

# Practical Guide for foreign researchers in the Valencia Region

## Living here



## Visas and Permits

The Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT), a public institution under the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness, provides updated information in its online Euraxess mobility guide on the various administrative procedures researchers need to comply with when moving to Spain. As this is valid for the whole country including the Valencia Region, for detailed information on visas and work permits and other procedures such as obtaining the Foreign National Identity Card and the entrance of family members, please visit the following links:

- Entry and Residence in Spain:
  1. [Checklist before moving](#)
  2. [Entry conditions/visas](#)
  3. [Recognition of foreign qualifications](#)
  4. ['Once in Spain' checklist](#)

Applications can be submitted in the Valencian Region at offices for foreigners (*Oficinas de Extranjería*) or at other offices such as police stations (*Comisarías de Policía*), generally with opening hours from 9am to 2pm. Find the nearest office, the procedures they deal with and much more [here](#).

For further information, please contact:

### VALENCIA

#### **Subdelegación del Gobierno**

Calle Joaquín Ballester, 39  
46009 - Valencia  
Tel. 963079400

### CASTELLÓN

#### **Subdelegación del Gobierno**

Plaza María Agustina, 6  
12003 - Castellón de la Plana  
Tel. 964759000

### ALICANTE

#### **Subdelegación del Gobierno**

Plaza Montanyeta, 6  
03001 - Alicante  
Tel. 965019000

## Registration

Registration involves being entered on the Municipal Register or *padrón* at the local town hall.

The Municipal Register is the administrative register in which the inhabitants of a municipality are recorded. Their data is evidence of residence and of the usual address in the municipality, and it is the task of the respective town councils to draw these up, keep, review and look after these registers.

Registration is a right and at the same time an obligation of all Spanish and foreign citizens, regardless of

their administrative situation in the country. A person who lives in several municipalities shall only register in the one in which the person resides most of the time during the year.

Being registered facilitates access to other rights such as: getting a health card, opening a bank account, renting property, enrolling children in schools, applying for other documents at the town council or other official centres, etc. In addition, the registration certificate can accredit the time of residence in the municipality, which is why it is compulsory to inform the Municipal Register of any change of address or other changes to the data.

The following documentation is required for registration with the local town hall:

- Application form for registration in the Municipal Register of Inhabitants (provided at the Register Offices).
- Original and photocopy of the document accrediting the identity of the requester: ID card or driving licence, valid passport, valid residence card.
- Original and photocopy of a document that proves where the applicant is living: title deed, rent contract, habitability certificate, electricity, water or telephone contract, or monthly utility bills bearing the requester's name.

If registration of all the members of a family is requested, the documents accrediting the identity of all of these will need to be provided.

If registration is requested in someone else's home (relatives, friends, etc.), the authorisation of a person of legal age registered in this dwelling, or of the proprietor of the dwelling will also be required.

It should be noted that non-EU foreigners, who have no permanent residence permit need to renew their enrolment every 2 years in the Municipal Register.

Finally, and as complementary information, note that if the person involved has vehicles officially registered in a municipality other than the one in which he or she is registered, the person needs to go to the nearest Traffic Headquarters to inform the traffic authorities of their address, for the purposes of paying the Motor Vehicle Tax.

## The Civil Register

The data regarding the civil state or persons, such as birth, death, marriage, place of residence, nationality, etc. shall be registered at the Civil Register of the place of residence.

### ● How to apply for Spanish nationality

Although there are various ways of obtaining Spanish nationality, the most common way of acquiring nationality is by residence.

Spanish nationality can be obtained by foreign citizens that reside in our country and have a residence permit. The required residence time is, as a general rule, 10 years. However, there are certain exceptions:

- 5 years, for those who are recognised as refugees.
- 2 years for nationals from Latin American countries, Andorra, the Philippines, Equatorial Guinea or Portugal, and foreigners pertaining to the Sephardic community.
- 1 year when certain requirements are fulfilled, such as being born in Spanish territory, being married to a Spaniard, being a widower/widow of a Spaniard, among other circumstances.

Moreover, the individuals concerned must prove good citizenship and a sufficient degree of integration in Spanish society.

Note that the children of foreign parents do not acquire Spanish nationality by the mere fact of being born

in Spanish territory.

The [application for Spanish nationality based on residence](#) shall be submitted at the Civil Register corresponding to the requester's town of residence, together with the rest of the required documentation. For people living in Elche, Alicante, Benidorm, Castellón, Torrevieja, Torrente or Valencia, it is advisable to make an appointment through the website of the [regional register office](#).

The requirements, as well as the necessary documentation for the obtainment or recovery of Spanish nationality in cases other than residence, are complex. For this, it is advisable that the interested parties go personally to the corresponding Civil Register offices.

