships undertaken by foreign students in Embassies, Consulates, or International Organizations accredited in Spain, provided that they have been previously selected by the competent authority in their country of origin or, where applicable, by an international organization for the aforementioned purposes.

Conversely, the following do not require a student visa for Spain:

- Higher education students who are nationals of third countries not belonging to the EU/Schengen Area and who are currently studying in another EU Member State other than Spain under a valid visa or authorization issued by that Member State in accordance with Directive (EU) 2016/801 of 11 May (ERASMUS Programme), and which includes intra-EU mobility measures. These students will have the right to enter and remain in Spain to continue their studies for up to 360 days with the student visa issued by the corresponding Member State; however, they must notify the Immigration Office of the province where they will begin their studies of their stay in Spain.

- Higher education students who are nationals of third countries not belonging to the EU/Schengen Area and who are studying in another EU Member State other than Spain under a valid visa or authorization issued by that Member State outside the scope of Directive (EU) 2016/801 of 11 May, and which include intra-Community mobility measures or an agreement between two or more higher education institutions for this purpose. In this case, students must submit an application for authorization to enter and remain in Spain in order to pursue or complete part of their studies at a Spanish higher education institution, either to the Spanish Consular Office corresponding to their previous place of stay in the European Union (at any time before entering Spanish territory), or to the Immigration Office of the province in which the academic activity is to begin (within one month from entry into Spain is required, in which case they must present documentation proving their student status in another Member State of the European Union, in addition to the documentation mentioned in points 1, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 14, and 17 of the following section).

The following may apply for a student family member visa, **exclusively with respect to higher education students** [cases a), c), or d)]: the spouse, registered domestic partner, or stable partner (understood as one with whom the student has lived for at least one year prior to applying for the visa), as well as unmarried children

under 18 years of age or children who have not formed their own family unit, or disabled children over 18 (the student's ascendants are not entitled to this type of visa, nor are they minor students), taking into account the following: these applications will be processed in all cases following the same procedure established for student visas; No prior period of residence in Spain is required for the holder of a student visa, but visas for family members will not be authorized until the student visa has been authorized. Therefore, they cannot be applied for simultaneously under any circumstances. Spouses, registered partners, or stable partners (and, where applicable, children under 18 years of age of working age) will not be authorized to carry out gainful employment; and they may not accompany the student family member to another EU Member State within the framework of a European Union mobility program [case b)], as they are not considered beneficiaries of said program.

Applying for a student visa to achieve family reunification in Spain, which is not permitted by law, is considered fraud.

Applications for student visas (including those for accompanying family members, where applicable) may be submitted either in person (applications for applicants under 18 years of age must be submitted by their parents or guardians) or through a duly authorized representative. Applications may not be submitted electronically under any circumstances.

Only applications submitted by those who are actually and permanently resident within this consular district will be processed. If they are nationals of third countries, they must also have legal residency and/or stay status with a return authorization (not a tourist visa).

Exceptionally, and only in the case of higher education students and students who will be taking preparatory courses for the competitive examinations for access to specialized healthcare training positions, the application may be submitted in Spain to the corresponding Government Delegation/Subdelegation (Immigration Office), provided that the applicant is legally present in Spain at the time of submission. Consequently, the Consular Office will not issue a short-stay visa to a student if it verifies that the purpose of said visa is to submit an application for a higher education stay in Spain at an Immigration Office.

The Consular Office may establish an appointment system for receiving applications for this type of visa. Granting an appointment to submit a visa application does not automatically imply visa approval.

Visa applications will be rejected in the cases stipulated in Additional Provision Four of Organic Law 4/2000 of January 11.

In incomplete applications or if any submitted document does not meet the legally required standards, the applicant will be required to correct the deficiencies.

Except in cases g), h), j), and k), **the minimum period for submitting a student visa application will be TWO MONTHS prior to the start date of the academic activity to be undertaken.** Applications submitted outside this period will not be accepted unless the applicant provides a justified reason preventing them from submitting the application within the required timeframe (e.g., the admissions process of the institution itself, being on a waiting list, having received a scholarship at a date that does not allow for the two-month advance notice, the student not being admitted to their first-choice institution, being unable to access the necessary documentation to apply for the visa due to circumstances beyond their control, etc.). Considering that applicants' Student visas are subject to a specific academic calendar, making it crucial to submit the corresponding application as quickly as possible to avoid missing classes.

In any case, the issuance of a student visa by the Consular Office requires prior authorization from the corresponding Immigration Office in Spain, a process that takes a minimum of 15 business days from receipt.

