

Language & Culture Assistants Program in Spain 2019-2020

HOW AND WHEN TO APPLY FOR THE VISA

You will be granted a **long-term student visa** (not a working visa). The validity of this visa is 90 days.

This visa serves as an authorization for **your first entry into the country**. Since you will stay in Spain for more than 6 months, you will need to go to the **Immigration Office in Spain in order to get your TIE** (Temporary Residence Card for Foreigners). This TIE will provide you with legal residency in Spain.

Within **the first 30 days** after first entering the country the holder of the visa **must apply for a TIE**: This card will have a number on it: **NIE**. You will not get your NIE at the Consulate.

Once in Spain, with your TIE you will be able to travel around the **Schengen area countries** for 90 days for each period of 180 days.

Please read carefully the following instructions:

1. You need to apply for your visa through **BLS INTERNATIONAL VISA SERVICES PHILIPPINES, INC.**, the external service provider of the Consulate General of Spain in Manila:
 - a) by e-mail: info.mnl@blshelpline.com, or
 - b) by phone (+632) 812 7370, or
 - c) online at <https://ph.blsspainvisa.com/>Click on Book your Appointment/ For Consulate/Book your Appointment
2. Remember, you are applying for a **LONG STAY VISA**.
3. Just ask for **ONE SINGLE** appointment (print your receipt). If you reserve more than one appointment in the system, they will **cancel all your appointments**.
4. Make sure you will be able to attend the appointment when requested. If for any reason you need to change your date, you need to cancel the previous appointment and request a new one.
5. You need to have a **VALID PASSPORT** in order to apply for the visa. Required minimum validity must be **for the duration of the stay** (recommended until at least September 2020).
6. You will need to have **ALL THE OTHER DOCUMENTS REQUIRED** (see *Required documents to apply for visa*) when you attend your appointment at the Consulate. If you do not bring **all the required documents and exactly as they are required**, your visa will not be granted.
7. You will be granted a visa starting **one week before you start at your school** (October 1).

8. You will be granted a **STUDENT VISA**, not a tourist visa and once you get to Spain you need to get your TIE in order to reside legally in Spain for the whole period you will be there as a language assistant.
9. If you intend to travel as a **tourist around the Schengen area countries before starting your position as language assistant**, you will need to apply for a tourist visa at the Consulate of the country you intend to travel around, including Spain.
10. **You can only apply for your visa 3 months before the intended date of travel (not before).** Since you will be traveling during the last week of September, you can have your appointment at the Consulate to apply for your visa from the last week of June.
11. **VERY IMPORTANT:** medical certificate and NBI clearance will need to have a validity of three months after the date of issuance and be still valid when you apply for your visa. If the documents are valid when you apply for the appointment at BLS (please print the receipt that shows when you requested the appointment), they will also be considered valid when you submit them at the Consulate.
12. **FLIGHT TICKET**
What kind?
You do not need a round trip ticket since you probably do not know exactly the date of your return.
When to buy the ticket?
Do not buy your ticket before your visa has been granted.
TRAVELING AROUND
Can you travel around Europe while you have your visa for Spain?
Yes, you can travel around Europe (Schengen countries) while you have your TIE.

Check the Consulate General of Spain in Manila website for more information:

<http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Consulados/MANILA/en/InformacionParaExtranjeros/Applying-for-Visa/Pages/inicio.aspx>