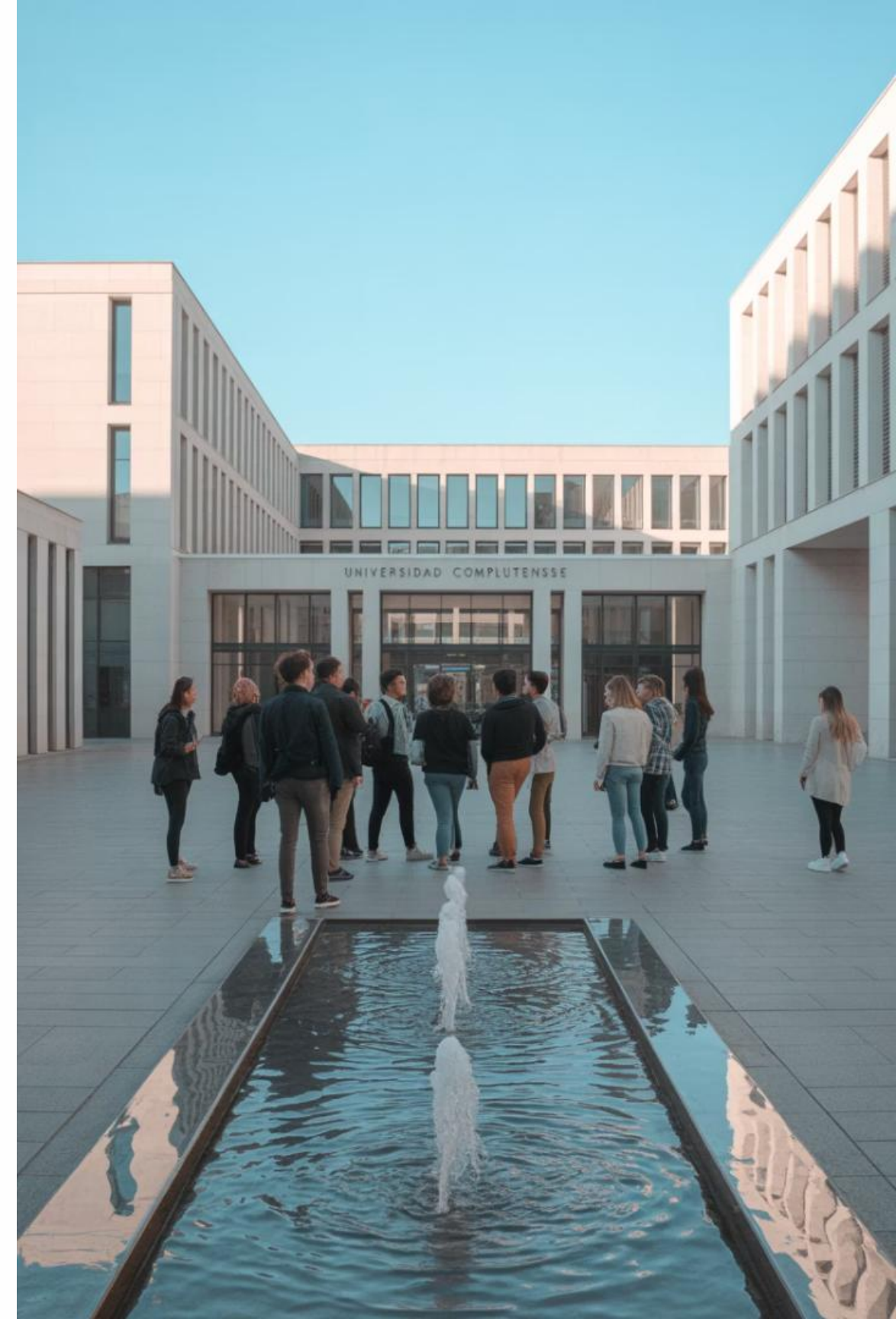


Student Visa Guide for Spain

Welcome to our comprehensive guide for obtaining a student visa for Spain. This presentation will walk you through the entire process, from understanding eligibility requirements to completing your application and settling in Spain.

Whether you're planning to pursue higher education, participate in a language programme, or engage in voluntary work, this guide provides all the essential information you need for a successful visa application.

Spanish Consulate in Edinburgh



Consulate Jurisdiction



Scotland and Scottish Isles

All regions of Scotland and its associated islands fall under the jurisdiction of the Consulate General of Spain in Edinburgh.



Northern Ireland

The entire territory of Northern Ireland is covered by the Edinburgh Consulate's jurisdiction for Spanish visa applications.



