



## **STUDENT VISA**

### **OVERVIEW**

You will need this visa if you are going to stay in Spain for a period exceeding 90 days for either studies, training, or voluntary work. This visa may also be issued for au pairs and for conversation class assistants.

Activities for which a study visa may be obtained:

- Completion of **higher education studies** in a recognized institution or center of higher education in Spain, within the framework of a full-time program, leading to the award of a recognized higher education degree.
- Completion of **post-compulsory secondary education studies** in an authorized educational institution in Spain, within the framework of a full-time program leading to the award of a recognized degree.
- Participation in a **student mobility program** in order to follow a compulsory or post-compulsory secondary education program in an officially recognized educational or scientific institution.
- Provision of a **volunteer service** within a program pursuing objectives of general interest for a non-profit cause in which the activities are not remunerated, except in the form of reimbursement of expenses, pocket money or both.
- Carrying out **training activities**:
  - Language study courses.
  - Preparatory courses for the selective tests for access to specialized health training positions.
  - Training leading to obtaining the certification of technical aptitude or professional qualification according to the list of training activities, duration and conditions established by Resolution of the competent body.
  - Completion of a complete training, neither modular nor partial, in an authorized teaching center in Spain, leading to the obtaining of professional certificates of the offers of the professional training system of grade C, in its levels 2 and 3 (Formación Profesional).
- **Conversation class assistants.**
- **Au pair programmes.**
- Training placements at public or private bodies carried out after the study period and as part of studies at an authorised school or University in Spain.

\* These activities do not require a student visa when they last less than 90 days. In this case, depending on your nationality, a short-stay visa may be required (please refer to the Schengen Visa checklist on the website).

\* if you are undertaking an internship, you may require an internship visa, rather than a student visa. (please refer to the *Internships* section below)

### **HOW TO APPLY**

The application must be submitted at least two months before the start date of the activity to be carried out, unless there are justified reasons for not submitting it within this period.

All visa appointments of the Consulate General of Spain in Edinburgh will be booked only via BLS International Edinburgh web: <https://uk.blsspainvisa.com/edinburgh/>



Your student visa application must be submitted in person at BLS centre in Edinburgh on the day of the appointment, along with the rest of the required documents detailed in this checklist.

BLS centre address: **6 Dock Place, Suite 1A, Edinburgh, EH6 6LU.**

## FEES

The fee for the visa application process comprises of the following charges:

- **BLS fee:** £ 14.55
- **Visa administration fee**, which will be applied with the Principle of Reciprocity:

<i>Visa administration fee</i>	UK cits.	USA cits.	AUSTRALIA cits..	CANADA cits.	OTHER
Visa period of more than 180 days*	£345	£126,40	£356,70	£74,65	£ 74,65
Visa period of more than 90 days and less than 180 days*	£ 74,65	£ 126,40	£ 356,70	£74,65	£ 74,65

The study visa will begin one month before the start date of the activity and will be valid for fifteen days after its conclusion, **unless you specifically indicate** that you only require the visa for the duration of the activity.

Fees must be paid at the moment of submission, in cash or by card.

\*If you decide to cancel your application, or your application is refused, you will not be refunded the price of the visa application process.\*

## TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF SPAIN IN EDINBURGH

Your application will only be accepted if you are a legal resident in our jurisdiction OR carry out studies in a local educational institution within our jurisdiction.

Our jurisdiction comprises of:

Scotland and Scottish Isles  
Northern Ireland  
And the following English counties:

Cleveland, Cumbria, Durham, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear and Tees Valley (Redcar and Cleveland, Stockton on Tees, Hartlepool, Darlington and Middlesbrough).

## IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

Photocopies of all original documents must be provided at the time of application. Screenshots will not be considered.

When necessary to assess the application, the Consulate General may request additional documents or information, and may also ask you to come in for a personal interview.



Due to data protection regulations, we will not provide information on the status of a visa over the phone or by email. You will need to wait to be notified within the established timeframes (see section “**DURATION OF APPLICATION**”).

The study visa will commence one month before the start date of the activity and will extend for a period of fifteen days beyond the conclusion of the activity, **unless you indicate otherwise**.

Therefore, should you require additional time to arrange accommodation or other logistics, you are permitted to remain in Spain for this extra one month and fifteen days beyond the specified activity duration, as permitted by your visa.

Foreign nationals holding this authorisation may be eligible for paid employment or self-employment, provided that they submit the relevant working application to the Spanish Foreign office and the studies are compatible with the work activity, which may not exceed 30 hours per week.

