THE QUESTIONS MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED BY OUR STUDENTS

What student visa do I need?

Studying in Spain for for less then 90 days:
You will need to get a student visa type C

Studying in Spain for more than 90 days:
You will need a student visa type D.

If your visa is for more than 180 days, you will need to obtain a Foreign Identity Card (TIE) within 30 calendar days of your arrival in Spain.

Can I work during my stay?

The study visa does allow students to work part-time or in a temporary position during the duration of the Spanish programme. The maximum amount of hours cannot exceed 30 hours per week, and the job must not interfere with the candidates studies. When submitting your work permit application at immigration in Granada, it is very important to justify that the work is complementary to your studies and does not affect your academic performance in any way, demonstrating at all times that your main purpose is to study. The employment contract cannot exceed the duration of the study visa.

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Do I need to apply for a student visa from my home country or while I'm in Spain?
Due to a change in regulations, after 20 May 2025, all student visa applications for Spain must be made through the Spanish consulate in your country of residence. They cannot be made from within Spain.

If you are in Spain on a Schengen visa, you can still convert it into a study visa if you are enrolling for higher education studies *(university etc.).*

What is the minimum age for a study visa application?
You have to be 18 years old!

How far in advance can/should I apply for the visa?
To make sure you have enough time to anticipate unforeseen situations, we recommend that you start the visa application procedure at least 2 to 3 months before your departure date.

Can the school help me get an appointment at the Spanish embassy?
No. All appointments are managed by BLS for all Spanish consulates worldwide.

How long does it take to get a student visa for Spain?
It depends on a number of factors, but it generally takes around 4 weeks to obtain a student visa.

Can I only pay a deposit for the course programme?
No. Only when we have received your payment in full will we send you the admission documents.

Do you offer scholarships?
As far as visa applications are concerned, we do not offer scholarships for our programmes.

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How many weeks of the course should I book?
For a type D student visa (>180 days), we advise you to book a Spanish course for a minimum of 32 to 36 weeks plus a period without teaching. You may need to complete your programme with a B2 level in order to access higher education studies. The duration of the programme must also cover your stay in Spain until you start higher education. So, if you start a programme with us in October 2026, it should last until at least July 2027. Higher education programmes in Spain generally begin in October. If you spend too many months without studying, immigration may not renew your residency. So don't opt for the minimum 6-month period.

Here you can find all programme details, including schedules, number of students per level group and course prices:
https://www.escuela-montalban.com/en/courses/spanish-with-student-visa.php

You have to add an enrollment fee of 50 € and an administration fee of 200 €. The educational material is included. The programme is completed by weekly cultural activities.

Redacción

Important information about course duration for study visa D applications:

Although Escuela Montalbán offers the possibility of enrolling in a 12-week course + 3 non-teaching weeks, it is important to be aware that this duration is generally not sufficient to obtain a study visa D.

Consulates often refuse visa applications for programmes of this duration, except in certain cases, for example, professionals who have a stable job in their home country, wish to improve their Spanish language skills and intend to return to their country after completing the course.

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We therefore strongly recommend carefully assessing the chances of obtaining a visa before booking a 12-week programme, as acceptance by the school does not guarantee that a visa will be granted.

Do you offer non-teaching periods?
Our long-term programmes may include a period without classes of up to 20% of the total course duration, depending on the academic calendar. If you wish to take time off, you must request this at least 15 days in advance. Requests are subject to approval and depend on your attendance, academic progress and course timetable. As attendance is essential and may affect your student status in Spain, we recommend that you plan any absences in advance. Leave of absence is NOT guaranteed and must be agreed in advance with the school.

How do I enrol in your programme?
In 2027 the programmes start every Monday all year round and for all levels. So choose a starting date and the duration of your programme and fill out the enrollment form:
https://www.escuela-montalban.com/en/booking/enrollment-visa-en.php

Send us also a copy of your passport by email to
visado@escuela-montalban.com

We will then send you a proforma invoice and a pre-admission certificate by e-mail. You can pay by bank transfer or by credit card. If you want to pay by credit card, ask us for the payment link.

Once we have received the full payment, we will prepare the admission documents within 48 hours.

We will send you the following documents by email:
-Admission letter
-Course programme
-Certificate of accommodation

-Stamped invoice
-Bank receipt

What can I do if I get a late appointment at the consulate and cannot start the programme on the specified date?
Students are responsible for ensuring that they allow sufficient time for the student visa application process before selecting a course start date. If a student is unable to obtain a consular appointment or complete the visa application process in time, the school may, at its sole discretion, issue a revised letter of admission with a new course start date. Please note that the new start date will be determined exclusively by the school based on reasonable visa processing timelines and administrative requirements. Students may request a postponement, but they may not select or demand a specific start date.

As a general rule, the school will only issue a revised letter of admission when the new course start date allows a minimum period of three (3) months for the visa application process and consular procedures. Requests for new start dates that do not provide sufficient time for visa processing will not be approved. The school will not issue admission documents for dates that, in its judgment, are incompatible with normal visa processing requirements.

Do I have to sit an official exam?
All our programmes end with the official SIELE GLOBAL exam (155 €). You will need this certificate to renew your residence permit in Spain.

Do I need accommodation for the visa application?
We will send you an accommodation certificate with the admission documents. This is NOT a reservation. Without a visa, we can't reserve an accommodation for you in Granada. Once your study visa has been approved, contact us and we will help you to find an accommodation on the local market. We will provide you with a list of websites where you

can find a room in a shared flat or addresses of student residences.

