

Applying for Your Student Visa: Uruguay

What is a visa?

A visa is official authorization allowing you to enter a country and travel, work, live, or study there for a specific period of time. Generally, a visa is an elaborate stamp that is sealed onto one of the pages of your passport. Visas are issued to American citizens by a foreign country's Embassy or Consulate located in the United States. Every country has its own regulations governing the issuance of visas.

Do I need a student visa to go to Uruguay?

- US citizens are not required to have a visa to enter and stay in Uruguay for up to 180 days. Upon arrival, students can enter the country with a Tourist Visa that has a duration of 90 days. Before the 90 days end, the student must apply at the National Office of Migration for a 90 day extension that costs 400 pesos.
- US citizens staying in Uruguay for longer than 180 days must apply for Temporary Residency. The visa process should start at least 15 days prior to your departure.

What do I need to apply for Temporary Residency?

- The **application form**, complete and signed. (Obtain from the Consulate General office that has jurisdiction in your state of residence from)
- Two **passport-sized photographs**.
- A **photocopy of a roundtrip ticket** fully paid or a signed statement by a travel agency or passenger carrier guaranteeing the traveler's departure from Uruguay
- The **consular fee**: US\$42 in a money order made payable to the Consulate of Uruguay.
- An **official letter of program participation** from your host university
- A **valid passport** that will be valid for six months beyond the departure date
- **Acceptance letter** from your host university stating the dates of attendance.
- Proof of sufficient funds and resources during your time of study
- ▶ **Attention:** This list may not be all-inclusive! Verify this information with the consulate, as the application process can change or may even vary by consulate.

What do I need to keep in mind when applying for Temporary Residency?

- As a student, you pertain to "Category 3": "Students who enter the country for post-secondary (undergraduate) or graduate studies"
- For members of Category 3, the period of permanency with a Temporary Residency is up to 1 year. You can apply for an extension of 1 year. Your time in Uruguay on a Temporary Residency Status must not exceed two years.
- You *must* be in Uruguay for more than 180 days to obtain Temporary Residency
- Notarized documents *must* be endorsed with a notary's official stamp or seal.
- ***Make photocopies of all of the documents and items for your personal records!***
- You must have all documents ready before initiating the application process
- The Department of National Immigration has the right to request further documentation beyond the regular, specified documents
- The Department of National Immigration has the right to revoke Temporary Residency Status
- If the application does not speak Spanish, he or she will need to complete the process with an interpreter

- All foreign documents must be legalized by a representative of the Minister of External Relations and be translated into Spanish.

General tips for applying for a visa:

- Foreign embassies and consulates in the US receive hundreds of inquires every day so contacting them can be a trying experience. Have patience. Some consulates only receive visitors or calls during certain hours of the day or on certain days of the week; visit their website to learn their hours or call back at different times of the day. You may find that you are placed on hold or that your call is never forwarded to the appropriate person. Don't be discouraged: be persistent, but polite. Remember that US consulates in foreign countries operate in a similar fashion!
- Avoid waiting until the last minute to apply for your visa, as omitting one document or failing to complete a form completely may delay the processing of your visa for weeks.
- **Keep a photocopy of all documents, including your passport and any credit or bank cards, in a safe place.**
- Be sure all documents are in order. Missing documents may cause delays in the processing of your application.

Uruguay Embassy/ Consulate-Generals in the US:

To find the Consulate-General that has jurisdiction in your state, please visit:

<http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-of/uruguay#12661>

Uruguayan Embassy, Washington, D.C.

Address: 1913 I Street NW, Washington, DC, 20006

Tel. (202) 331-1313 **Fax** (202) 331-8142

Website: <http://www.uruwashi.org>

Email: uruwashi@uruwashi.org

Uruguayan Consulate, Los Angeles

Address: 429 Santa Monica Blvd. Suite 400, Santa Monica Los Angeles, CA

Tel. (310) 394-5777 **Fax** (310) 394-5140

Email: consulado@conurula.org

Uruguayan Consulate-General, New York

Address: 420 Madison Ave., 6th Floor, New York, NY 10017

Tel. (212) 753-8191 **Fax** (212) 753-1603

Website: http://www.conuruyork.org/Visas/visas_eng.htm

Email: conuruyork@conuruyork.org