

International Students — Visa & Arrival Checklist

A one-page reference to walk into your consular appointment prepared. Confirm current rules with the Spanish consulate covering your country of residence before you file.

Which path is yours?

Short stay — up to 90 days	Full term — over 90 days
Monthly / intensive courses. Visa-exempt passports (UK, US, Canada, UAE, EU) enter with passport + proof of enrolment + accommodation. Annex I nationals (Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, etc.) file a short-stay Schengen (C) visa with study purpose.	Requires the national study visa (Type D), all non-EU nationalities. SSU = 91–180 days. SLU = over 180 days (TIE residence card within 30 days of arrival). Governed by RD 1155/2024.

Processing timeline

6 months before start	Request admission letter from Marbella Academy. Start bank-statement history.
4–5 months before	Book consular / BLS appointment (slots go fast at London, Doha, Riyadh).
3 months before	Gather apostilles, sworn translations, criminal-record and medical certificates (SLU only).
2 months before	Latest window to file. Consulates accept applications 6 to 2 months before course start.
≥ 4 weeks	Minimum consular processing time from a complete submission.
Within 30 days of arrival	SLU students: book TIE (foreigner-ID) appointment at the Extranjería office.

Document checklist (Type D — full term)

From you

- National visa application form + recent passport-style photo
- Passport valid for the full stay, plus copies of every used page
- Proof of financial means — 100% of IPREM per month (2025 baseline €600/month) across the full stay
- Proof of accommodation in Marbella
- Stays over 180 days: criminal-record certificate (last 5 years), apostilled and sworn-translated
- Stays over 180 days: medical certificate per International Health Regulations 2005

From Marbella Academy

- Official admission letter — course, exact dates, full-time schedule
- Confirmation that course fees are paid
- Hours-of-study certification for the consular file
- Accommodation partner introduction + confirmation letter

From third parties

- Private health insurance valid in Spain — full coverage, no co-payments, no deductibles
- Sworn translations (traductor jurado) of any non-Spanish document
- Apostille from your country's designated authority on public documents
- Consular / BLS fees, paid at the appointment (amount varies by nationality)

Where to submit, by residence

UK residents	BLS International on behalf of the Consulate General of Spain in London, Edinburgh or Manchester.
Qatar	BLS International, Doha — Embassy of Spain.
Saudi Arabia / Kuwait / Bahrain / Oman	BLS International in your country of residence (Riyadh, Kuwait City, Manama, Muscat).

UAE	Schengen-exempt for short courses. For Type D: Spanish consulate covering your emirate.
USA / Canada	Spanish consulate covering your state or province (LA, NY, Washington, Miami, Chicago, Houston, San Francisco, Boston, Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal).
EU / EEA / Swiss	No visa. Register with the Central Register of Foreign Nationals on arrival (NIE / EU residence certificate).
Other Annex I nationalities	Spanish consulate or accredited visa centre covering your legal residence.

Marbella Academy is an education provider, not an immigration lawyer. Visa decisions rest with the Spanish consulate handling your file.
Sources: exteriores.gob.es, BLS International intake partners, RD 1155/2024, EU Regulation 2018/1806.

Questions? admissions@marbellaacademy.com