How much money in my bank account is required for a Spanish student visa?

One of the requirements to get a Spanish student visa is to have enough funds to support yourself while in Spain. You need at least 100% of the monthly mínimum salary in Spain which comes down to approximately 600 € per month. So for example, if you're applying to study in Spain for 9 months, you'll need a minimum of 5,400 € (600 € x 9 months) in your bank account for this first period. If you can show you have the accommodation in Spain reserved and paid for the whole period, it can be less.

Having said this, we recommend not to go for the absolute minimum, but show that you have a bit more than the minimum. Another option is being sponsored by your parents or other family members. In this case, your will have to provide a proof of the family link (birth certificate and/or statutory sponsor declaration 'certificación de toma a cargo') and your sponsor will have to prove that they can sustain both themselves and yourself and provide proof of that with a bank statement, salary statement, etc. and a legalized copy of their passport.

Do I need a medical insurance?

Yes. You can book your **ASISA MEDICAL INSURANCE** online through us with **UNIVERSITAS MUNDI** at a reduced price *(approx. 350 € per year).* During the process you have to upload a copy of your passport and our admission letter. You pay by credit card. The period should cover from one month before the start of your course in Spain until two weeks after the end of your programme.

Can the school help me obtain a study visa for Spain?

No, we cannot. Our admission documents are only a small part of the documents required by the Spanish consulate. The final assessment has

more to do with your economical situation, your future career plans etc. and how you explain your interest in Spain and the Spanish language.

Do you offer any support or guidance for students who plan to continue to university?
We only can help students with this process in a very limited way, as students often apply all over Spain at different universities with different application conditions.

My study visa for Spain is rejected/denied. What should I do?
If your visa is rejected, we will need a copy of the original rejection letter from the Spanish consulate. Once we have received this document from you, we will verify its authenticity with the consulate. We will then send you a document that you must fill out with your complete bank details. Once we have your bank details, we will refund the entire amount paid, minus an administration fee of 250 € within 15 days. Please note that all bank charges have to be covered by the student and that international transfers can take up to several weeks to reach your account.

Please check the whole conditions and the application process on our website:
https://www.escuela-montalban.com/en/booking/conditions-visa.php

Shall I contact the Spanish consulate before starting with the application process?
Yes!
-Check with the Spanish consulate in your country of residence, if you meet all the requirements to apply for a study visa.

As this is a multi-year project, you must fulfil a lot of requirements throughout your stay in Spain in order to be able to renew your stay.
-Check if the consulate requires an official certificate of Spanish level A2 from the Instituto Cervantes.
-Check if you can get an appointment at the consulate at short notice.

-Check if a bank transfer can be made from your country to Spain. You also can pay by credit card.

When should I renew my residence permit in Spain (TIE card)?
The general rule is that the extension must be applied 60 days before the TIE card expires. There are two types of renewal:

- Extension of stay for study purposes *(to continue or extend the same programme for a minimum of 91 days).*
- New initial authorisation *(when switching to a different type of study, for example a master's degree or undergraduate degree, etc.).*

CASE 1: The student already knows what higher education course he/she will take next.

Example:

- Start of the Spanish course: OCTOBER 2026
  Book a Spanish course from the outset that covers the entire period up to October 2027.
- Expected expiry date of the TIE card: OCTOBER 2027
- Renewal application: AUGUST 2027

Advantages:

✅ You can apply for renewal in AUGUST 2027.

✅ Enrolment figures for undergraduate, master's and other higher education courses are usually published in July.

✅ Higher education *(vocational training/university)* begins in Spain in October.

CASE 2: A student only reserves a 24 weeks Spanish course + 6 weeks non-teaching period.

Example:

- Start of the Spanish course: OCTOBER 2026
- End date of the programme: MAY 2027

Consequence:
Before you can go on to higher education, you will need to extend your stay by applying for an extension at the Spanish language school.

Planning example:

1. Initial course: OCTOBER 2026 → MAY 2027
2. Extension of the same programme (120 €/week):
   MAY 2027 → OCTOBER 2027 (minimum 91 days)
3. New initial application in AUGUST 2027 for higher education *(undergraduate, master's, etc.)* with a new enrolment.

QUICK SUMMARY:

If your ultimate goal is a degree or a master's degree:

✅ We recommend a programme that covers at least 12 months.

✅ If you enrol on a short course *(24 weeks),* you will need to extend your programme and pay for another course. Each extension must cover a minimum of 91 days.

✅ You can then apply for higher Education in a next renewal.

✅ For each extension or initial renewal, you must submit the results of a new SIELE GLOBAL test.

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Can I prepare for the PCE exams (Specific Competency Tests) required for admission to Spanish universities?

Escuela Montalbán can provide study visa support for Spanish courses of 20 hours per week. We do not offer PCE preparation courses, and PCE preparation programmes alone are not eligible for a study visa.

Students who wish to prepare for the PCE exams may enrol in a specialised external preparation centre in Granada as a complement to their Spanish course. We generally recommend doing so once they have reached a suitable Spanish level (usually A2/B1), as the exams require a good command of the language

Can I bring my family members with me on a study visa D to attend a Spanish course?

No. At present, students applying for a Type D student visa to undertake Spanish language courses or language preparation courses cannot apply for visas for accompanying family members (spouse, partner, children, etc.) in connection with their stay. The option to apply for visas for accompanying family members is generally reserved for students enrolled on recognised higher education programmes (for example, university degrees, master's degrees or equivalent programmes).

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