



## EU Family Card

### 1. I hold an EU Family Card (Familiar de Ciudadano de la Unión), can I travel to Ireland without a visa?

If you hold a **Spanish EU Family Card (Familiar de Ciudadano de la Unión)**, issued to certain family members of EU citizens, you can use the [European Commission website](#) to check if your EU Family card qualifies you to travel to Ireland without a visa under **EU Directive 2004/38/EC** (the “Free Movement Directive”). Please note that as the Embassy is not the issuing authority, we cannot validate your residence card for you.

### 2. My EU Family Card qualifies me to travel without a visa, what other documents do I need?

If you do qualify to travel without a visa, we suggest that you also carry evidence of your right to hold an EU Family Card (e.g. a marriage certificate with a certified translation if it is not in English), as Border Authorities may request this.

In addition, we recommend that you **check the policies of individual airlines and carriers to ensure that you do not have any problems at the point of departure in Spain.**

On arrival, the Irish immigration authorities retain the right to grant or refuse entry into Ireland and to determine the duration of the visit. You will have to satisfy an Immigration Officer that you meet the conditions of entry for the purpose of your visit to Ireland. For more information, please consult the [Irish Immigration website](#).

If you are granted permission to remain and intend to stay in Ireland for more than 90 days, you must register with Registration and apply for a residence permit from the Irish Immigration Service before your permission to remain expires. For more information, please consult [EU Treaty Rights](#) and [EU Treaty Rights FAQs](#).

If you are not travelling with your EU family member who qualified you for the EU Family card, or if you are traveling for reasons other than tourism, we recommend that you apply for a visa.

### 3. I do not qualify to travel to Ireland without a visa, what do I need to do now?

If your EU Family Card does not allow you to travel without a visa, you must apply for a **visa** to travel to Ireland. As this application is not made under the Free Movement Directive, it is processed under Irish domestic law and there is **no expedited process**. You must also **pay the visa fee** and **submit all required documents**. Processing time is a minimum of **8 weeks** from the time we receive all the documents. The same conditions apply if you choose to apply for a visa even when your EU Family Card does qualify you to travel without a visa.

For everything you need to know on how to apply for a visa, please see our [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

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Embassy of Ireland | Spain  
Embajada de Irlanda | España



Visa Section  
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