IMMIGRATION

Family reunification

Residence authorization for family reunification

By **Aray Asociados Editorial Team** Published July 4, 2025

The content of this page is for guidance purposes only. Only the provisions set out in the regulations in force at the time of submitting the application shall apply.

DURATION AND RENEWAL	UPDATED
The initial authorization is valid for the same duration as that of the sponsor at the time it is granted.	**November 14, 2026**

Topics Family reunification Lifestyle

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01 Description

This authorization allows foreign nationals residing in Spain to request that certain family members join them and reside legally in the country. It is aimed at facilitating family life, ensuring the right to family unity for those who already hold a legal residence permit in Spain.

02 Advantages

- Allows legal residence in Spain for reunited family members
- Grants access to the public healthcare system under the same conditions as the sponsor
- Facilitates access to compulsory education for reunited minors
- Enables renewal and the possibility of obtaining independent residence permits after a certain period

03 Who can apply? (including family members)

- ✓ Any foreign national residing in Spain who has previously renewed their initial residence authorization or holds a long-term residence permit may apply
- ✓ The main applicant must be the sponsor, i.e., the legal resident in Spain with sufficient financial means

› **The following family members may accompany the sponsor from the outset:**

- Spouse or proven unmarried partner (pareja de hecho)
- Minor children of the sponsor or of the spouse/partner, or children with disabilities
- First-degree ascendants of the sponsor or of the spouse/partner, if they are dependent and there are justified reasons

04 Requirements

› **Requirements for the sponsor (in all cases):**

- ✓ Hold a renewed residence authorization or a long-term residence permit
- ✓ Have adequate housing
- ✓ Possess sufficient financial means according to the IPREM (Spain's public income benchmark index)

›

Specific requirements depending on the family member:

- For children: prove parental authority and financial dependency
- For ascendants: demonstrate economic dependency and objective reasons
- For partner: registration in a public registry or equivalent documentation

05 Required documents

Documentation of the sponsor:
☐ Complete copy of the passport
☐ Valid Foreigner Identity Card (TIE)
☐ Employment contract, payslips, tax return, or other proof of income
☐ Favorable housing report (issued by the Autonomous Community)
Documentation of the family member to be reunited:
☐ Complete copy of the passport
☐ Birth or marriage certificate, as applicable
☐ Proof of economic dependency (if applicable)
☐ Criminal record certificate (if 18 or older)
☐ Medical certificate in accordance with health regulations

06 Application process

1 Document gathering

The sponsor must gather all supporting documents related to financial means, housing, and family ties.

2 Submission of the application

It is filed with the Oficina de Extranjería (immigration office) of the province where the sponsor resides.

3 Decision and visa issuance

After the authorization is granted, the family member must apply for the visa at the corresponding consulate.

4 **Entry into Spain and final procedures**

Once in Spain, the family member must apply for the Foreigner Identity Card (TIE) within the legally established period.

07 Duration and renewal

The initial authorization is valid for the same duration as that of the sponsor at the time it is granted.

It may be renewed along with the sponsor's authorization or converted into an independent authorization if the established requirements are met.

08 FAQ

Can I sponsor my parents if I hold an initial residence permit?

No. The sponsor must hold a renewed or long-term residence authorization.

Can I sponsor an unregistered partner?

Only if the existence of a relationship analogous to marriage is proven and it is registered in the corresponding registry or demonstrated through legally accepted means.

What minimum income do I need to sponsor my family?

Under Real Decreto 1155/2024, you must prove income of at least 150% of the IPREM to sponsor the first family member, and an additional 50% of the IPREM for each additional member.

Can I sponsor my children if they live with their other parent?

Yes, as long as you can prove parental authority and that the other parent authorizes the relocation to Spain.

09 Applicable law

- Ley Orgánica 4/2000, de 11 de enero, sobre derechos y libertades de los extranjeros en España y su integración social
- Real Decreto 1155/2024, de 19 de noviembre, por el que se aprueba el Reglamento de desarrollo de la Ley Orgánica 4/2000

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