



SPAIN-US
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

**MEET SPAIN,
MEET US.**

J-1 VISA PROGRAM

SPAIN-US CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
2153 Coral Way, Suite 4 00 | Miami, FL 33145
T: +1 305 358 5988 | F: +1 305 358 6844
info@spainchamber.org | www.spainuschamber.com

THE SPAIN-US CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The “J1 VISA PROGRAM” from the Spain-US Chamber of Commerce in Florida aims to promote the international experience of young and qualified professionals.

Through this program, participants are offered direct contact with the business techniques and methodologies of companies located in the United States., with the possibility of receiving valuable international professional training and promoting the exchange and knowledge of skills.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

In order to participate in this program, it is necessary that those interested apply for a J1 visa, a non-immigrant visa modality. This visa is intended for newly graduated university students and young professionals so they can engage in a training period and a cultural exchange program.

This type of visa requires the acceptance of a resident company in the United States that offers internships and a nonprofit entity like the Spain-US Chamber of Commerce, which acts as a sponsor.

The main purpose of the sponsor is to sponsor the DS-2019 eligibility certificate, an official document from the United States Department of State that can only be processed by entities authorized to do so. This certificate is processed based on the information of the company and the participant.

PROGRAM MODALITIES

J1 INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

This modality of the program is aimed at:

- College students who are projected to finish their studies within the current year, with more than 80% of the curriculum completed and passed.
- Newly Graduated students who have completed their full curriculum within the past year.

Both cases must have less than one year of professional experience in that field.

The minimum duration for an internship is 6 weeks, and the maximum is 12 months.

J1 TRAINING PROGRAM

The training program is aimed at:

- Professionals with college degrees who have graduated more than 1 year ago, and whose professional experience exceeds one year, counting accumulated months.
- Qualified non-university professionals with a professional career between 5-10 years, counting accumulated months.

The minimum duration of this program modality is 6 weeks, and the maximum is 18 months.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Demonstrate that he/she was admitted into an accredited exchange program by the United States Government using the form DS-2019 in which the program number sent by the responsible organization appears, as well as the assigned SEVIS electronic number to each exchange visitor. Exchange visas will not be granted without the DS-2019 form.
2. Pay the corresponding SEVIS and VISA fees.
3. Complete the DS-160 non-immigrant form.
4. Present your valid passport.
5. Obtain medical insurance.
6. No Visa refusal reasons are found.
7. Prove that you have sufficient funds to cover all expenses during your stay in the United States or prove that the funds will be provided by the sponsoring organization in the form of a scholarship or financial compensation.
8. Demonstrate sufficient academic preparation to participate in the corresponding program, including knowledge of English, or that the exchange program is designed to accommodate participants who do not speak it.
9. All other requirements that the United States Embassy of the country where the visa is requested deems necessary, such as a personal interview.

The J1 Visa is not a work visa, which is why the company is not obliged to provide the participant with financial compensation. It is up to the company to decide the financial compensation that the participant will receive, if they decide to not provide it or it does not reach \$1,600 monthly, the participant must justify that he/she has sufficient funds to cover that amount by completing and delivering a Financial Statement, filled out and signed by the bank and a Letter of Guarantee, signed by the person who will provide the funds.

PROGRAM COST

The cost for the J1 VISA PROGRAM of the Spain-Us Chamber of Commerce in Florida is \$2,400 for members and \$3,500 for non-members. This cost may be born by the host company or by the beneficiary of the program, this will depend on the agreement between both parties.

SERVICES INCLUDED

1. Issuance of the DS-2019 Certificate.
2. Sending the necessary documentation to process the J1 Visa.
3. Assistance and advice.
4. Follow-up during the internship period.
5. Online guidance before arrival in the United States.
6. Site visit and evaluation of the company if necessary.

SERVICES NO INCLUDED

1. SEVIS rate (mandatory for all participants).
2. Search of the company for the realization of the practices.
3. J1 Visa expenses paid at the American Embassy.
4. Airline Ticket.
5. Health Insurance.
6. Accommodation, compensation or any type of personal expense.