A student visa cannot be granted provisionally, as a precautionary measure, to allow the applicant to begin studies that have already been paid for or are already underway, until a positive decision is received from the corresponding Immigration Office.

If the visa is authorized, it will be issued for a long-term stay of up to one year. The authorization will be valid one month before the start of the academic activity and will extend 15 days beyond the end of the activity or studies; therefore, it is not possible to issue a visa outside of these limits.

² The application and documentation must be submitted in person at this Consulate General during business hours, Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Appointments are required at cog.melbourne.visappt@maec.es

The deadline for collecting the visa is one month from the date of its issuance. It must be collected in person only if the application was submitted through a duly authorized representative. Otherwise, the representative may collect it (visas issued to minors must be collected by their parents or guardians). If the visa is not collected within this period, the Consular Office will issue a decision to close the application due to renunciation. It cannot be collected from any Consular Office other than the one that processed the application.

For higher education students, the residence permit obtained automatically authorizes them to work in Spain, either as an employee or self-employed, without the need for any additional procedure, provided that the work activity is compatible with their studies and does not exceed 30 hours per week. In all other cases, students may only engage in self-employment or employment if, once in Spain, they apply for and obtain authorization to engage in paid work, in accordance with the regulations established for both situations. Alternatively, higher education students and those who have obtained specialized healthcare training positions may obtain residence and work permits (either as an employee or self-employed) or residence permits without requiring a work authorization, provided they have previously obtained the corresponding degree or certificate, apply within two months before or three months after the expiration of their student visa, and are not receiving scholarships or grants from public or private organizations under sustainable development or humanitarian aid programs.

Possession of a valid long-term visa does not guarantee automatic entry into Spain. The holder must demonstrate to border authorities that they meet the requirements that led to the visa's issuance. Nor does it, on its own, allow the holder to leave their country of origin, nationality, or residence, which may impose regulations on this matter.

Entry into Spanish territory will be denied, even with a valid visa and proof to border authorities that the requirements for its issuance are met, if an entry ban is in place.

Once entry into Spain is authorized by border authorities, the visa holder must ensure their passport is stamped by them. If entering Spain from a Schengen State and therefore without crossing external borders, the holder must, within a maximum of three business days, go to a police station or an immigration office to sign an entry declaration. Once the Entry-Exit System is operational, the information contained therein will supersede the provisions of this paragraph.

For stays exceeding six months, the applicant (or their legal representative in the case of minors) will have a maximum of one month, starting from the day after the date of entry stamp in Spain or from the date of signing the entry declaration, to apply for their Foreigner Identity Card (TIE) at the corresponding Immigration Office.

Foreigners holding a student visa in Spain are not eligible for the Spanish public healthcare system, without prejudice to any rights they may acquire if they sign an employment contract.

Possession of a student visa only grants the holder the right to stay in Spain for the duration of its validity, but does not confer any right of residence. Consequently, holders cannot count their time spent in Spain as students towards any other legal calculation for the purposes of Spanish nationality, residency based on roots in Spain, etc.

If the visa is denied, the Consular Office will issue a decision rejecting the application, which will be communicated in writing to the applicant, including information on the legal basis for the denial, the available appeals, and the bodies to which they must be submitted.

Required Documentation

The same documentation must be submitted for all student visas, regardless of their duration (except for visa number 19), provided that the duration exceeds 90 days.

All students must submit the following documentation:

1. Original passport or travel document.
2. National visa application form (1 copy).
3. 1 photograph.

4. Admission document (a simple reservation of a place is not valid). Depending on the activity to be undertaken:

- In the case of higher education studies, doctoral studies, post-compulsory secondary education, intermediate vocational training, learning Spanish or any co-official language of Spain, or preparatory courses for the selection tests for access to specialized healthcare training positions, the student's final admission document or letter.

- In the case of participation in student mobility or humanitarian programs [cases g) and h)], a document issued by the program's managing body, which must state that the student has been admitted to the program and already has a place at the corresponding educational institution.

- In the case of participation in volunteer programs, a copy of the agreement with the organization in charge of the program, which must include a description of the program, the planned activities, the program schedule and duration, as well as the accommodation and living arrangements. - In the case of unpaid internships at Embassies, Consulates, or International Organizations accredited in Spain, a Note Verbale from the corresponding foreign authority is required.

