

REGULATIONS FOR HOMESTAY ACCOMMODATION

Spanish Courses – University of Valladolid

1. Language and Experience

Your main goal during your stay is to learn and improve your Spanish.

- Spanish will be the main language spoken at home, as everyday interaction is a key part of the learning process.
- You may occasionally use other languages or translation tools if needed, but you are encouraged to communicate in Spanish whenever possible.
- Taking part in conversations and family routines (meals, daily life, etc.) will help you make much faster progress.

Being actively involved will significantly enhance your learning experience.

2. Adaptation and Living Together

It is essential that you make an effort to adapt to the customs of both the country and your host family.

- You are living in a different cultural environment, where schedules, meals, and daily routines may not be the same as in your home country.
- Please maintain an open, respectful, and flexible attitude toward these differences.

Adapting is a fundamental part of the experience.

3. The Family and the Home

You will be living in a home, not in tourist accommodation.

- Your host family will welcome you and treat you as part of the household, and you are expected to contribute to a positive and respectful environment.
- Good communication based on respect, trust, and openness is essential.
- Please keep your room tidy and take care of shared spaces.

Open and honest communication helps prevent misunderstandings.

Not allowed:

- Inviting guests into the home without the family's prior permission.

- Using the home as a place for social gatherings or meetings.

4. Meals

Your accommodation includes full board (breakfast, lunch, and dinner).

- Meals will follow the family's usual schedule.
- If you are not going to attend a meal, you must inform the family in advance. This is very important for daily organization.

Clear communication helps maintain a good relationship and smooth day-to-day living.

- You are not allowed to cook or freely use the kitchen or family food unless you have permission or the food is your own.
- If you have dietary needs, preferences, or concerns, please discuss them openly with your host family.

5. Schedules, Outings and Travel

You are an adult and will have independence during your stay, but you are sharing a home with others.

- You will be given your own set of keys, which you must take care of and return at the end of your stay.
- You are free to come and go, but you must inform the family if you will arrive late or not spend the night at home.
- If you return late, please be quiet and respectful of others.

Respecting the household's rest is essential.

- If you plan to travel or be away (e.g. weekends), inform the family in advance and provide a way to contact you.

6. Laundry and Use of the Home

Living together means sharing rules and responsibilities.

- The family will wash your clothes once a week.
- You may not use the washing machine without permission.
- Please keep your room clean and reasonably tidy at all times.

Remember: this is a home, not a hotel.

7. Showers, Water and Energy

Responsible use of resources is important.

- You may shower daily, but it is recommended not to exceed 10–15 minutes.
- Please avoid showering at inappropriate times, especially late at night or early in the morning.
- Do not handle boilers or household appliances without prior permission.

Water and energy are shared resources and come at a significant cost.

8. Internet Use (WiFi)

The home provides WiFi for everyday use.

- You are expected to use the connection responsibly and reasonably.
- You must not monopolize bandwidth (for example, through large downloads or continuous high-usage activities that affect others).
- Accessing, downloading, or sharing illegal content, or engaging in any unlawful online activity, is strictly prohibited.

Improper use of WiFi may negatively affect the entire household.

9. Basic House Rules

To ensure a positive experience for everyone:

- Treat all members of the household with respect.
- Maintain a polite and cooperative attitude.
- Avoid excessive noise or disruptive behavior.

Living together is based on mutual respect.

10. Responsibility and Damages

You are responsible for the proper use of the home during your stay.

- Any damage caused through misuse or negligence must be paid for by the student.
- Please report any incident or damage as soon as possible.

Taking care of the home is a sign of respect toward your host family.

11. Problems or Questions

If any issue arises:

- Speak with your host family first, in an open and respectful way.
- If needed, contact your teacher or the accommodation coordinator at the Language Centre.

Our goal is to support you, but your attitude plays a key role in resolving situations.

Conditions for Requesting a Change of Host Family

In order to ensure a positive living experience and responsible accommodation management, students may request a change of host family or apartment under the following conditions:

1. Valid Grounds

Requests will be considered in the following cases:

- Serious issues related to coexistence or mutual respect
- Failure by the host family/host to comply with accommodation rules
- Accommodation conditions that do not match those advertised or guaranteed by the centre

Personal preferences or details stated in accommodation forms will not be considered sufficient grounds, except in exceptional cases that significantly affect the student's daily life (for example: a student with an allergy to animals is placed in a family described as having no pets and unexpectedly discovers upon arrival that there is a cat in the home).

2. Timeframe for Submitting a Request

There is no fixed deadline for submitting a request, as it must always be based on duly justified reasons

3. Request Procedure

- The request must be made either in writing or verbally, through the channels and/or procedures explained by the accommodation coordinator during the orientation session on the first day of the course
- The student must clearly explain the reason for the requested change
- The centre may carry out a prior assessment (speaking with the family, visiting the accommodation, mediating between both parties, etc.) before approving the change

4. Availability

All changes are subject to actual availability during the course, either with other host families or, alternatively, in shared apartments, which may be offered as an option

5. Student Conduct

A change cannot be requested if the issue arises from the student's own failure to comply with the accommodation rules

The centre reserves the right not to offer alternative accommodation if the student engages in inappropriate behaviour

6. Additional Costs

If the change involves a difference in accommodation price, and the reason is not attributable to the host family, the student will be responsible for covering the corresponding cost

In some cases, an administrative fee may apply to cover management expenses