Northern English Counties

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

Types of Activities Covered by Student Visa



Higher Education Studies

Full-time programmes at recognised institutions leading to higher education degrees



Secondary Education

Post-compulsory secondary education at authorised institutions leading to recognised degrees



Student Mobility

Participation in mobility programmes for compulsory or post-compulsory secondary education



Volunteer Service

Non-profit volunteer programmes pursuing objectives of general interest



Additional Activities Covered

Training Activities

- Language study courses
- Preparatory courses for health training positions
- Professional certification training
- Professional training leading to certificates

Special Programmes

- Conversation class assistants
- Au pair programmes
- Training placements after studies

Important Notes

- Activities under 90 days may not require student visa
- Internships may require specific internship visa



Application Process Overview



Timing

Submit application at least two months before activity start date



Booking

Book appointment via BLS International Edinburgh website



Submission

Submit application in person at BLS centre in Edinburgh with required documents



Processing

Wait for visa decision (typically within one month)



Visa Fees Structure

Fee Component	Amount
BLS Service Fee	£14.00
Visa Administration Fee (varies by nationality and duration)	£74.65 - £356.70

The total visa fee depends on your nationality and the length of your stay. UK citizens pay £345 for stays over 135 days and £74.65 for stays between 90-135 days. USA citizens pay £126.40 regardless of duration. Australian citizens pay £356.70 for all durations. Canadian and other nationalities pay £74.65 for all durations.

All fees must be paid at the time of submission, either in cash or by card. Please note that fees are non-refundable, even if your application is cancelled or refused.





Important Application Considerations



Documentation

Provide photocopies of all original documents. Screenshots are not accepted.



Interviews

The Consulate may request additional documents or a personal interview if needed.



Status Updates

Due to data protection regulations, visa status information is not provided by phone or email.



Visa Validity

The visa begins one month before your activity starts and extends fifteen days beyond its conclusion.

Employment Rights with Student Visa

General Employment Rights

Foreign nationals holding a student visa may be eligible for paid employment or self-employment, provided they submit the relevant working application to the Spanish Foreign Office.

Work activities must be compatible with studies and cannot exceed 30 hours per week.

Higher Education Students

Students pursuing higher education studies have enhanced rights. They may be self-employed or employed automatically without additional procedures.

The same 30-hour weekly limit applies, ensuring that work does not interfere with academic commitments.

Higher education studies may be conducted in face-to-face or hybrid mode, provided at least 50% of the programme is taught face-to-face.



Multilateral Mobility Programmes (Europe)

Eligibility

Students with a valid visa or authorisation issued by another EU Member State participating in a Union or multilateral programme have the right to enter and stay in Spain for up to 360 days.

Notification Process

Students must notify the Foreign Office of the province where the activity will begin. This notification can be made any time prior to entry into Spain, but no later than one month after notification by the Spanish higher education institution.

Required Documentation

The communication must include a valid travel document, valid authorisation from the first State, proof of studies within an EU or multilateral programme, and proof of acceptance by a Spanish higher education institution.

Language Assistants Special Requirements

Appointment Letter - **Nombramiento**

Official letter from Ministry of
Education of Spain

Insurance Information

Details of health coverage provided



School Details

Educational centre's address, contact
information

Programme Duration

Specific dates and length of
assignment

Language assistants enjoy certain exemptions from standard requirements. If the official appointment specifies the salary amount and confirms health insurance taken out by the employer, assistants are exempt from submitting proof of financial means and medical insurance separately.

Internship Visa vs. Student Visa

The host entity in Spain has to apply for an Internship authorisation on your behalf, mandatory to apply for the Internship Visa.

When to Apply for Internship Visa

- You obtained a higher education degree in the two years preceding the visa application date
- You are currently pursuing studies as part of a higher education degree

If neither of these conditions applies to you, a Student Visa would be more appropriate for your situation.

