

## Spanish Foreign Language Fair Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the FL Fair?

The Foreign Language Fair is an annual event designed to allow students from K-12 levels to compete and showcase the language skills they have acquired during their years of studying a foreign language.

### What is *Españolandia*?

As part of the Fair, each department also hosts a simulated in-country experience to allow fair attendees to practice their conversational skills after completing their competitive event. The name of the Spanish “country” is *Españolandia*; for the Germans, it is *Kleindeutschland*; French is *La Petite France*.

In *Españolandia*, students use their passport to pass through customs and immigration, and then obtain additional stamps in their passport as they participate in a variety of communicative activities with the “residents” and shopkeepers of *Españolandia*. In order to exit the country, students must obtain a specified minimum number of stamps in their passports. Students may also purchase authentic realia (magazines, badges, etc.) and food while in *Españolandia* using the pesos they obtain by exchanging their own money at the “Banco.”

### Why are there TWO registration Forms?

The scope of the Fair and *Españolandia* require us to use two separate forms to register students. The Fair form requires only the number (not names) of students or teams for the respective competitions, while the *Españolandia* registration requires the names of students and the \$4 fee (in order to prepare the passports).

The Fair registration form may be faxed, but the *Españolandia* must be mailed with a check covering the fees for students participating. There is no fee for the fair itself; there is a fee (\$4) for each student entering *Españolandia*.

### Which languages are invited?

Each major language department at BYU hosts a fair on the same day. Presently, fairs are conducted for students of Spanish, French, German, Russian, and Japanese.

### Is there a restriction on the numbers of students who may attend?

Each language department sets its own rules in this regard based on its ability to provide personnel to supervise and judge the events.

Currently, all students in Spanish 2 or higher are invited to the Spanish Fair. However, EVERY student MUST participate in at least one competitive event; that is, students may NOT come with the intent of attending *Españolandia* only. Participation in *Españolandia* is offered as a reward to those who have worked hard to prepare for the competitions.

### Is there a charge to attend the Fair?

There is no charge to attend and participate in the competitive events of the Fair. However, there is a minimal charge (currently \$4 per person) for participation in *Españolandia*. This fee offsets the cost of producing materials for the event, as well as the cost of mailings, trophies, etc., associated with the fair.

Students may also spend additional personal funds for purchases of food and souvenirs while in *Españolandia*.

There may also be a late fee of \$50 assessed for school not returning the registration form by the specified deadline. (We really don't want your money—we just want you to send your registration form to us on time so we can get the events organized!)

### Why is the Fair held on a date that conflicts with our school's Spring Break?

The actual date of the fair will vary slightly from year to year, as will dates for spring breaks for the myriad school districts who bring students to the fair.

Due to the requirements of having a date when all buildings are available to us, yet occurs when BYU is still officially “in session” in order to have the help of our faculty and students, and which does not fall on a Saturday (as many high school students have employment that requires their attendance on Saturdays), we are limited to a single day each year, the second “Reading Day” of Winter Semester. Normally, we would not be able to utilize the services of our students on that day, as they are supposed to have that day and the following one to prepare for their final exams. However, we have been given a special dispensation that allows us to use our students during the morning of that day only.

If the dates this year fall on your break, it may well fall on another district's break on a subsequent year. You can check on the BYU 5-year calendar for future dates to determine when the fair will be held. <http://saas.byu.edu/calendar/>