

MINISTERIO DE ASUNTOS EXTERIORES UNIÓN EUROPEA Y DE COOPERACIÓN

NORTH AMERICAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE ASSISTANTS NALCAP

The Spanish Government has signed a contract with an external company (BLS International) for processing visas for Spanish Consular Offices in the United States. Please contact: **BLS International Houston** Address: 2500 West Loop South 3rd Floor, Suite 350 Houston, Texas 77027 Phone Number: +1 516-888-1169 Email: info.houes@blsinternational.net WEBSITE: <u>https://usa.blsspainvisa.com/houston/national_student_visa.php</u>

States under this Consulate jurisdiction: Texas, Alabama, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee. The visa process might take up to 2 months.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED ONE SET OF ORIGINALS AND ONE SET OF PHOTOCOPIES

- 1. **National visa application form**: It must be filled out correctly and duly signed. Do not forget to indicate your email in section #17, fill in section #21 (date of entry) and section #28 (complete information related to the school in Spain).
- 2. **Photograph**: A recent color photograph (US passport size, 2 by 2 inches), with a white background. Photographs with a dark background or not photographic paper will not be accepted. Do not staple or use anything other than glue to attach the photo to the form.
- 3. **Passport:** Valid Passport for the whole duration of the stay, with at least two consecutive blank pages. You must also provide a copy of the page where your data and photo appears.
- 4. **Proof of residence in the consular jurisdiction:** Provide a copy (not the original) of the US driver's license, US State ID or student ID, duly notarized.
- 5. Payment of the visa fee. Visa Fee
- 6. **Proof of legal residence in the United States**. Must present one of the following documents:
 - Photocopy of Permanent Resident Card (Green card)
 - Valid US long-term Visa
 - F1 student visas must also submit original and Photocopy of I-20 form

• Holders of B-1/B-2 visas cannot apply in the United States; they must apply in their country of permanent residence.

7. Letter of acceptance: by the Regional Education Authorities/University. This letter must provide information about the school the applicant has been appointed to (address, telephone, contact email), as well as information about his grant, the duration of his program (date of start & date of termination) and his insurance health policy.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS FOR STAYS OVER 180 DAYS:

8. **Criminal background check:** stating that the applicant has no criminal record in the place where he has resided for the last five years. Does not apply to students under 18 years of age. The criminal background check must be issued by the US Department of Justice - Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) (State and Local Police and State Police background checks will not be accepted) and it must be legalized with the Hague Convention Apostille by the Department of State in Washington DC and translated into Spanish by a sworn translator.

The criminal background check must be issued within five months prior to the submission of the visa application.

If the applicant has spent six months or more during the last five years in another country, he must present the criminal background check of that country, legalized with the Apostille of The Hague and translated into Spanish. If the country is not part of the Hague Convention, the document must be legalized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and then by the Spanish Consulate in that country.

INFO FBI BACKGROUND CHECK DEPARTMENT OF STATE https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks

US INFO DEPARTMENT OF STATE APOSTILLE

https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/records-and-authentications/authenticate-yourdocument/apostille-requirements.htm

9. **Medical certificate**: a doctor's recent medical certificate, issued in the last three months before the application is submitted, with the letterhead of the doctor or medical center, duly signed, sealed and translated into Spanish by a certified translator, stating:

"This medical certificate certifies that Mr./Ms. (...) does not suffer from any disease that could have serious implications for public health in accordance with the provisions of the 2005 International Health Regulations".

In the case of using the model from our website, the Spanish translation is not necessary. <u>Medical</u> <u>certificate</u>

Documents required for family members:

SPOUSE:

- 1. Language and Culture Assistance visa requirements from 1 to 5.
- 2. **Recent Marriage or Informal Marriage Certificate** (no older than 3 months) legalized with the Apostille of the Hague from the corresponding Secretary of the State. If not issued in English or Spanish both documents must be translated into Spanish by a certified translator.
- 3. **Proof of medical insurance**: from an insurance company recognized and authorized to operate in Spain. Travel insurance will not be accepted. The insurance must include all the risks covered for Spanish nationals by the National Health System, and for the whole intended period of stay in Spain. Medical insurance must not have any deferral period, no deductibles or copays. It must include 100% of medical, hospital and extra-hospital expense .It must cover, at least, all preventive, diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitation care activities carried out in health or social health centers, as well as urgent health transport. Exceptionally foreign companies offering limited coverage could be accepted, as long as they meet the other medical requirements and with a minimum coverage of 500,000.00 USD.
- 4. Evidence of funds: last three months' bank statements of personal bank account with a minimum stable balance of \$497 multiplied by the number of months of your stay in Spain. It must be a checking or savings account and the name of the applicant must appear on the bank statements. Business accounts are not accepted.
- 5. Payment of the visa Fee. Visa Fee
- 6. Requirements 7 and 8 for stays over 180 days.

MINORS:

- 1. Language and Culture Assistance visa requirements from 1 to 5.
- 2. **Birth certificate** (not older than 3 months) authenticated with the Apostille of the Hague If not issued in English of Spanish both documents must be translated by a certified translator.
- 3. Proof of medical insurance: from an insurance company recognized and authorized to operate in Spain. Travel insurance will not be accepted. The insurance must include all the risks covered for Spanish nationals by the National Health System, and for the whole intended period of stay in Spain. Medical insurance must not have any deferral period, no deductibles or copays. It must include 100% of medical, hospital and extra-hospital expense. It must cover, at least, all preventive, diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitation care activities carried out in health or social health centers,

as well as urgent health transport. Exceptionally foreign companies offering limited coverage could be accepted, as long as they meet the other medical requirements and with a minimum coverage of 500,000.00 USD.

- 7. **Evidence of funds** last three months' bank statements of personal bank account with a minimum stable balance of \$497 multiplied by the number of months of your stay in Spain. It must be a checking or savings account and the name of the applicant must appear on the bank statements. Business accounts are not accepted.
- 4. Payment of the visa Fee. <u>Visa Fee</u>
- 5. Requirement 8 for stays over 180 days.

IMPORTANT

- BE ADVISED THAT ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS MIGHT BE REQUESTED.
- APPLICANT SHOULD NOT PURCHASE HIS PLANE TICKET UNTIL HIS VISA HAS BEEN GRANTED.