SPANISH STUDIES ABROAD
The Center for Cross-Cultural Study

VISA REQUIREMENTS

Córdoba, Argentina
Important To Know:

• Students who will be in Argentina for less than 90 days do not need a visa.
• Students who will be in Argentina more than 90 days, but less than 180 days, will apply for the visa from within Argentina with the help of Spanish Studies Abroad staff.
• Students who will be in Argentina for over 180 days will apply for their visa from within Argentina but will need to secure a background check and Apostille to bring with them to Argentina to secure their visa (see next page for details).

If you are not a citizen of the U.S., you should check immediately with the appropriate Argentine embassy for your home country to learn about what requirements you must complete for a student visa.

Note on the Reciprocity Fee:
In the past, American students were required to pay a reciprocity fee prior to entering Argentina. As of March 2016, Argentine authorities the reciprocity fee has been suspended until further notice. Following is their statement:

“THE NATIONAL MIGRATIONS DIRECTORATE CONFIRMED TODAY (JUNE 22ND, 2016) THAT THE SUSPENSION OF THE COLLECTION OF RECIPROCITY FEES FROM US CITIZENS, ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHED BY DISPOSITION DNM NO. 589/2016 AS OF MARCH 24TH, 2016 FOR A PERIOD OF 90 DAYS OR UNTIL A PRESIDENTIAL DECREE PROMOTED BY THE SAID DIRECTORATE IS ISSUED FOR ITS REVOCATION REMAINS IN FORCE.”

In any case, please confirm with the Argentine Embassy that this suspension is still in effect. Students other nationalities may still be required to pay this fee. Always follow the instructions given to you by the embassy over any other information. While we are constantly updating our information, we may not be aware of recent changes to their policies. If you notice conflicting information, please let us know right away.

For details on current visa regulations, contact the Embassy of Argentina in Washington:

https://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/es/servicios/servicios-para-extranjeros/visas

SEMESTER STUDENTS
For academic programs lasting longer than 90 days, the Argentine government requires that you obtain a student visa. Argentine regulations allow students from countries for which Argentina does not require an entry visa (such as the U.S. and others) to enter Argentina as tourists and, before the 90-day limit elapses, apply for a student visa.

The necessary documentation for obtaining the student visa (application, program acceptance letter, Argentine police record, etc.) and the exact procedures will be provided once you arrive in Córdoba. The Spanish Studies Resident Director and Universidad Nacional de Córdoba (UNC) staff will assist you in completing this process.

You should budget approximately $145 USD for visa costs.
ACADEMIC YEAR STUDENTS
Academic Year students have two options: the U.S. academic year or the Argentine calendar year.

Students planning on applying for a year-long student visa must bring along a certificate of lack of a criminal record from the FBI with an apostille. Students should bring this certificate for each country of residence over the past five years. Obtaining a lack of criminal record from the FBI can be a very lengthy process.

How do I obtain an FBI Background check?

Police criminal record clearance, or background check, must be verified by fingerprints. It cannot be older than 3 months from the application date. You must get a police record from the countries in which you have lived during the past 5 years.

FBI Records for International purposes issued by the U.S. Department of Justice – Federal Bureau of Investigation and must be legalized with the Apostille of the Hague Convention from the U.S. Department of State (in this case the Apostille must be from the Department of State and not from the Secretary of State).

To learn how to obtain an FBI background check, visit: https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks. These background checks can take up to 6 weeks to be processed, so please apply accordingly! To learn more about obtaining the Apostille, visit: https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/travel-legal-considerations/internl-judicial-asst/authentications-and-apostilles/requesting-authentication-services.html

*Please note that local police background checks will NOT be accepted.

Keep in mind that obtaining an Apostille for the FBI Background Check can take an additional month to process, including mailing the documents to D.C., having them processed, and having them returned via mail.