5. Comprehensive health insurance, with benefits similar to those provided by the National Health System, contracted with an insurance company authorized to operate in Spain, covering 100% of medical, hospital, and outpatient expenses related to illness or accident for the entire duration of the applicant's intended stay in Spain, for a minimum amount of €30,000 or its equivalent in local currency, and exempt from co-payments, reimbursements, or waiting periods. This insurance must be contracted with an insurer registered on the list of insurance and reinsurance companies of the Directorate General of Insurance and Pension Funds of the Spanish Ministry of Economy, Trade and Business. For British students, the GHIC card remains valid medical coverage for visa processing.

6. A negative certificate attesting that the applicant does not suffer from any disease that could have serious repercussions for public health, in accordance with the provisions of the WHO International Health Regulations of 2005.

7. Proof of the applicant's actual and permanent residence within this consular district (housing rental agreement, utility or telephone bills, proof of enrollment in an educational institution, provided that classes are mandatory in-person attendance, etc.).

8. Payment of the corresponding consular fee; if claiming exemption, supporting documentation. Foreign students undertaking unpaid internships at Embassies, Consulates, and International Organizations accredited in Spain are exempt from paying the fee [case k)] (unless reciprocity applies).

IN ADDITION, the following documentation must be submitted, depending on the specific case:

9. IN ALL CASES EXCEPT g), h), and k). Documentary proof that the studies or activity to be undertaken will be full-time, indicating the start and end dates of the course, the program or content of studies, the schedule that involves in-person attendance, and, where applicable, the language in which they will be taught.

10. IN ALL CASES EXCEPT g), h), j), and k). Document reflecting the total cost of the course, including registration and/or tuition fees, reservation of place, and similar charges, indicating the amounts already paid and those pending payment, with the following specifics, where applicable:

- In the case of students participating in programs or agreements between institutions that stipulate that the originating institution is responsible for paying these amounts to the receiving institution, documentation proving this circumstance.

- In the case of students participating in student mobility programs [case g)], a document by which the organization responsible for the program assumes responsibility for the cost of the studies, without prejudice to the fact that, where applicable, said cost may subsequently be charged to the student's parents or guardians.

- In the case of students participating in humanitarian programs [case h)], a document justifying that the Spanish public administration promoting the program assumes responsibility for the student's living expenses in Spain.

- In the case of students who, for any reason, are exempt from paying these amounts, supporting documentation.

11. ONLY IN CASES a), b), c), and d). Alternatively:

- If the teaching activity will be carried out in Spanish, a document certifying that the student possesses sufficient knowledge of the Spanish language to allow them to follow the instruction (only in the case of students not from Spanish-speaking countries).

-If the teaching activity will be carried out in a language other than Spanish, a document certifying sufficient knowledge of the language in question to allow them to follow the instruction (only in the case of students not from countries whose official and/or commonly used language does not coincide with the language in which the instruction will be given).

12. ONLY IN CASES a), d), e), f). Certificate or diploma of previously completed studies (unless the studies to be carried out in Spain are within an official exchange program or complementary to those carried out in the country of origin) - prior validation is not necessary, but this may be requested subsequently by the educational institution; as an exception, in the case of requesting a visa to carry out preparatory courses for the selection tests for access to specialized healthcare training positions [case d)], if the Bachelor's or Master's degree was obtained abroad, prior to submitting the application, its recognition or validation in Spain must be carried out-. If non-formal courses (photography, interpreting, etc.) are to be undertaken in Spain as a continuation, expansion, or specialization of previously completed courses, proof of prior knowledge required by the Spanish educational institution in the subject matter must be provided (certificates, diplomas, etc.).

13. ONLY IN THE CASE OF SPANISH COURSES OR COURSES IN ANY OF THE CO-OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF SPAIN [case i)], a certificate confirming that the academy offering these courses is accredited as such by the Cervantes Institute or the equivalent public body for the corresponding co-official language.

14. IN ALL CASES EXCEPT g), h), and k): Documents proving that the applicant has sufficient financial means to cover the costs of their stay and return to their country of origin. The minimum monthly amount is 100% of the Public Indicator of Income for Multiple Purposes (IPREM), unless it is duly proven that accommodation has already been paid for in advance for the entire period of stay, in which case this amount will be reduced. Amounts used, if any, to cover the cost of studies will not be counted towards the requirement to guarantee living expenses. Financial resources may be personal funds or those derived from family members, subsidies, grants, or scholarships (conversely, documents proving ownership of assets, documents signed by guarantors, or mere declarations of financial support from third parties without any proven relationship with the applicant will not be considered). At the request of the Consular Office, the source of these funds must be justified, and bank statements for the past year must be provided. Bank loans must be documented by presenting a contract signed by both parties indicating the total amount. ONLY in the case of students who are going to pursue higher education [cases a), b), c) or d)], the availability of an employment contract or job offer may be assessed, provided that it is compatible.

