



## Voluntary Return

We offer an orientation service for those who are considering returning to their country of origin. The city of Barcelona has different official programs aimed at people from outside the EU and in situations of vulnerability. In SAIER we inform users about the different possibilities (whether the final decision is to return or decide to stay here), and to collaborate with the network of social entities in the territory.

The *voluntary* return is part of the migration process: when a person decides to return, he or she does it after having lived the emigration of the home country and immigration in the host country. That is why the *voluntary* return is a very complex process that involves multiple factors and becomes a challenge for those who wish to return and the professionals who advise them.

In this sense, SAIER considers important that each person that seeks information about the *voluntary* return receive care with the highest possible quality, whether he or she verifies the possibility of return or if they are already beneficiary of a *voluntary* return programme.

Type of questions we handle:

I want to go back to my country. What programs do you offer?..... 2

My minor children are Spanish. Are they eligible for the programs? ..... 2

If I leave Spain, when could I return?..... 2

Could I capitalize on unemployment for my *Voluntary* Return? ..... 2

I've applied for the unemployment capitalization. Could I get help to buy my airline tickets?3

I have dual nationality. Could I apply for a *Voluntary* Return program? ..... 3

How can I request a *voluntary* return program? ..... 3

I want to return to my country but I cannot apply any *Voluntary* Return program. What can I do?..... 3





**NOTE: The following information does not replace the advice personalized in the SAIER offices. This is a general orientation on frequent questions, but always it is advisable to request personal advice in SAIER.**

### **I want to go back to my country. What programs do you offer?**

There are three types of *Voluntary* Return programs targeted to Non-EU citizens and in situations of vulnerability. In all programs, the applicant promises not to return to Spain in next three years (to carry out a lucrative or professional activity for his own account or for others).

1. *Voluntary* social care return program (includes airline ticket and economic amount).
2. Productive *Voluntary* Return Program (includes airline ticket and business entrepreneurship in origin country).
3. *Voluntary* Return Program APRE complements (includes plane ticket for people who have capitalized unemployment).

Programs are not always open. You can request only one, depending on particular profile (as long as the requirements are met).

You can apply for help in SAIER about *Voluntary* Return programs to analyze your situation.

### **My minor children are Spanish. Are they eligible for the programs?**

Yes, because minors are exempt from the requirement to be non-EU. They would accept at the request of mother, father or tutor.

### **If I leave Spain, when could I return?**

It depends on your situation, usually you could return to Spain after three years of mandatory stay in your original country, and provided you meet the requirements for entry to Spain. It is very important that you receive legal assistance before leaving to know your situation in detail. Find out at SAIER.

### **Could I capitalize on unemployment for my *Voluntary* Return?**

This is a possibility that exists for countries that have signed a social security agreement with Spain. Check with [Servicio Público de Empleo Estatal \(SEPE\)](#) if your country is in the





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agreements. Remember that you must have recognized unemployment benefit. We recommend advising you on the SAIER.

### **I've applied for the unemployment capitalization. Could I get help to buy my airline tickets?**

It is important that you raise this question before signing the capitalization documents in SEPE, because there are not always aids for airline tickets. You will find information about this in SAIER.

### **I have dual nationality. Could I apply for a *Voluntary Return* program?**

If one of the two nationalities is Community, you cannot apply for official *Voluntary Return* program.

### **How can I request a *voluntary return* program?**

There are different entities that manage *Voluntary Return* programs such as YMCA, Fundación Cepaim y América-España, Solidaridad y Cooperación AESCO, among others. Find out directly there or at Social Services.

You can go to the SAIER Volunteer Service if you want information or if you have already started the return process. We will inform you of the official programs that are for you in the city and we also make available to you, free of charge: legal, psychological and homologation and validation of titles services to prepare your return.

### **I want to return to my country but I cannot apply any *Voluntary Return* program. What can I do?**

In SAIER we can advise and guide you according to your particular situation.

