

SPAIN (Madrid)

Reciprocal Employment Agreement: Yes
Approximate number of spouses working as locally engaged staff: 0
Community Coordinator contract work exists: Yes
Registered Nurse position exists at the mission: No

It is possible but somewhat difficult for spouses to find employment in Spain. The unemployment rate is high and preference is always given to Spaniards. The only exceptions are positions requiring a knowledge of foreign languages. Generally, Castilian is a must, and a knowledge of French, English, and one other language is a definite asset, if not an essential requirement.

Check with the administrative officer regarding current procedures to obtain a work permit. The more likely positions for non-Spaniards are multilingual secretarial positions in embassies, multinational corporations, international organizations and the like. The job seekers might obtain teaching positions in language schools or employment in travel agencies or national companies but opportunities of this kind are rare.

In short, employment opportunities for spouses are few and the salaries are not particularly high. At the current rate of exchange, a secretary earns approximately C\$14,000 per year.

Potential Employers

American School of Madrid
British American Hospital
Citibank. N.A.
American Embassy
Guide Post Publications
Institut Francais
Best School of Languages. S.A.
Organisation Mondiale du Tourisme
Price Waterhouse. S.A.
Royal Bank of Canada

SWEDEN (Stockholm)

Reciprocal Employment Agreement: Yes
Approximate number of spouses working as locally engaged staff: 0
Community Coordinator contract work exists: Yes
Registered Nurse position exists at the mission: No

Since 1981, Canada and Sweden have had a reciprocal employment agreement applicable to spouses and dependants of diplomats; the Swedish authorities have extended the application of this agreement to spouses and dependants of all Canada-based staff. This permits dependants to seek employment in the labour market without restrictions except for the usual licensing requirements in the cases of professionals such as physicians, registered nurses, etc.