In case of higher education studies, it is possible to be self-employed and employed, automatically and without any additional procedure, provided that this work activity do not exceed thirty hours per week.

In case of higher education studies, may be carried out in face-to-face or hybrid mode, provided that at least 50 per cent of the programme taught is face-to-face.

In case of higher education studies and specialisation studies in the field of health, the application for study authorisation may also be submitted in Spain, provided that you are regularly in Spanish territory. In these cases, the application must be made during the first month of stay in Spain.

#### **MULTILATERAL MOBILITY PROGRAMMES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

Students in possession of a valid visa or authorisation issued by another Member State in accordance with Directive (EU) 2016/801 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016, and who are participating in a Union or multilateral programme, shall have the right to enter and stay in Spain, for a period of up to 360 days, in order to carry out part of their studies at a Spanish higher education institution, after notifying the Foreign Office of the province in which the activity is to begin.

The notification shall be made at any time prior to entry into Spanish territory and, at the latest, within one month of the notification being made by the Spanish higher education institution, indicating the planned duration and dates of the mobility.

The communication must include the valid travel document, the valid authorisation issued by the first State, proof that the student is undertaking part of his/her studies in the framework of a European Union or multilateral programme and proof of having been accepted by a Spanish higher education institution.

#### **AU-PAIR PROGRAMMES**

If you are participating in an au-pair programmes, in addition to the documents required for a study visa, you must provide the Au-Pair agreement duly signed by both parties (host family and yourself), stating:

- Length of stay (maximum 1 year).



- Participation in household chores for no longer than 5 hours per day.
- At least one full day a week off and at least one Sunday off per month.
- You will live at the family address and participate in family life at the same time as having a certain degree of independence.
- Quantity to be received (if any) of pocket money per month.
- The circumstances under which either party are allowed to end the agreement with 2 weeks' notice.

#### LANGUAGE ASSISTANTS

If you are undertaking a language assistant activity, in addition to the documents required for a study visa, you must provide the appointment letter issued by the relevant department of the Ministry of Education of Spain with information regarding the assigned educational centre's address, phone number, contact person, email, duration of the program, as well as the insurance.

Language assistants are exempt from submitting financial means and medical insurance if the official appointment specifies the amount of the salary and the availability of a health insurance taken out by the employer.

#### INTERNSHIPS

If you are undertaking an internship, you may require an internship visa, rather than a student visa.

Here are the situations for which you require an Internship Visa:

- you have obtained a higher education degree in the two years preceding the date of application for the visa or
- you are currently pursuing studies as part of a higher education degree.

If this is **not** the case, a Student Visa would apply to you.

Moreover, a Student Visa is also applicable in the following exceptional situation for internships:

- You will receive a full-time and in-person education at an authorised educational institution in Spain, and the internship takes place in Spain **directly following and as part of the study programme**, is unpaid, and is in your field of study (prácticas no-laborales).

#### MINORS AS MAIN APPLICANTS

In the case of higher education studies, the foreign national must be over seventeen years of age.

In the case of post-compulsory secondary education studies and training activities, the person must be over eighteen years of age.

In the case of studies corresponding to the volunteer service programme and mobility program, the person must be of the age permitted by current regulations.



In cases involving foreign nationals who are minors and are under the care of a third party without parental authority or guardianship, **authorisation** from both parents or the person with sole parental authority or guardianship is required for the planned stay in Spain. This authorisation must specify the centre, organisation, entity or body responsible for the activity, as well as the planned period of stay.

#### VISA FOR FAMILY MEMBERS

Only family members of students enrolled in higher education or specialised healthcare training in Spain may apply for a student family visa, as listed below:

- a) **The spouse, registered partner or stable partner**, duly proven, of the holder of the long-term residence permit for study purposes. A stable partner shall be understood to be a person who can prove the existence of a lasting relationship. In any case, the existence of this relationship shall be understood if proof of at least one year of continuous cohabitation is provided, unless they have children in common, in which case proof of a stable relationship shall suffice
- b) Unmarried **minor children**, or children who have not formed their own family unit, of the holder of the long-term study permit or of their spouse, registered partner or stable partner.
- c) Unmarried **children of legal age**, or who have not formed their own family unit, of the holder of a long-term residence permit for study purposes or of their spouse, registered partner or stable partner who have specific and personalised support needs due to disability or illness.

Family members are only permitted to submit their application once the student has been granted authorisation to study. It is therefore not possible to apply for a student visa and a family member visa at the same time.

The following documents are to be presented in support of this application:

- **Documents from checklist numbers 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10**
- **Certificate of Kinship** (i.e. marriage certificate, civil partnership certificate, or birth certificate). The original certificate must be provided, and it must be legalised and translated by a sworn translator into Spanish.