PROCEDURE

In order to participate, the candidate must contact a company or host institution that can guarantee their stay in the United States, and apply if there is an available position.

The selection process corresponds to the company or institution, based on its own criteria to evaluate the profile of the participant and assessing a sufficient level of English. As proof of the level of English, both the sponsor and the company may ask the participant for any certificates they deem appropriate.

In case no certificate is requested, the participant may be interviewed in English on the day he has the interview at the Embassy.

Once accepted by the company and a proposal has been made to the candidate, the Spain-Us Chamber of Commerce will begin the procedures for the issuance of the DS -2019 form. For this, it is necessary that both parties deliver the following documents:

1. The internship offer must be completed and signed by the company in blue pen.
2. A biographical summary of the participant completed by the participant and signed in blue pen.
3. A training plan. The training plan should consist of a minimum of 3 phases. A form should be completed electronically or in blue pen for each of the phases, and each of them must have the signature in blue of the participant, the supervisor of the company and the Spain-US Chamber of Commerce as a sponsor.
4. The workers compensation of the company.
5. The Exchange visitor's curriculum in english.
6. Two letters of recommendation, signed, with letterhead or seal of company that is recommending.
7. Photocopy of passport.
8. Health insurance that covers the minimum requirements set by the Department of State.

INFORMATION & CONSULTATIONS

For more information regarding the J1 VISA PROGRAM of the Spain-Us Chamber of Commerce in Miami, or if you have any questions, comments or concerns, contact us at info@spainchamber.com.

*At the request of a member of the Spain-Us Chamber of Commerce in Miami, the Chamber may issue an internship offer through the means it deems appropriate.

ELIGIBILITY FORM TO APPLY FOR A J1 VISA APPLICATION FORM

Company: _____

Address : _____

Email: _____

Contact number: _____

Contact person: _____

Name of candidate: _____

The internship for which the candidate is applying must fall into the following categories. Please check the appropriate box:

Information, Media, and Communication

Engineering

Management, Business, Commerce and Finance

Architecture

Public Administration and Legal Counsel

Mathematics

Science

Industrial Occupations

The J1 visa applicant company and the candidate must meet the following prerequisites to start the application process. Please mark with an X the requirements that are met by both the applicant and the company and send it to us completed.

The candidate:

To apply for one of these two visa programs:

Visa INTERNSHIP

The Internship program is intended for:

- University students who will complete their studies in the current year, with more than 80% of the subjects taken and passed.
- Graduated university students who obtained their degree less than 1 year ago.
- In both cases, they must have less than 1 year of professional experience in the sector.
- The minimum duration for an Internship program is 6 weeks and the maximum is 12 months.

Visa TRAINING

The Training program is intended for:

- Professionals with a university degree who obtained their degree more than 1 year ago and who have a professional career of between 1 year and 10 years, counting in accumulated months.
- Qualified non-university professionals with a professional career of between 5 years and 10 years, counting in accumulated months.
- The minimum duration for a training program is 6 weeks and the maximum is 18 months.

Be able to obtain two signed letters of recommendation on the letterhead of the signing institution.

Be able to demonstrate having the academic and/or professional requirements described above in each of the modalities, Internship or Trainee.

Have a sufficient level of English to maintain a fluent conversation.

Have a valid passport valid for at least 6 months after the end of the visa.

If the company does not provide the scholarship or does so at a salary of less than \$1600 per month, you must be able to provide sufficient funds to cover the difference for the duration of the visa.

If the company does not provide health insurance, it is possible to contract a health insurance with the required characteristics. See appendix "Health Insurance".

The company:

Have a valid Workers' Compensation Policy or Worker's Compensation Policy Exemption.

Have more than 4 full-time contract workers per J1 visa applicant.

A workplace visit should be possible if the company has not previously participated in the SUSCC Visa Exchange Program, and does not meet the following conditions:

- Have more than 25 full-time employees.
- Or have more than \$3 million in annual income.

Please note that compliance with these requirements does not imply acceptance of the visa by the U.S. Department of State or the appropriate U.S. Embassy.

Visa applicant (company or applicant)

Date:

Name: _____

Firm _____