

Spanish language exam (DELE)

The Ministry of Justice requires a DELE level of A2 or higher for the requirement of knowledge of Spanish in the process of applying for Spanish nationality for people from non-Spanish speaking countries or territories.

- Online registration.
- Face-to-face examination at the Cervantes Institute centre.
- The exam consists of four examination tests: reading comprehension, listening comprehension, written expression and interaction, oral expression and interaction.
- There are seven annual examinations.
- The fee to be paid for them is €130.

Examination of Constitutional and Sociocultural Knowledge of Spain (CCSE)

60% of the questions are related to knowledge of the Constitution and the administrative and territorial organisation of Spain. The remaining 40% are related to aspects of Spanish culture, history and society.

Some of its main features are the following:

- It consists of a face-to-face format in Cervantes Institute centres.
- It consists of 25 questions. At least 15 of them must be correct in order to pass.
- The validity of the certificate for having passed the test is 4 years.
- Pay a fee of €85.
- Exams are available to be taken on every last Thursday of every month.

Where to apply

The application is submitted digitally on the website for the Ministry of Justice.

Links of interest

Manual for the Examination of Constitutional and Sociocultural Knowledge of Spain
<https://bit.ly/2O8BNrz>

DELE Exams
<https://bit.ly/2rga8fv>

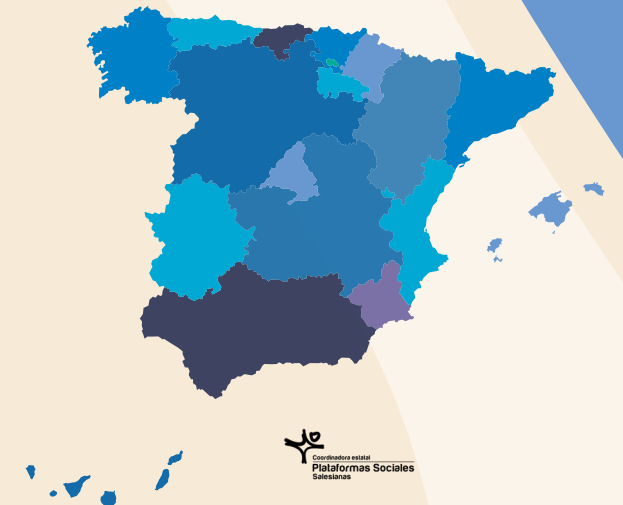
Application form for Spanish nationality by residence
<https://bit.ly/2KLdkXk>

Ministry of Justice – Nationality by residence
<https://bit.ly/2ObTbM1>

Download the form for payment of fees
<https://bit.ly/34bdvD5>

Contact information:

NATIONALITY BY RESIDENCE



Who can apply?

- Persons over 18 years of age or those who are emancipated.
- Persons over 14 years of age assisted by their legal representative.
- The legal representative of the person under 14 years of age.
- The person with a judicially modified capacity by himself/herself or the legal representative of such person, depending on what is stated in the sentence of incapacitation.

Important note:

Being born in Spain does not guarantee Spanish nationality. Minors and children of foreign parents born in Spain can only acquire Spanish nationality after 1 year of their legal residence in the country.

Important note:

- **Documents from other countries**
 - They will be translated into Spanish or the co-official language of the region where they are requested by a sworn translator recognised by the Ministry.
 - They will be legalised and apostilled.
- **Copies of documents will be provided, displaying originals when submitting the application.**

Required residence periods

Ten years of legal and continuous residence, immediately prior to the date of application for Naturalisation.

There are other cases in which the required period of residence is reduced; such as:

- **Five years:**
 - for people with refugee status.
- **Two years:**
 - for nationals of Andorra, Philippines, Equatorial Guinea, Portugal or persons of Sephardic origin.
- **One year in the following cases:**
 - Those born in Spain.
 - Those who did not properly exercise their right to nationality by choice.
 - Those who have been legally subject to tutelage (under the supervision of a tutor), guardianship or fostering (the fostering that allows the reduction of legal residence to one year is that in which there is a ruling by a public entity that has in each territory been entrusted with the protection of minors and the fostering that is judicially recognised) of a Spanish citizen or institution for two consecutive years, even if he/she is doing so at the time of the application.
 - Anyone who, at the time of application, has been married to a Spanish citizen for one year and is not legally or de facto separated.
 - The widow or widower of a Spanish citizen, if at the time of the spouse's death they were not legally or de facto separated.
 - Those born outside Spain to a father or mother (also born outside of Spain), grandfather or grandmother, provided that all of them were originally Spanish.
- You may not have a **criminal record** in Spain or in your home country.
- Sufficient **degree of integration** into Spanish society:
 - Passing the examination of Constitutional and Sociocultural Knowledge of Spain (known as CCSE).
 - Obtaining the diploma in Spanish as a Foreign Language (known as DELE).

Required documentation

For all cases:

- Birth certificate from the home country. Legalised and apostilled by the Hague.
- Copy of passport. Complete all of the pages including those which are blank.
- Foreigner's Identity Number (NIE).
- Certificate of registration of residency. Specify issuance date.
- Certification of passing the CCSE test (only in the case of persons over 18 years of age).
- Certification of passing the DELE language exam.
- Apostilled criminal record certificate from the home country.
- Criminal record certificate in Spain.
- Proof of payment of the fee (€102). Form 790, code 026.

For special cases:

- Those over 14 years of age, but under 18 years of age or persons not emancipated or legally incapacitated:**
 - Certificate from the training, residence or welcome centres accrediting a sufficient degree of integration.
- Refugees:**
 - Identity card for foreigners with refugee status.
 - 1951 Geneva Convention Blue Passport (if available).
 - Certificate from the Asylum and Refugee Office of the Home Office. Valid for 6 months from the date of issue where your personal data is recorded.
- Marriage:**
 - Verbatim birth certificate of the Spanish spouse issued by the Spanish Civil Registry.
 - Verbatim marriage certificate issued by the Spanish Civil Registry.
 - Certificate of cohabitation or joint registration of residency with the spouse.
- Persons in non-temporary tutelage, guardianship or foster care:**
 - In cases of foster care: Order of the competent court designating the person to exercise tutelage, guardianship, or foster care
 - In cases of foster care by a Spanish institution: Resolution of said institution assuming the tutelage, guardianship or foster care.