



Internal Market Bill

- The Embassy were keen to stress that the UK government are fully committed to the citizens' rights aspects of the WA, & that the Spanish authorities are implementing protocols for the protection of our rights
We have requested that the UK government make a firm commitment in writing

TIE update

- Lack of appointments are still an issue in some areas
- Rumours that the TIE will become more expensive/compulsory next year are **untrue**
- Any issues (examples below) re applications should be reported to the Embassy:
 - being issued the wrong type, e.g. temporary instead of permanent
 - being issued a TIE that says "family member" instead of resident in own right
 - being asked for more documentation than is strictly necessary, e.g. photocopies of passports
- Embassy Living in Spain guide has been updated to include more detail of the process
- A request has been made for Spanish authorities to update their guide with more detail also

Communications

- The Embassy will be circulating ads on social media platforms, local radio & English language newspapers
- 3 video explainers over a 3-week period will answer queries relating to TIE applications, including step-by-step instructions, as well as more general residency & healthcare queries
- An agenda of upcoming events will be circulated shortly

Stakeholders input

- We raised the issue of members failing to receive a response from the Embassy. This may have been caused through making contact via the general enquiries email address. A specific contact email address, that includes an online form & provides a reference number will be supplied shortly
- Issues were raised relating to Spanish driving licences & a lack of appointments – what will happen after the end of transition is still "subject to negotiations"
- The Embassy confirmed that should a lack of appointments or delays cause issues with TIE applications, that all that was required to qualify for rights protected by the Withdrawal Agreement was for applicants to be legally living in Spain by 31/12/20. Even if they are unable to apply for a TIE until next year, as long as they were living in Spain prior to the end of transition, they will have those rights. It was recommended that a paper trail be kept proving date of arrival, registration on the padron, rental agreements etc.

United Kingdom National Support Fund organisations (UKNSF)

- UKNSF organisations are there to provide practical, hands-on support for the most vulnerable
- They can provide support online/on the phone outside of their specific geographical areas (see main webpage for full details of organisations, contact details, opening hours etc.)

Healthcare – update from the healthcare team and Q&A

- The Embassy Healthcare Team confirmed that S1 holders qualify for healthcare & pensions, plus entitlement to a UK EHIC card, which can be used across EU & in UK, even after transition ends
- Workers in Spain making tax contributions receive Spanish healthcare & Spanish EHIC, which they can also use across EU & in UK, even after transition ends
- EHICs for other groups, not covered in the above – are still under negotiation
- Early retirees not covered by S1 but can join Spanish health system (for a fee), with some limited EHIC cover or have private healthcare. They would have to pay for prescriptions though
- Your personal situation re healthcare cover is dependent on who pays for your healthcare now
- UK nationals can continue to access NHS when in UK (primary or secondary care)

HOW TO ACCESS HEALTHCARE IN SPAIN

Healthcare access in Spain is not residence based as it is in the UK. UK nationals who live in Spain usually access the Spanish national health system in one of these ways:

AS A WORKER

If you're working in self-employment in Spain, you're entitled to state healthcare on the same basis as a Spanish citizen. Your employer will also entitled to fund your state healthcare.

Register at your local health centre with your valid passport number. You'll get a social security number from your local [Social Security Institute \(Instituto Nacional de Empleo\)](#).

If you have previously worked, or claim a Spanish benefit, you may also be entitled to healthcare. Check your entitlement with [social security](#).

AS AN S1 FORM HOLDER

You can apply for an S1 form if you claim a UK state pension, or you are a dependent of someone who does.

Apply for your S1 form by calling the Overseas Healthcare Team in the UK: +44 (0)191 218 1999

When you get your S1 form, you must register it with your [local social security office \(INSS\)](#). This will mean you and your dependants will be entitled to state healthcare on the same basis as a Spanish citizen.

You can also [apply for an S1 if you are a Posted Worker](#).

AS A PERMANENT RESIDENT

If you've been a resident in Spain for 5 years or more, you can apply for permanent residency. This will give you access to state healthcare on the same basis as a Spanish citizen.

Once you're a permanent resident, you can register for healthcare at your local INSS office.

Call the Overseas Healthcare Service on +44 191 218 1999 and ask for a "residence letter". This tells the Spanish authorities that the UK does not cover your healthcare.

Make an appointment to register with your [local INSS office](#). You can also complete the process online. [See our guide](#) for details on the process.

BY PAYING A MONTHLY FEE (CONVENIO ESPECIAL)

You pay a monthly fee to join the scheme, which gives you access to the Spanish health system.

You can apply if you've been registered on the payroll for your local tax/hall for at least one year. The application process differs slightly in each region, please consult with your local regional authority's website. You can find a list of the regional authority websites on [our guide](#).

Please note that prescription costs are not subsidised under the Convenio Especial, you will need to meet the full cost of prescription medication.

AS A STUDENT

You can read about Spanish access to healthcare if you are temporarily studying in Spain on our [Healthcare in Spain guide](#).

[www.gov.uk/healthcareinspain](#)

AS A POSTED WORKER

A posted worker is someone who is employed in the UK, but temporarily sent to another European Economic Area (EEA) country.

Currently, posted workers use an EHC or an S1 form (depending on their circumstances) to access Spanish healthcare.

HMRC has a [helpline](#) for National Insurance enquiries from non-UK residents. They can answer questions about posted worker status and explain which UK issued documents you will need to get healthcare while posted.

STAY UP TO DATE

Did you know you can sign up for alerts on our [Healthcare in Spain page](#)?

[Sign up for alerts today](#) to keep up to date with how the end of the Transition Period affects your access to healthcare.

[WWW.GOV.UK/HEALTHCAREINSPAIN](#)