#### SWORN TRANSLATIONS AND LEGALISATIONS

All foreign public documents must be legalized or apostilled to be valid in Spain and, where applicable, must be submitted together with an official translation into Spanish.

- For further information on the Hague Apostille legalisation process, please refer to the British government website.
- Translations can be done by a sworn translator registered in Spain. You can find a registered sworn translator at our website:  
<https://www.exteriores.gob.es/es/ServiciosAlCiudadano/Paginas/Traductores-Interpretes-Jurados.aspx>



The documents should be legalised first and then translated afterwards, when applicable.

The Hague Apostille stamp does not require translation, nor does the translation require legalisation. It is only the original documents that require legalisation and translation.

The electronic Apostille is valid.

#### OUTSTANDING DOCUMENTS

Make sure you have all the documents detailed in this checklist ready the day of your visa appointment.

Your visa application may be refused if any documents (except the ACRO police certificate and the medical certificate) are missing the day of your appointment.

In the event that the ACRO certificate and/or the medical certificate are missing the day of your appointment, **you must post them to BLS** as soon as you obtain them legalised and translated, along with its photocopies and a copy of your passport as a reference.

#### DURATION OF APPLICATION

The legal timeframe for reaching a decision is **one month from the date of the favourable decision** on the authorisation of stay. The Foreign Office in Spain will issue this authorisation automatically, without requiring any further action from the applicant.

#### PASSPORT WITHDRAWAL WHILE THE VISA IS IN PROCESS

For the duration of the visa processing, the passport is stored securely at the Consulate General.

Passports may be withdrawn during this period in the event of an emergency, and a signed written request must be submitted to BLS to this effect. The passport will then be returned via BLS, within one working day.

Please be advised that passports cannot be withdrawn directly from the Consulate.

Once a passport is no longer required, it should be returned to BLS as soon as possible in order to complete the visa process.

Alternatively, on the day of your appointment, if you require your passport in an emergency, you will be permitted to take your passport with you, on the condition that you present the physical passport at the appointment. Should you wish to select this option, please inform the staff member during your appointment. Once the passport is no longer required, it must be returned to BLS as soon as possible in order to continue the application process.

Please be aware that retaining your passport may result in slight delays to the processing of your visa.

In order to receive your visa, it is a condition that you are physically present in the United Kingdom.



#### AFTER OBTAINING THE VISA

If the period of your visa does not exceed 6 months, the visa will be valid for the entire stay and it will not be necessary to obtain a Foreign Identity card (TIE - Tarjeta de Identidad de Extranjero). This visa will appear as a sticker inside your passport.

If the period of your visa does exceed 6 months, the visa will be valid for 1 year. Upon entering the country, it is mandatory to apply for a Foreigner Identity Card (TIE) at the Foreign Nationals' Office or the police station of the province where the studies are to be conducted. Further details regarding this procedure can be found on the following website:

<https://www.interior.gob.es/opencms/es/servicios-al-ciudadano/tramites-y-gestiones/extranjeria/regimen-general/tarjeta-de-identidad-de-extranjero/>

Visa validation is required upon arrival at the border. Failure to do so could result in the TIE being refused and your legal right to remain in Spain being revoked.

#### CHECKLIST OF REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR A STUDENT VISA

**1. Valid, unexpired passport.** The original and a photocopy of the page/s of the passport that contain biometric data must be submitted. The passport must have a minimum validity period of 1 year and contain two blank pages. Passports issued more than 10 years ago will not be accepted.

**2. One completely filled and signed National Visa Application Form.**

**3. A recent passport size colour photograph** taken in the last 6 months, which meets the ICAO specifications: [https://www.icao.int/Security/mrtd/Downloads/technical%20reports/annex\\_A-photograph\\_guidelines.pdf](https://www.icao.int/Security/mrtd/Downloads/technical%20reports/annex_A-photograph_guidelines.pdf)

**4. Proof of residence** in the consular district OR **proof of enrolment in a local educational centre** located within our jurisdiction (i.e. bills, bank statements, university correspondence etc..).

**5. Public or private medical insurance** arranged with an insurance company authorised to operate in Spain (There is a list of them at <https://rrpp.dgsfp.mineco.es>), which covers all types of healthcare without limitations, co-payments or deductibles. The insurance must cover the whole time of the activity.

Neither a Travel Insurance Card nor a European Health Card are valid for visa purposes. Conversely, **GHIC is accepted as a medical insurance**. Also, most Scottish University Health Insurances are valid.

