



ACADEMIC STUDIES ABROAD

Student Visa Information for Argentina

RECIPROCITY FEE

The government of Argentina used to charge U.S. citizens a “reciprocity fee” of USD\$160 in order to enter Argentina. **In August 2016, U.S. citizens were granted exemption from paying this fee.** You can read about the exemption online here: <http://www.embassyofargentina.us/en/consular-section/reciprocity-fee-for-us-citizens.html>

If you are not a U.S. citizen, you may have to pay the \$160 reciprocity fee in order to enter Argentina. Please contact ASA if you are not a U.S. citizen. Tel: 617-327-9388

VISA REQUIREMENTS – SUMMER & SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS (6 WEEKS OR LESS)

U.S. passport holders who are attending a summer program or short-term program in Argentina (6 weeks or less) will simply enter Argentina as a tourist and remain on tourist status for the duration of the program. No special documentation is required when you enter the country; you simply present your passport when you arrive at Buenos Aires airport, and you'll be given a tourist stamp in your passport. It is not necessary for U.S. citizens attending a summer program or short-term program to get a student visa or other type of visa – you will simply have tourist status. **IF YOU DON'T HAVE A U.S. PASSPORT, PLEASE CONTACT ASA IMMEDIATELY AT 617-327-9388** as you may need a visa. Non-U.S. citizens may also need to get an FBI Background Check before arriving in Argentina, which can take 13 weeks or more to process.

VISA REQUIREMENTS – SEMESTER PROGRAMS (6 MONTHS OR LESS)

The type of visa you will need for a semester program and the necessary documents and fees depend on your country of citizenship.

U.S. CITIZENS GOING ON A SEMESTER PROGRAM TO ARGENTINA – U.S. citizens do not need to get a visa before arriving in Argentina. When you arrive at Buenos Aires airport, all you need to present is your passport, and you will enter as a tourist (you'll be given a tourist stamp in your passport). **Then, after arriving in Argentina, you must apply for your “Special Transitory Residence” visa within 30 days, with the help of our on-site staff.**

CITIZENS OF OTHER COUNTRIES GOING ON A SEMESTER PROGRAM TO ARGENTINA – You may need to get a visa before arriving in Argentina, and you may also need to get an FBI Background Check before arriving in Argentina, which can take 13 weeks or more to process. **IF YOU DON'T HAVE A U.S. PASSPORT, PLEASE CONTACT ASA IMMEDIATELY AT 617-327-9388.** We will need to contact the local Immigration office in Buenos Aires to find out the visa requirements for your particular country of citizenship.

Please be aware that visa requirements and fees are SUBJECT TO CHANGE without prior notice. Visa requirements and fees are determined solely by the government of Argentina. Although ASA makes every effort to stay up-to-date on the most current visa requirements, we are not responsible for changes in visa requirements and fees because they can happen without prior notice. Getting a visa for any country usually involves a fair amount of “red tape”!

THE “SPECIAL TRANSITORY RESIDENCE” VISA

The visa type for **U.S. citizens** going to Argentina for a **semester program lasting 6 months or less** is called “Residencia Transitoria Especial” or **Special Transitory Residence**.

This type of visa does not require an FBI Background Check.

The Special Transitory Residence must be applied for within 30 days of arriving in Argentina. ASA's Site Director will assist students with this process after they arrive, but some work will be required on the student's part! You will need to collect paperwork, make a visa appointment with the Immigration office in Buenos Aires, and then go to that appointment. **While our Site Director will assist you with these steps, it is ultimately up to YOU, the student, to make sure you obtain your visa.**

It is essential that you comply with all visa requirements and go to all visa-related appointments and meetings. because **the Universidad de Belgrano will not let you take your final exams unless you provide them with a photocopy of your visa.** If you don't take final exams, you fail your classes.

Students who miss their visa appointment will bear the full responsibility of re-booking the appointment and starting the process over again, *without* the help of our Site Director!

To apply for Special Transitory Residence, you will need to present the following documents and fee in person, by appointment, at the *Dirección Nacional de Migraciones* (Immigration Office) in Buenos Aires:

- Passport (must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the day you plan to return to the U.S.)
- Photocopies of your ENTIRE passport including ALL pages – even the blank pages
- 2 passport photos (4 cm. by 4 cm.) with a blue background. You can get these taken in Buenos Aires.
- Registration Certificate from the Universidad de Belgrano, showing the duration of your study period. (This will be issued to you by Universidad de Belgrano after you arrive.)
- Criminal Records Certificate from Argentina. The purpose of this is to show that you do not have a criminal record in the country of Argentina. You will have to go to the *Registro Nacional de Reincidencia y Estadística Criminal* to obtain this document, for a fee of approximately 100 Argentine pesos. ([Click here](#) for current exchange rates.) Our Site Director will help you with this process.
- Immigration Tax in cash – approximately 2700 Argentine pesos. ([Click here](#) for current exchange rates.)

Please note that the actual cost of getting Special Transitory Residence will depend on the exchange rate at the time you pay it. We recommend budgeting a total of US\$120. ([Click here](#) for current exchange rates.)

ONCE AGAIN, if you don't have a U.S. passport, please contact ASA immediately at 617-327-9388.

Non-U.S. citizens may have a different visa process than described above, that requires steps to be taken in the U.S. or your home country before you arrive in Argentina.