For further information:

**Nationality Service of the Ministry of Justice in Madrid:**

Calle Bolsa, núm. 8  
28012 Madrid  
Tel. 902007214 - 918372295

**[List of Civil Register Offices](#)**

**VALENCIA**

Avda. Profesor López Piñero, 14. Ciudad de la Justicia  
46013 Valencia  
Tel. 961929000

**CASTELLÓN**

Bulevar Blasco Ibañez, 10  
12003 Castellón de la Plana  
Tel. 964621678

**ALICANTE**

Los Doscientos, 3  
03007 Alicante  
Tel. 966907636

## Fiscal Matters

The Foreigner Identification Number (NIE) is the Fiscal Identification Number (NIF) of all those physical persons who do not have the Spanish nationality.

In the fiscal domain, the most important issue for a researcher or invited lecturer is whether this person is considered a fiscal resident or not. Depending on this point, a different approach will be adopted in regard to taxes.

There are two types of tax in the Spanish tax system: direct (applied to income and assets) and indirect (levied on goods and services). Foreign researchers who come to Spain for a limited period of time will probably have to pay IRPF or IRNR (both income tax), depending on their residence status, VAT when making purchases, IIEE (special taxes) and, in rare cases, Wealth Tax, ITP (wealth transfer tax), etc.

Individuals must pay Personal Income Tax (IRPF) or Non-Residents' Income Tax (IRNR) depending on whether they are Spanish residents or not. Individuals are considered to reside regularly in Spain when they remain in the country for over 183 days (6 months) during the calendar year. Sporadic absences are taken into account when determining presence in Spain, unless they certify their residence for tax purposes in another country.

However, there are certain considerations, such as their family's place of residence, close personal relation-

ships and economic ties, country of origin or where they normally work. People in this situation must, in principle, pay income tax on all income anywhere in the world. It is therefore a good idea to seek out information on your tax status when you come to work or research in Spain.

The Agencia Tributaria (Inland Revenue) is in charge of implementing the State tax system. Its [website](#) is very detailed, can be consulted in English and has a specific section devoted to non-residents in Spain.

Further information on taxation issues can be found at the following websites:

- [Summary provided by the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology](#)
- [Spanish Inland Revenue Department](#)  
Tel. 901335533
- [Addresses and telephone numbers](#)
- [Information on non-resident taxation](#)
- [Information on regulations in the Valencia Region](#)  
General telephone number for tax-related issues (Servicios SATC): 012 or 963866000 if calling from outside the region.
- Territorial Offices in the Valencia Region:

#### VALENCIA

Delegación Territorial Valencia  
Plaza del Ayuntamiento, 9  
Tel. 963103200

#### CASTELLÓN

Delegación Territorial Castellón  
Paseo Ribalta, 12  
Tel. 964345300

#### ALICANTE

Delegación Territorial Alicante  
Plaza de la Montañeta, 8  
Tel. 965149700

## Accommodation

The foreign researcher has several possibilities when it comes to housing: renting an apartment, renting a room in a shared apartment, accommodation in a university hall of residence or student residence, buying a property, staying at a boarding house, hostel or guesthouse, hotel, etc.

Generally, if one is going to remain in the region at least a year, the most advisable option is to rent an apartment. For this, it will be necessary to enter into a rental contract or tenancy agreement, preferably in writing, with the proprietor in order to ascertain one's rights and obligations.

Faced with any problem regarding the rent of a dwelling, the foreigner can go to the Municipal Offices for Consumer Information (OMIC), to the Consumers and Users Associations, or to the [Agencia Española de Consumo, Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutrición](#) (consumer national agency).

When it comes to renting an apartment, the available options include:

- Checking out the classified advertising sections on housing in the newspapers.

- Going to a real estate agency.
- Accessing different Internet websites, such as: [www.pisocompartido.com](http://www.pisocompartido.com), [www.fotocasa.es](http://www.fotocasa.es) and [www.idealista.com](http://www.idealista.com)
- Going to the Tourist Offices, which can provide a list of available seasonal accommodation (boarding houses, hostals or guest houses, hotels), while one looks for stable accommodation.
- Checking out the services supplied by most Universities regarding accommodation. These free services provide the visitor with information and advice on available accommodation, apartments to let, shared apartments... You can find further information in the Mobility Support Services section.

On the other hand, the Generalitat Valenciana also places various mechanisms at the disposal of citizens to foster the supply of rented housing throughout the Region:

1. The **Red Alquila** programme offers a good number of dwellings for rent, below the average market price, offers legal advice and mediates between owners and tenants.
2. The **Programa de Ayudas al Alquiler de Vivienda** is a regional programme of subsidies aimed at helping people with low income to rent a property.
3. The **Entidad de Infraestructuras de la Generalitat** (EVHA) also manages the rent and sale of property at affordable prices.

#### VALENCIA

Avda. de la Plata, 50 B.

Tel. 961 20 79 50

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, from 9am to 2pm

#### CASTELLÓN

Avda. Hermanos Bou, 47

Tel. 964 72 53 52

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, from 9am to 2pm

#### ALICANTE

C/ Gerona, 4

Tel. 96 593 82 55

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, from 9am to 2pm

4. The **Instituto Valenciano de la Juventud** (Valencian Youth Institute) (IVAJ) offers students living away from home places in some of the student residences built through agreements made by the Autonomous Regions, Town Councils and Universities.

