

Which documents need authentication

Complete on screen or print. Use YYYY-MM-DD for dates. Keep your copy private.

1 Document inventory

Document	Issued by (country / state / federal)	Apostille authority	Ordered	Received	Translation
FBI background check					
Spouse background check					
Marriage certificate					
Birth certificate (child)					
University degree					
Other:					
Other:					

Rows that usually do NOT need an apostille: bank statements, employment letters, pension letters, passport.

A notarized copy of a private document is not an apostille and does not replace the evidence the category asks for.

2 The notarization check

- ☐ A federal document (for example an FBI summary) was notarized. If yes, replace it before filing; the U.S. Department of State says notarizing it can invalidate it.
- ☐ Each apostille came from the correct authority level: federal documents from the U.S. Department of State; state records from the issuing state.
- ☐ Translation was completed after the apostille, by a certified Spanish translator.
- ☐ I confirmed the current eVISAS document list for my category instead of assuming every document needs an apostille.

The order that avoids paying twice

- 1 Obtain the original or certified copy -> 2 Apostille in the issuing country
- > 3 Certified Spanish translation -> 4 File through the current eVISAS procedure

Dates, marriage route and repairs

3 Dates that decide your timeline

Background check issue date

180 days from issue date (issue + 180)

Date of last entry into Ecuador

Apostille mailed

Apostille received

Translation completed

Planned filing date (target, not promised)

Validity rule confirmed with:

4 Marriage route add-on

Marriage or civil union with an Ecuadorian citizen or permanent resident.

- ☐ Marriage certificate apostilled or legalized in the country that issued it
- ☐ Marriage certificate translated into Spanish by a certified translator
- ☐ Marriage registered in Ecuador (consulate or Registro Civil / DIGERCIC)
- ☐ Spouse's Ecuadorian identity document (cédula) copy prepared
- ☐ Each applicant's apostilled background check current
- ☐ Relationship is genuine and legally recognized; simulated marriage is penalized

5 If the file was rejected or stalled

Write what the official notice actually says. Fix the failing item and the order; do not rebuild a correct step.

What the notice asks for**Who owns the fix****Document that failed****Response deadline (from the notice)**

6 One next action

Next action, responsible person and target date