**6. Documentation confirming the purpose of your student visa:**

- Higher education studies:

1. To have been admitted by a recognised higher education institution or centre to study a programme of study.

2. To have paid the registration, enrolment or equivalent document fees required by the corresponding institution or teaching centre. (SAAS letter is accepted)



- Post-compulsory secondary education studies:

1. To have been admitted by a recognised higher education institution or centre to study a programme of study.
2. To have paid the registration, enrolment or equivalent document fees required by the corresponding institution or teaching centre. (SAAS letter is accepted)

- Student mobility program:

1. To have been admitted to an educational centre.
2. To have been admitted as a participant in a student mobility scheme for the purpose of following a compulsory secondary and/or post-compulsory education programme in an officially recognised educational or scientific centre.
3. The educational centre managing the student mobility scheme or the educational project is responsible for the student during his/her stay, in particular for the cost of his/her studies, as well as for the costs of his/her stay and return to his/her country.
4. To be accommodated, during his/her stay, with a host family selected by the organisation responsible for the student mobility programme in which he/she participates, or in a boarding school or residence attached or arranged by the said organisation in the framework of the programme.

- Enrolment on a voluntary service:

1. To have been accepted to carry out a volunteer service within the framework of an agreement signed with the entity in charge of the volunteer programme, which includes a description of the programme, the functions and conditions of supervision, the activities planned and the conditions for carrying them out, as well as the duration of the programme, the hours of volunteer work to be carried out, the resources available to cover their food and accommodation during their stay, a minimum amount of pocket money during their stay, and, if applicable, the training that the foreign person will receive in order to be able to carry out the volunteer programme.
2. The volunteer organisation must be legally constituted and registered in the competent register in accordance with the applicable state, autonomous community or other European Union Member State regulations.

- Training activities:

1. To have been admitted to the training activities.
2. To have paid the registration or enrolment fees required, where applicable, by the institution, entity or centre concerned.
3. In the case of preparatory courses for the selective tests for access to specialized health training positions, have obtained a Spanish degree in medicine, pharmacy, nursing or other university qualifications that qualify them to take part in the annual calls for selective examinations for access to specialised healthcare training posts or a foreign qualification duly recognised or approved in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph.

**7. Medical (Health) Certificate** signed and stamped by a registered GP.

This Certificate must literally state that you, the Applicant, “does not suffer from any illness which represents a risk or a danger to the public according to the International Health Regulations of 2005”.





The document must be legalised by the Hague apostille and officially translated into Spanish.  
This certificate should be issued within three months prior to submitting the application.  
If this certificate is issued in Spain, the legalisation and translation are not required.  
The Consulate does not provide or require a specific template for the medical certificate

**8.** For visas over 6 months (only in case of persons over 18 years old): **Certificate of Good Conduct** issued by the country or countries where the applicant has resided for the past five years.

Only the ACRO police certificate is valid for the UK. The disclosure Scotland certificate is not accepted.  
The document must be legalised by the Hague apostille and officially translated into Spanish.  
If the country of issuance is not a signing member of the Hague Convention, the document must be verified by the Spanish Consulate in that country.  
This certificate should be issued within six months prior to submitting the application, unless the certificate itself specifies a different expiration date.  
In the case of language assistance, the ACRO International Child Protection certificate is also accepted.

**9. Means of maintenance** proving that the applicant has sufficient financial means to cover their expenses in Spain. The minim required amount is 600€ per month of stay for the main applicant (approx. £510)

Family members in charge: for the first relative 450€/month (approx. £400/month), and for each of the additional family members 300€/month (approx. £266/month).

Means of maintenance can be proven by one of the following documents:

- A detailed personal bank statement for the last 6 months in € or £.
- Evidence of receipt of a scholarship or UK student loan certificate.
- Letter from the university covering all the costs related to accommodation and meals.

If your parents or guardians will be responsible for your financial support whilst studying, the following documents are required:

- A written and signed letter of commitment is required. This should be presented, in person, by the supporting parent/s at BLS, on the day of the appointment..
- Proof of their financial means (bank statements for the last 6 months in € or £)
- Parents'/Guardians' passports and photocopies.
- Your original birth certificate and a photocopy.

**10.** In order to have your passport delivered, the following options are available:

A pre-paid Special Delivery envelope for up to 500 g. provided by the applicant from the Post Office; or a BLS Guaranteed courier service, provided by BLS the day of your appointment.

#### SIGNATURES and AGREEMENT

Applicant's name:  
Signature:  
Date:

Checked by (BLS staff):  
Signature:  
Date: