



Study in Spain

DXB → MAD • Madrid, Spain

Spain offers internationally recognised qualifications, comparatively affordable public universities, a welcoming lifestyle and access to the wider European education and employment market. Students can choose from programmes taught in Spanish, English or both.

AT A GLANCE

Quick Facts

TUITION FEES

€800 – €25,000+ / year (public to private)

LIVING COST

€850 – €1,100 / month

TEACHING LANGUAGE

Spanish, English

WORKING WHILE STUDYING

Up to 30 hours per week

WHY SPAIN

Why Study in Spain?

- ✓ Respected universities and European-recognised qualifications
- ✓ More affordable tuition than many other Western European destinations
- ✓ A growing selection of English-taught degrees
- ✓ Strong programmes in business, tourism, engineering, architecture, arts and health sciences
- ✓ Opportunities to learn Spanish, one of the world's most widely spoken languages
- ✓ A diverse international student community
- ✓ Attractive climate, culture and quality of life
- ✓ Permission for eligible higher-education students to work alongside their studies
- ✓ Opportunities to change to a suitable residence and work status after graduation, subject to immigration requirements

Tuition & Living Cost

Fees vary considerably according to the region, university, subject and number of credits. Approximate annual ranges are:

INSTITUTION OR PROGRAMME	INDICATIVE ANNUAL TUITION
Public bachelor's degree	€800 – €3,500
Public master's degree	€1,000 – €4,500
Private university	€6,000 – €25,000+
Medicine at a private university	Often €15,000 – €30,000+

Non-EU students may be charged higher rates in certain autonomous communities. Programme-specific fees should always be checked directly with the university.

Entry Requirements

| Bachelor's degrees

Applicants normally need:

- ✓ A recognised secondary-school qualification
- ✓ Academic transcripts
- ✓ Recognition of their school qualification as equivalent to the Spanish Bachillerato, where required
- ✓ UNEDasiss accreditation for many university applications
- ✓ Specific Competency Tests, known as PCE examinations, when required
- ✓ Evidence of Spanish or English proficiency
- ✓ A competitive admission score for courses with limited places

UNEDasiss evaluates international qualifications, converts grades into the Spanish system and administers the PCE examinations. Requirements depend on the student's education system and chosen university. Public universities may require UNEDasiss accreditation and several PCE subjects, while private institutions often operate their own admissions process.

For the 2026-27 academic year, the general deadline stated for international applicants to Spanish public universities is 7 July 2026, although regional and university deadlines can differ. Applicants awaiting their accreditation are advised to submit the university application by the deadline and provide outstanding documents when permitted.

| Master's degrees

Applicants typically need:

- ✓ A relevant recognised bachelor's degree
- ✓ University transcripts
- ✓ CV
- ✓ Motivation letter
- ✓ Academic or professional references
- ✓ Proof of English or Spanish proficiency
- ✓ Portfolio or work experience for certain programmes

Recognition of the bachelor's degree is not always required simply to enter a master's programme. The university decides whether the overseas qualification gives appropriate access. Formal recognition may nevertheless be required for regulated professions.

| PhD programmes

Applicants usually need a relevant master's degree, a research proposal, academic references and the support of a potential research supervisor.

LANGUAGE

Language Requirement

Spanish-taught programmes normally require Spanish proficiency, often at B2 level, although some universities or courses may require a higher level. Commonly accepted certificates include DELE and SIELE.

For English-taught programmes, universities may accept:

- ✓ IELTS
- ✓ TOEFL
- ✓ Cambridge English qualifications
- ✓ Previous education taught in English, where permitted

The exact score is determined by each university. Even when studying in English, learning Spanish is highly advisable for daily life, internships and employment.

Student Visa Process

EU, EEA and Swiss citizens generally do not require a student visa, although registration requirements may apply for longer stays.

Most non-EU students studying for more than 90 days require a long-stay study visa or study authorisation. Typical documents include:

- ✓ Valid passport
- ✓ Admission to a recognised full-time programme
- ✓ Proof of tuition payment or enrolment, where required
- ✓ Evidence of sufficient financial resources
- ✓ Suitable health insurance valid in Spain
- ✓ Proof of accommodation, depending on the consulate
- ✓ Medical certificate for longer stays
- ✓ Criminal-record certificate for applicants of the relevant age and length of stay
- ✓ Visa application form and photographs
- ✓ Parental consent and care arrangements for minors
- ✓ Legalised or apostilled documents and certified Spanish translations, where applicable

Applicants staying for more than six months generally need to obtain a Foreigner Identity Card (TIE) after arrival. Visa procedures and financial thresholds can vary by consular jurisdiction, so students must follow the Spanish consulate responsible for their place of residence.

WHAT TO STUDY

Popular Courses

Business, management and finance

Engineering and technology

Computer science and artificial intelligence

Medicine and health sciences

Architecture and urban planning

Tourism and hospitality management

International relations and social sciences

Art, design, fashion and media

Spanish language and cultural studies

Renewable energy and environmental sciences

Popular Universities

Medicine and health sciences

- University of Barcelona
- Autonomous University of Barcelona
- Complutense University of Madrid
- Autonomous University of Madrid
- University of Valencia
- University of Granada
- University of Navarra
- CEU San Pablo University

Medicine at public universities is highly competitive and usually taught mainly in Spanish. Admission may require a very high converted score and appropriate PCE subjects.

Engineering and technology

- Polytechnic University of Madrid
- Polytechnic University of Catalonia
- Polytechnic University of Valencia
- Carlos III University of Madrid
- University of Seville
- University of the Basque Country

Business and economics

- Pompeu Fabra University
- Carlos III University of Madrid
- Autonomous University of Barcelona
- IE University
- University of Navarra
- Ramon Llull University - ESADE
- Comillas Pontifical University

Computer science and artificial intelligence

- Polytechnic University of Catalonia
- Carlos III University of Madrid
- Polytechnic University of Madrid
- University of Granada
- Polytechnic University of Valencia
- Autonomous University of Madrid

Architecture and design

- Polytechnic University of Madrid
- Polytechnic University of Catalonia
- Polytechnic University of Valencia
- University of Navarra
- CEU San Pablo University

Universities offering more programmes in English

Students seeking English-taught education should particularly investigate:

- IE University
- Carlos III University of Madrid
- Pompeu Fabra University
- Autonomous University of Barcelona
- University of Navarra
- Ramon Llull University
- University of Deusto
- Comillas Pontifical University

English-taught options are more common at master's level. Some bachelor's degrees are entirely in English, while others are bilingual or contain only selected modules in English.

UNEDasiss, PCE exams, homologación, visas: the Spanish process has many moving parts. Our counsellors handle them with you, step by step.

+44 7442 978718 · +971 58 275 0963

info@edu-consultancy.com

www.edu-consultancy.com

Prepared by Edu Consultancy (IEC Management Consultants LLC), August 2026. Fees, requirements and visa rules are indicative and change over time; our counsellors will confirm the latest details for your profile.