15. In all cases except g), h), j), and k). If the visa application is submitted less than two months before the start date of the studies or activity, supporting documentation demonstrating the applicant's inability to submit it within the legally established timeframe is required.

16. Only participants in volunteer services (except the European Voluntary Service), regardless of their duration [case j)]. Civil liability insurance taken out by the corresponding organization.

17. If the planned stay exceeds six months, and only for applicants of legal age according to Spanish law (15 years and older). A certificate of no criminal record for offenses under Spanish law, issued by the country or countries in which the applicant has resided during the last 5 years (in the case of applicants under 20 years of age, the certificate(s) must cover the entire period from the day the applicant turned 15).

18. ONLY IF THE APPLICANT IS A NATIONAL OF A THIRD COUNTRY. A valid official document proving their legal status of residence and/or stay with authorization to return to the country (visa, resident alien identity document, etc.). Driver's licenses issued by local authorities, registration certificates, and for this purpose, rental agreements or utility or telephone bills will not be accepted. If the visa or residence permit does not allow the holder to return to the issuing country after departure, they must present a return flight ticket from Spain to their country of origin, valid for the intended arrival date in Spain.

*For students under the age of 18 participating in student mobility or humanitarian programs [cases g) and h)]. All the documentation mentioned in points 1 to 8, 17 (only for applicants between 15 and 17 years of age), and 18 (if applicable). IN ADDITION, and in all cases:

19. A copy of the document establishing or, where applicable, authorizing the mobility or humanitarian program the student is participating in, or a similar document.

Regarding the program's managing organization:

20. A document by which said organization designates a natural person (not a legal entity) of legal age and with effective (and, where applicable, legal) residence in Spain as the student's representative during their stay in Spain.

21. Photocopy of the National Identity Document or Passport of the person mentioned in the previous point. If the person is a national of a third country, they must also provide proof of holding a valid residence permit in Spain for a period longer than the expected duration of the studies of the minor they are taking care of.

22. A signed declaration from the person designated in the previous point, stating their express commitment to take care of the minor throughout their stay in Spain, as well as to guarantee their return to their country of origin or residence upon completion of their participation in the corresponding program. Furthermore, the person declares that there is no current or future adoption or foster care proceeding for the minor and acknowledges that this temporary foster care will not generate any right to family reunification of any kind.

23. Negative certificate from the Central Registry of Sex Offenders of the Spanish Ministry of Justice issued in favor of the person mentioned in the previous point, in accordance with Article 13.5 of Organic Law 1/1996, of January 15, on the Legal Protection of Minors.

24. Document regarding the minor's accommodation in Spain offered by the program's managing agency. This accommodation may be in a boarding school or residence affiliated with or contracted by the entity responsible for managing the program, or with a pre-selected family. In both cases, the details of the planned accommodation must be included.

25. ONLY if the minor will be housed with a family, the head of the household must submit: A photocopy of their National Identity Document or Passport (if they are a national of a third country, they must also provide proof of holding a valid residence permit in Spain for a period longer than the expected duration of the minor's studies). A sworn statement made before a Spanish Notary Public confirming that they will house and provide for the minor during their stay in Spain; and a negative certificate from the Central Registry of Sex Offenders of the Spanish Ministry of Justice issued in favor of said person pursuant to Article 13.5 of Organic Law 1/1996, of January 15, on the Legal Protection of Minors.

Regarding the minor:

26. Birth certificate issued by the local Civil Registry, in all cases translated into Spanish and apostilled or, where applicable, legalized.

Regarding the parents or guardians of the minor:

27. Photocopy of both parents' or guardians' identity documents. In the case of guardians, a copy of the official document appointing them as guardians is also required.

28. Notarized deed signed by both parents or, where applicable, by the guardian(s), authorizing the minor's travel to Spain for the purpose of carrying out the educational activity in question, indicating the planned period of stay. This document must expressly state the name of the organization responsible for the mobility or humanitarian program through which the minor is traveling to Spain, and also accept the appointment of the person responsible for the student during their stay in Spain (expressly indicating their full name and National Identity Document (DNI) or Foreigner's Identity Number (NIE)), and, where applicable, express their consent for the minor to be housed with a pre-selected family, expressly indicating the family's details (full name of the head of household, DNI or NIE number, and postal address).

