

Getting an Ecuadorian Visa

HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR 12-VIII VISA TO COME TO ECUADOR

1. Please contact the [Ecuadorian Consulate](#) nearest you to request your visa and verify the current requirements. A list of required documentation as of November 2006 is listed on the next page. Since there are multiple steps and documents required, we urge you to get started early!
2. Take the required documents plus one copy of each to the Ecuadorian Consulate and keep a set of copies for yourself. **Visas must be applied for *in person*.**
3. Please note that the 12-VIII Cultural Exchange visa will not allow you to work in Ecuador under any circumstances. VERY IMPORTANT: WHEN FILLING OUT THE VISA APPLICATION, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR ACTIVITY IN ECUADOR CORRESPONDS WITH THE TYPE OF VISA THAT YOU ARE REQUESTING. UNDER THE HEADING "ACTIVIDAD QUE DESARROLLARA" YOU SHOULD FILL IN THE SPACE WITH "**INTERCAMBIO CULTURAL**" AS THE ACTIVITY YOU WILL BE CARRYING OUT. WHEN YOU RECEIVE THE VISA, PLEASE REVIEW IT TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU WERE GRANTED THE CORRECT VISA AND THAT THERE ARE NO ERRORS OR CONFLICTING INFORMATION. CHECK TO MAKE SURE THE TYPE OF VISA IS "12-VIII" AND THAT THE ACTIVITY TO BE CARRIED OUT IS "INTERCAMBIO CULTURAL" OR "CULTURAL EXCHANGE". ANY CONFLICTING OR ERRONEOUS INFORMATION CAN LEAD TO DIFFICULTIES AND DELAYS WHEN REGISTERING THE VISA AND APPLYING FOR THE CENSO IN ECUADOR. IN ADDITION YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY A FINE OF MINIMUM \$200.
4. The Consulate may take a few hours to several days to grant visas, you should ask when your visa will be ready and return to pick it up.
5. Under NO CIRCUMSTANCE should you enter Ecuador without a visa granted by the Ecuadorian Consulate, even if the Consul says that you can come without one. If you come without a visa, you may be repatriated to your country of origin until you obtain one, and all associated costs will be your responsibility.
6. Bring to Ecuador all the papers that the Ecuadorian Consul gives you plus a set of copies.
8. AT YOUR ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT IN QUITO PLEASE TELL THE IMMIGRATION OFFICER TO STAMP YOUR PASSPORT WITH THE ENTRY VISA 12-VIII STRESSING THAT YOU WILL BE HERE AS AN "ESTUDIANTE DE INTERCAMBIO CULTURAL".
9. After you enter Ecuador, you must register your visa and obtain a census card ("censo") within 30 working days of your arrival. This is very important in order to legalize your status in the country. Information about the paperwork involved will be provided by USFQ's Office of International Programs during Orientation.

Questions? Contact [Veronica Castelo](#) or [Maricarmen Paz y Miño](#)

Required Documents for a Visa to Ecuador

updated 11/13/06

VISAS must be applied for **in person** at any Ecuadorian consulate.

Documents required by Ecuadorian law to obtain a visa are:

1. Completed visa application form (type of visa requested is 12-VIII)
2. Passport valid for at least 6 months
3. Four passport-sized pictures with white background
4. Letter stating you are in good health and free from communicable diseases, signed by your physician.
5. HIV test result
6. Police record from your home city
7. Copy of airline ticket or itinerary
8. Copy of the following documents sent to you from USFQ:
 - a. Letter from USFQ addressed to the Ecuadorian Consul, through which USFQ requests a 12-VIII Cultural Exchange Visa for you and provides an economic guarantee (please note that the guarantee USFQ offers is only a declaration to enable you to obtain a visa, not a financial obligation on the part of USFQ).
 - b. Letter from USFQ accepting you as a Cultural Exchange Student.
 - c. Copy of the agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Universidad San Francisco de Quito
9. \$80 application fee in cash or money order only

The nearest Ecuadorian consulate to Madison is in Chicago at the following address:

Consulado General del Ecuador
30 South Michigan Ave. Suite 204
Chicago, IL 60603
(312) 338-1002
Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Other Ecuadorian Embassies & Consulates in the United States:

There is a list of Ecuadorian Consulates here: <http://www.ecuador.us/info/consulate.htm>

Or Call the main Ecuadorian Embassy in DC to find out where the closest Ecuadorian consul office is:

Ecuadorian Embassy
2535 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20009
telephone: [1] (202) 234-7200
FAX: [1] (202) 667-3482

If you are outside the United States, consult the Ecuadorian Embassy in your country.