



STUDENT VISA

Only applications IN PERSON are accepted by the Consulate General of Spain in Houston.

You can apply for a visa at this Consulate if your permanent address is in **Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas.**

US citizens may enter Spain as students for up to 90 days without a visa.

The visa process takes around **4 weeks** from the day all documents are presented. Due to the quantity of applications received by this office in June, July, November and December, we highly recommend the applicants to apply for the visa as soon as possible.

If your program lasts over 180 days, you will need a certificate of absence of police criminal records and a medical certificate. See details below.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

The Consular Administration has full authority to evaluate, and request more documents than those submitted by the applicant.

The latter is hereby informed that submitting the aforementioned documents **does NOT guarantee** automatic issuance of the visa.

ORIGINAL and ONE PHOTOCOPY of each of the following items must be presented:

- 1. National visa application form:** The application forms must be signed and filled out correctly.
- 2. Original Passport and ID:** Valid passport for the whole duration of the stay, with at least one blank page to affix the visa. Your passport may remain at the Consulate. You need to provide proof of residency with a copy of one of the following documents: US Driver's license, US State ID, Voter's Registration Card, current Student ID.
- 3. Two passport size photos:** White Background, 2x2in. One per application form.
- 4. Original hardcopy acceptance letter:** Letter from the Spanish University, School or program indicating that you are a full-time student. It also needs to include: name, address, telephone and fax number, and registration number with the Ministry of Education of Spain; full payment tuition; duration of the program (date of start & date of termination); subjects of study; hours of study per week (minimum of 20 hours required).
- 5. Evidence of funds:** Provide either of the following:
 - Statement from the University/School or US program assuming full financial responsibility for room and board (commonly included in the 'Letter of acceptance').
 - Proof of financial aid or scholarship of at least \$800 per month, for room and board.
 - Last three months' bank statements of student's personal bank account. The name of the student must figure on the bank statements.
 - Notarized letter of parents/custodians assuming full financial responsibility, together with a copy of their ID, for at least \$800 per month, for room and board. Suggested wording: 'I hereby certify that I the (father, mother, other) of (...), will support her/him with a monthly allowance of \$800 while she/he is in Spain and that I am financially responsible for any emergency that may arise. The applicant must also provide the bank statements of the last three months from parents/custodians' personal account.

<http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Consulados/HOUSTON/es/InformacionParaExtranjeros/Paginas/Visados.aspx>
cog.houston@maec.es

6. **Health Insurance:** Provide **Original hardcopy letter** from your health insurance company of evidence or travel insurance with international coverage for the intended period of stay in Spain at a minimum of 30,000 Euros (or its equivalent in US dollars), with no deductible or co-pays and covering medical emergencies and repatriation.
7. **Police Criminal Record clearance FOR STAYS OVER 180 DAYS** verified by **fingerprints**. It cannot be older than 3 months from the application date. The certificate must be either:
 - a) **Department of State clearance** original letter form (from the States where you have lived during the past 5 years). It **must be legalized with the Apostille of the Hague Convention** from the corresponding **Secretary of the State**.
 - b) **FBI Records** for international purposes, issued by the **US Department of Justice – Federal Bureau of Investigation**. They **must be legalized with the Apostille of the Hague Convention** from the **US Department of State in Washington DC**.

You also must get a police record from the countries where you have lived during the past 5 years.
8. **Original Medical Certificate FOR STAYS OVER 180 DAYS:** A doctor's recent statement (not older than 3 months) with doctor's or medical center's letterhead, indicating that *'the student has been examined and found free of any contagious or infectious diseases according to the International Health Regulation 2005'*. It must be signed by a M.D.
9. The passports can be sent to the applicant under his/her responsibility. The applicant can provide a pre-paid self-addressed envelope. If you do reside in Houston, you must pick up your passport in person.
10. **Minors** (under 18 years of age):
 - Birth certificate legalized with the Apostille of the Hague. Both documents need to be translated into Spanish by a certified translator.
 - Notarized, written authorization of both parents/custodians to travel to Spain.
 - Voluntary affidavit (*acta de manifestación*): Notarized document signed by the Principal of the center of studies or the person assuming full responsibility for the minor.
11. For applicants that do not have permanent residence in the US:
 - **Planned Round Trip itinerary/printout**.
 - **Evidence of Immigration Status in the US** [Non-US passport holders only]: Provide a Permanent Resident Card or a US Visa with I-20.

- **BE ADVISED THAT ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS MIGHT BE REQUESTED.**
- We highly recommend you not to purchase your travel tickets until your visa has been approved.

SPOUSE

ORIGINAL and ONE PHOTOCOPY of each of the following items must be presented:

1. **National visa application form:** The application forms must be signed and filled out correctly.
2. **Original Passport and ID:** Valid passport for a minimum of 6 months after the intended date of departure to Spain, with at least one blank page to affix the visa. Your passport may remain at the Consulate. You need to provide proof of residency with a copy of one of the following documents: US Driver's license, US State ID, Voter's Registration Card, current Student ID.
3. **Two passport size photos:** White Background, 2x2in. One per application form.
4. **ORIGINAL Marriage Certificate** legalized with the **Apostille of the Hague Convention** from the corresponding **Secretary of the State**.
5. **Health Insurance:** Provide **Original hardcopy letter** from your health insurance company of evidence or travel insurance with international coverage for the intended period of stay in Spain at a minimum of 30,000 Euros (or its equivalent in US dollars), with no deductible or co-pays and covering medical emergencies and repatriation.
6. **Police Criminal Record clearance FOR STAYS OVER 180 DAYS** verified by **fingerprints**. It cannot be older than 3 months from the application date. The certificate must be either:

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VISA FEES

- You can find this information in the document Visa fees.
- We only accept cash (exact change) or money order. No personal check or credit cards will be accepted.
- The processing fee will not be returned even if the visa is not granted or cancelled.

VERY IMPORTANT

- **For programs over 180 days:** Within a month upon arrival in Spain, you must request from the Spanish Police (Policía Nacional) a Student Resident Card ID valid for the completion of your studies.
- In order to apply for the Student Resident Card ID, you must provide the original Medical Certificate and the original Police Criminal Record. These documents will be returned to you once checked by the Consulate.
- Please make sure that you get your passport stamped by the Immigration Authorities upon arriving in Spain.