Exception for Student Visa with Internships

A Student Visa is applicable in this exceptional situation:

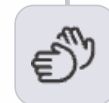
- You will receive full-time, in-person education at an authorised institution in Spain
- The internship takes place in Spain directly following and as part of the study programme
- The internship is unpaid and in your field of study (prácticas no-laborales)

Document Authentication Requirements



Legalisation

All foreign public documents must be legalised or apostilled to be valid in Spain



Translation

Where applicable, documents must be submitted with a Sworn translation into Spanish. Sworn translation doesn't need legalisation



Process Order

Documents should be legalised first, then translated afterwards



Electronic Apostille

Electronic Apostille is valid for document authentication



Passport Handling During Application



Standard Process

Passport remains at Consulate during visa processing for security



Emergency Withdrawal

Submit signed written request to BLS if passport needed urgently



Return Process

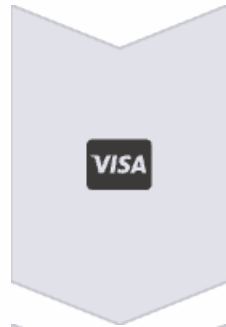
Passport returned via BLS within one working day of request



Completion

Return passport to BLS promptly when no longer needed to continue processing

After Obtaining Your Visa



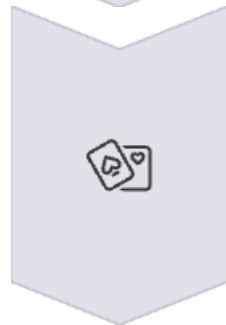
Short Stays

For stays under 4 months and 15 days, visa sticker in passport is sufficient



Entry to Spain

Ensure passport is stamped at border to validate legal entry



Longer Stays

For stays over 4 months and 15 days, apply for TIE card at Foreign Nationals' Office

If your stay exceeds 4 months and 15 days, your visa will be valid for 1 year. Upon entering Spain, you must apply for a Foreigner Identity Card (TIE) at the Foreign Nationals' Office or police station in the province where you'll be studying. It's crucial that your passport is stamped at the border, as without this stamp, your TIE application could be refused.



Required Documents Checklist - Part 1

1 Valid Passport

Unexpired with minimum 1-year validity, two blank pages, and not issued more than 10 years ago. Include original and photocopies of biometric data pages.

2 Visa Application Form

One completely filled and signed National Visa Application Form.

3 Photograph

Recent passport-size colour photograph taken in the last 6 months, meeting ICAO specifications.

4 Proof of Residence

Evidence of residence in the consular district OR proof of enrolment in a local educational centre within jurisdiction.





Required Documents Checklist - Part 2

1 Medical Insurance

Public or private insurance with an authorised Spanish company, covering all healthcare without limitations or co-payments.

2 Purpose Documentation

Specific documents confirming the purpose of your student visa (admission letter, **payment receipts**, programme details).

3 Medical Certificate

Signed and stamped by a registered GP, stating you "do not suffer from any illness which represents a risk or danger to the public according to the International Health Regulations of 2005."

4 Certificate of Good Conduct

For stays over 4 months and 15 days (ACRO police certificate for UK residents), covering the past five years.

Financial Requirements

600€-£510

Monthly

Minimum required amount per month for main applicant (approx. £510)

450€

Monthly

Required for first family member (approx. £400)

300€

Monthly

Required for each additional family member (approx. £266)

Financial means can be demonstrated through a detailed personal bank statement for the last 6 months in euros or pounds, evidence of a scholarship or UK student loan certificate, or a letter from the university covering all costs related to accommodation and meals.

If parents or guardians will provide financial support, they must present a signed letter of commitment in person at BLS, along with proof of their financial means, their passports, and your original birth certificate.



Document Return Options

Pre-paid Special Delivery Envelope

You can provide a pre-paid Special Delivery envelope from the Post Office for up to 500g. This allows for secure return of your documents and passport once processing is complete.

This option gives you control over the delivery service used and allows you to track your important documents during transit.

BLS Guaranteed Courier Service

Alternatively, BLS offers a Guaranteed courier service that you can purchase on the day of your appointment. This service ensures professional handling of your documents from the processing centre back to your address.

The BLS service provides convenience as everything can be arranged at your appointment without requiring separate preparation of postage materials.

Final Application Tips



Ensure all documents are prepared before your appointment date. While the ACRO police certificate and medical certificate can be submitted later if necessary, all other documents **must** be present at your appointment to avoid refusal.

Remember that the legal processing period is one month, but this may be extended if additional information is requested. Plan your application timeline accordingly, allowing sufficient time before your intended travel date.

Once approved, your visa will enable you to begin your Spanish educational journey with the proper legal status, opening doors to a rewarding international experience.

Au-Pair Programme Requirements



Au-Pair Agreement

Signed by both host family and applicant



Work Conditions

Maximum 5 hours daily of household chores



Time Off

One full day off weekly and one Sunday monthly

The au-pair agreement must specify the length of stay (maximum 1 year), living arrangements (you will live at the family address and participate in family life while maintaining independence), any pocket money provided monthly, and the circumstances under which either party may end the agreement with 2 weeks' notice.