In addition, at their offices they provide free:

- o Information and specialised consulting on all subjects relating to renting, buying and selling property.
- o Specialised legal information.
- o Press information on lettings and shared rooms.

The offices running this service in the Valencia Region are located at:

#### VALENCIA

C/ Hospital, 11

Tel. 963108580 / email: [info\\_gvajove@gva.es](mailto:info_gvajove@gva.es)

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, from 9am to 2:30pm

#### CASTELLÓN

C/ Orfebres Santalínea, 2

Tel. 964 55 88 60 / email: castellon\_ivaj@gva.es  
Opening hours: Monday to Friday, from 9am to 2:30pm

#### ALICANTE

C/ Rambla Mendez Nuñez, 41  
Tel. 966 478 120 / email: alicante\_ivaj@gva.es  
Opening hours: Monday to Friday, from 9am to 2:30pm

If the researcher is going to remain just a short time in our country, a good option is staying in one of the halls of residence or University residences available in the Valencia Region. The major halls of residence are detailed below:

#### • WOMEN'S HALLS OF RESIDENCE

##### VALENCIA

ASUNCIÓN DE N<sup>a</sup> SEÑORA. Avda. Primado Reig, 108. Tel. 963694600

SAOMAR. C/ Pizarro, 7. Tel. 963520069

DOMINICAS. C/ Ramón y Cajal, 11. Tel. 963410023

ESCLAVAS DE MARÍA. C/ Balmes, 27. Tel. 963917188

M<sup>a</sup> INMACULADA. C/ Trinquete de Caballeros, 10. Tel. 963915082

SAGRADO CORAZÓN. C/ San José de la Montaña, 15. Tel. 963823300

#### • MEN'S HALLS OF RESIDENCE

##### VALENCIA

ALAMEDA. C/ Micer Mascó, 29. Tel. 963691612

ALBALAT. Avda. Primado Reig, 167. Tel. 963607512

RESIDENCIA PLURAL. Avda. María Cristina, 6 - C/ Balmes, 17. Tel. 645875275

#### • MIXED HALLS OF RESIDENCE

##### VALENCIA

AUSIÀS MARCH. Avda. de Catalunya, 30. Tel. 963695408

GALILEO GALILEI. Avda. dels Tarongers, s/n. Tel. 963352000

RECTOR PESET. Pza. Horno de S. Nicolás, 4. Tel. 963166000

SAN JUAN DE RIBERA. Pl. San Juan de Ribera, 6. Burjassot. Tel. 963638270

LA CONCEPCIÓN. Av. de Suecia, 23. Tel. 963036300

DAMIÀ BONET. C/ Serpis, 27. Tel. 962050500

LOS CENTELLES. C/ Poeta Artola, 14 Bajo. Tel. 963697541

MEDITERRÁNEO. Av. Blasco Ibáñez, 106. Tel. 963891413

PALACIOS. C/ Daoíz y Velarde, 6. Tel. 963629689

CAMPUS CONFORT BURJASSOT. Av. Primero de Mayo, 4. Burjassot. Tel. 963160092

REUNIVER. C/ José M<sup>a</sup> de Haro, 59 dcha. Tel. 963562263

SAN FRANCISCO JAVIER. Av. Blasco Ibáñez, 55. Tel. 963695854

SAN JOSÉ. C/ Poeta Artola, 29 bajo. Tel. 963602129

MARINA REAL. C/ Francesc Cubells, 7. Tel. 960471364

OVIDI MONTLLOR. C/ San Juan de Ribera, 11. Alcoy. Tel. 965549522

RESIDENCIA VISOREN GANDIA. C/ Sèquia del Rei cantonada Avda. Universitat. Gandia. Tel. 902200219

## CASTELLÓN

CAMPUS. Universitat Jaume I. Tel. 964730830

DOMUS MARIAE. C/ Obispo Climent, 24. Tel. 964223041

MADRE DE DÉU DEL LLEDÓ. C/ Orfebres Santalínea, 2. Tel. 964558870

SAN LUCAS. C/ Herrero, 4. Tel. 622257948

## ALICANTE

LA FLORIDA. Av. de Orihuela, 59. Tel. 965918250

EUROPA HOUSE. C/ Decano, 20. San Vicente del Raspeig. Tel. 965675429

VILLA UNIVERSITARIA. Avda. Vicente Savall, 16. San Vicente del Raspeig. Tel. 966142042

RECTOR 3. C/ Rector, 3. San Vicente del Raspeig. Tel. 965672514

DIEGO DE LEÓN. C/ Cottolengo, 19. San Vicente del Raspeig. Tel. 965670688

MEDITERRÁNEO. C/ Decano, 12. San Vicente del Raspeig. Tel. 965675034

EZME. C/ Cottolengo, 15-17. San Vicente del Raspeig. Tel. 965674348

RASA. C/ Poeta García Lorca, 7. San Vicente del Raspeig. Tel. 648260658

MIGUEL HERNÁNDEZ. C/ Antonio Pinies, 22. Orihuela. Tel. 606988284