Students aged 17 who will be pursuing higher education [case a)] must submit documents 26, 27, 28, and 25 (the latter two duly adapted to their circumstances), and in addition, in all cases:

29. An official document from the educational authority of the country of origin stating that the student has high intellectual abilities and completed their pre-secondary education at an age lower than the generally established age.

*Family members of students [only in cases where it is possible - a), c), or d) -]. All the documentation mentioned in points 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 14, 17 (if applicable), and 18 (if applicable). In addition, and in all cases:

30. Documentation proving the relationship of kinship or affection (in the case of registered or stable couples) and, in the case of incapacitated minors, documentation relating to the declaration of said incapacity.

31. Regarding financial means (point 14), the minimum monthly amount will be 75% of the IPREM for the first family member and 50% of the IPREM for each additional family member accompanying them.

Foreign students who will be undertaking unpaid internships at Embassies, Consulates, and International Organizations accredited in Spain [case k)] must submit only documents numbers 1 to 7, 8 (subject to reciprocity), 17, and 18 (if applicable).

General Rules Regarding Required Documentation

The passport or travel document must be recognized by Spain, have a minimum validity of 3 months beyond the visa's expiry date (i.e., 15 months in total), and contain at least 2 blank pages. It must also allow return to the issuing country.

The visa application form must be completed in its entirety and signed by the applicant or, if the applicant is a minor, by both parents or legal guardians. Unsigned applications will not be accepted. The application must clearly state the applicant's home or postal address (which must be within the consular jurisdiction), telephone number, and email address for communication purposes. This form is free of charge.

The photograph must conform to the technical requirements of ICAO Document 9303 (close-up of the head and shoulders, taken from the front, with eyes open, against a plain, light-colored background, without glare, dark glasses, hats, or clothing that obscures the face, which must be visible from the hairline to the chin, taken within the six months prior to the visa application).

Spanish and foreign official certificates and other documents, as well as medical certificates, must not be older than six (6) months. Other documentation, such as documents guaranteeing sufficient financial means, letters of admission to educational centers or programs, etc., must be as recent as possible.

Criminal record certificates must be submitted in their simplest version (without fingerprints).

The notarized document signed by both parents or, if applicable, by the guardian(s) authorizing the minor's travel to Spain may be executed before a local notary or at the corresponding Spanish consular office.

For applicants who are nationals of third countries, the official document proving their legal status of residence and/or stay with authorization to return to the country must have a minimum validity of 3 months after the date of assignment by the Consular Office of the appointment for the processing of the visa.

In the case of official foreign documents, this Consular Office reserves the right to request that they be apostilled or, where applicable, legalized (unless otherwise required by a current bilateral or multilateral agreement), as well as translated into Spanish (documents in English or French are accepted). The obligation to provide the apostilled/legalized documents and their translation into Spanish rests with the applicant, who must bear the cost of these procedures.

As an exception to the preceding paragraph, the birth certificate of the minor issued by the local Civil Registry and the notarial deed signed by both parents or, where applicable, by the guardian(s) authorizing the minor's travel to Spain, if authorized by a foreign notary, must in all cases be submitted translated into Spanish and apostilled or, where applicable, legalized.

The visa fee is payable in advance and is non-refundable to the applicant in the event of visa refusal.

All documents must be submitted in ORIGINAL form or, if this is not possible, a legible COPY. The submitted documents will not be returned (except upon express and justified request).

This Consular Office reserves the right to request additional documentation or to carry out any checks it deems necessary for processing the application. Documentation submitted but not expressly requested will not be considered in processing the application.

Compliance with these instructions is strongly encouraged, and applicants are requested to submit all required documentation at the same time to avoid delays in processing their visa.

This Consular Office does not offer photocopying services to the public.

⁴The updated list of member states of the Hague Convention of 5 October 1961, abolishing the requirement of legalization for foreign public documents (Apostille Convention), can be found at the following link: <https://www.hcch.net/es/instruments/conventions/status-table/?cid=41>

⁵Consult the list of Conventions in force at this Consular Office.

⁶For documents written in other languages, please consult this Consular Office.

⁷Please check the current fee for this type of visa at this consular office at the following link: <https://exterioresedicion.maec.es/Consulados/melbourne/es/Comunicacion/Noticias/Paginas/Precios-Recaudaci%C3%B3n-Consular-a-1012024.aspx> Please note that payment will only be accepted by money order or cash