



NOTICE: THE REQUIREMENT FOR A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK FOR U.S. STUDENTS REQUESTING A LONG TERM VISA TO SPAIN HAS CHANGED

The Education Office at the Embassy of Spain in Washington DC advises that the FBI background check will become a requirement for long-term student visas starting January 1, 2011. Please be aware that the FBI background check takes approximately 12 weeks.

It is suggested that students considering long-term (more than six (6) months) programs in Spain request this document as soon as they decide to participate in said program to allow for the lengthy processing time. Also, those schools offering long term programs of study for U.S. students to Spain should advise their students with enough notice for them to apply and receive the FBI background check report.

The terminology applied to this background check is the FBI Identification Record Request/Criminal Background Check. The Criminal Background Check can be requested, among other reasons, to satisfy a requirement to live, work, or travel in a foreign country (i.e., police certificate, letter of good conduct, criminal history background, etc.).

FBI Background check info page
www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/fprequest.htm

Background Check FAQs
www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/faqs.html