

SHIFT in Orality preparatory materials – Intellectual Output 5

SHIFT in Orality Summer School of Remote Interpreting – Forlì, June 11th-16th, 2018

Bidirectional sight translation – English/Spanish

HOW TO START A BUSINESS IN SPAIN

With incredible weather, affordable lifestyle, friendly locals, and quite an international community, life in Spain can be a nice place to live. However, finding work may get a bit tricky. Though in recent years the unemployment rate has been going down, it's still relatively high at 21%. Also, wages tend not to be as high as in other countries across Europe.

Of course, you could always avoid the problem altogether and set up your own business. After all, nothing beats the satisfaction of building your own company and doing your own thing.

This guide will help you figure out how to go about it.

¿Quién puede abrir un negocio en España?

Para abrir un negocio, primero debes tener derecho a residir y trabajar en España.

Si eres ciudadano de la UE, el principio de libre circulación te concede automáticamente este derecho. Aun así, necesitarás obtener tu **Número de Identificación de Extranjero (NIE)**.

El NIE es tu único número de identificación fiscal español. Lo necesitarás para pagar tus impuestos y para cualquier cosa que requiera un procedimiento oficial, incluido el alquiler o compra de un inmueble, disfrutar de la red de suministros o abrir una cuenta corriente.

Puedes solicitar tu NIE en persona una vez que estés en España, o todavía mejor, ganar tiempo a través de la embajada o consulado españoles en tu país de origen.

Si no eres ciudadano de la UE, también necesitarás un visado válido y un permiso de trabajo válido.

Spanish work permit application

If you need a work permit and plan to start your own business, there are certain rules you must follow.

You have to apply for your permit at the Spanish embassy or consulate in your home country. Besides the application, you'll also need to provide the following documents:

1. a business plan (if appropriate)
2. evidence that you have enough money to invest in your business and support yourself
3. proof of your skills or experience
4. copies of any business contracts or commissions
5. any applicable licence or registration
6. information about the potential to create employment in Spain

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You'll have to renew your work permit and prove you still fulfill all these conditions every year. However, after five years you can apply for **long-term Spanish resident status**.

Negocios y profesiones reguladas

Determinados negocios y profesiones (abogados, arquitectos, profesionales sanitarios y servicios financieros, por nombrar sólo algunos) están estrictamente regulados. Tendrás que asegurarte de que cumples la normativa vigente antes de que puedas empezar a ejercer o comerciar.

Muy a menudo el proceso exigirá que tu preparación académica sea oficialmente acreditada o reconocida (lo que se conoce como *homologación*). Dependiendo de tu profesión o del tipo de negocio que quieras abrir, quizá también necesites solicitar una licencia.

Las leyes pueden cambiar de una comunidad autónoma a otra, por lo que es buena idea comprobar con antelación la legislación nacional y las de la región en la que pretendes montar tu negocio.

Once your personal legal status is in order, it's time to decide your business's legal form. In Spain, you have three main options:

1. Sole Trader
2. Partnership
3. Limited Company

Let's have a look at what each involves.

1. Sole trader

Operating as a sole trader is probably the easiest, cheapest and most flexible way to start doing business, especially if you run your business on your own. It's also the most straightforward business to set up.

2. Partnership (Sociedad Civil)

If you plan to go into business with one or more people, but you still want your structure to be flexible, you can run your business as a partnership.

Like sole traders, partnerships don't require a minimum investment to be set up. However, the process is a bit more time-consuming and expensive.

There are two types of partnership in Spain: general partnership (*sociedad general*) and limited partnership (*sociedad comanditaria*).

3. Limited company



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Out of the three legal forms available, a limited company is the most complex, formal and expensive to set up and run. It also has a number of distinct advantages over the other forms, including limited liability and more favourable taxation (if you earn more than a certain amount). Some types of business must be run as a limited company by law.

[717 palabras. Texto adaptado. Fuente: <https://transferwise.com/gb/blog/start-a-business-in-spain>]

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Original paragraphs in English

1) Who can start a business in Spain?

In order to start a business, you must first have the right to live and work in Spain.

If you're an EU citizen, the principle of free movement automatically gives you this right.

However, you'll still need to obtain your **Número de Identificación de Extranjero (NIE)**.

An NIE is your unique Spanish tax identification number. You'll need it to pay your taxes and for anything else that requires an official process, including renting or buying property, getting connected to utilities and **opening a bank account**.

You can apply for your NIE in person once you're in Spain or, even better, get it ahead of time via the **Spanish embassy or consulate** in your home country.

If you're not an EU citizen, you'll also need to have a valid visa and a valid work permit.

2) Regulated professions and businesses

Certain professions and types of business - lawyers, architects, healthcare professionals and financial services, to name a few - are heavily regulated. You'll need to make sure you comply with the applicable rules before you can start trading.

Very often, the process will involve getting your qualifications officially accredited or recognised (called *homologación*). Depending on your profession or the type of business you want to carry out, you may also need to apply for a licence.

Rules may vary from region to region, so it's a good idea to check out both national rules and the rules of the region you intend to base your business in ahead of time.