

Visa Requirements for Minors

Children Under Age 18

The following is required for minors to receive a complementary Brazilian visa for World Youth Day:

- Fill out the online application (go to <https://scedv.serpro.gov.br/frscedv/index.jsp> and have pilgrims click on “Visa Request”).
- At the conclusion of this application online, print out the “protocol receipt” and affix a passport-style/size photo (available at most pharmacy/photo stores like CVS, Walgreens, etc.) and have one parent sign it. (NOTE: the minor under age 18 must NOT sign the protocol receipt).
- Have the parents fill out the visa authorization form for minors (go to http://cgwashington.itamaraty.gov.br/en-us/special_requirements_for_minors.xml and click on “AUTHORIZATION FOR ISSUANCE OF BRAZILIAN VISA FOR MINOR”); have both parents sign the form in the presence of a notary public, who will affix their seal to the form.***
- Bring a notarized copy or the original birth certificate of the minor.
- Fill out the World Youth Day registration information (at <http://www.rio2013.com/en/registration>) for all pilgrims attending WYD Rio.
- Print out the “protocol registration certificate” for each minor; please have an “ecclesial authority” sign and stamp/seal the form (ecclesial authorities can include bishops, pastors, provincials, superior generals, or other similar positions in Catholic Church leadership).
- Valid passport.

*** If the birth certificate lists only one parent, then only that parent needs to sign for the minor; if the birth certificate lists both parents but there is only one parent in guardianship over the minor, additional documentation is necessary; if parents are divorced, there must be proof of divorce (and proof of exclusive parental rights to one of the parents or guardians); if one parent has passed away, a death certificate (or a notarized copy) must be submitted; if there are other circumstances, any court/legal documentation may be required to show why both parents on the birth certificate are not assenting to the minor’s trip into Brazil.

It seems that Brazil is more concerned about minors, so the birth certificate and other information for minors will be needed at the consulate. And additionally, if people are not comfortable giving the original documents (birth certif., court records, death certif., etc.), they can copy it (ideally a color copy) and have it notarized. All copies must be notarized if the copy is preferred over the original (except the passport – they will need the original of that).

Processing at the consulate in DC should be about 16 days. It might be a different processing time for other sites. This processing time does NOT include mailing the information back to you. Add a few days if you choose a mailing option (and have a self-addressed and stamped envelope ready for the consulate).