



American Citizen Services

U.S. Embassy • Quito, Ecuador

ISSUE XI

APRIL 4, 2013

ECUADOR BY THE NUMBERS:

Populations of largest cities:

Guayaquil: 2,300,000

Quito: 1,600,000

Cuenca: 330,000

Santo Domingo: 305,000

Machala: 240,000

Duran: 235,000

Portoviejo: 225,000

Manta: 217,000

Loja: 185,000

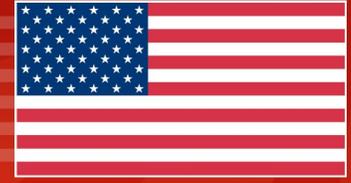
Ambato: 179,000

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U.S. EMBASSY TOWN HALL



EMBAJADA DE LOS EE.UU.

The Embassy of the United States of America is pleased to invite you to a Town Hall meeting in Cotacachi with Ambassador Namm on Thursday, April 18, from 2:00-4:00PM, at the Teatro Nacional.

PROGRAM

- Remarks from Ambassador Namm
- Presentation on American Citizen Services
- Questions and Answers

Following the presentations, fee services including passports, Consular Reports of Birth Abroad, and notariats will be provided. In addition, Embassy representatives will be available to answer questions concerning federal benefits, crisis preparedness and security. Payments for consular services must be in cash; please bring exact change.

Attendance by registration only. If you would like to attend, please send your name, address, email, and passport number to: ACSQuito@state.gov

It's Almost Tax Time... Again

It is that time of year again, when spring comes, flowers bloom, and taxes are due. Here are some links to help get everything in by Monday, April 15:

<http://www.irs.gov/>
Free filing overseas:
<http://www.irs.gov/Filing/Filing-Options>

Additional forms:
<http://www.irs.gov/uac/Forms,-Publications,-and-Other-Tax-Products>

Frequently asked questions:
<http://www.irs.gov/Help-&-Resources/Tools-&-FAQs/FAQs-for-Individuals/Frequently-Asked-Tax-Questions-&-Answers>

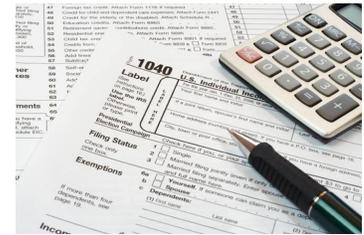
Also, new tax laws might apply to you as an American citizen overseas:

ACS Handbook Available Online

The American Citizen Services unit has completed a new handbook for U.S. citizens traveling or living in Ecuador. It has information on the laws of Ecuador, what to do if you are the victim of crime, how to handle Ecuadorian visa issues and more. You can access it now online in the ACS section of the Embassy website. As always, we appreciate your feedback.

Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act

We have received inquiries from American citizens residing in Ecuador expressing concerns about the impact that the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) may have on them. Under FATCA, U.S. taxpayers holding certain financial assets outside the United States must report those assets to the IRS. In addition, FATCA will also require foreign financial institutions to report directly to the IRS information about certain financial transactions carried out by U.S. taxpayers, or by foreign entities in which U.S. taxpayers hold a substantial ownership interest. According to IRS public information, implementation of many of



FATCA's provisions related to foreign financial entity reporting requirements has been postponed to January 1, 2014. For authoritative information please refer to the IRS website, found here: [http://www.irs.gov/Businesses/Corporations/Foreign-Account-Tax-Compliance-Act-\(FATCA\)](http://www.irs.gov/Businesses/Corporations/Foreign-Account-Tax-Compliance-Act-(FATCA)). Information about the timeline for implementation can be found here: <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/A-12-42.pdf>

Americans should also consider consulting with a U.S. tax professional for advice on the effect of this law.

The Public Affairs Section welcomes donations of English and Spanish books to our libraries, American Corners, Science Corner, and Bi-National Centers throughout the country.

Please contact our Lincoln Library Information Resource Center at centrolincolnquito@gmail.com or 593-2-398-5282 or 593-2-398-5148. Oct. 5th 88

Embassy Quito is Looking for Wardens

*Wardens are currently needed in the following provinces:
Bolivar, Orellana, Santo Domingo, and Sucumbios*

A warden is a private U.S. citizen who volunteers to assist the American Citizen Services unit by communicating with Americans in Ecuador, preparing for disasters and alerting Americans to emergency situations. Wardens provide updates on ongoing events to Americans in their district and assist in the enrollment of newcomers in the Department of State's [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\) program](#). In emergencies, wardens may be called upon to help locate missing Americans, or visit an American citizen in a jail or hospital.

If you are interested in becoming a warden, please contact us at ACSQuito@state.gov.

Other Warden responsibilities include:

Preparing, updating and maintaining a list of phone numbers and addresses (including email addresses) of U.S. citizens residing in the warden's area.

Assisting the American Citizens Services unit of the U.S. Embassy in selecting assembly areas and routes for use in the event of an evacuation in the warden's area.

As local residents, some Wardens may have useful contacts that they can call on for information and/or assistance in their areas. They can provide advice or information on local conditions to the Consular Office or perform specific services, such as taking possession of a deceased's American's belongings.

Contact Us



Bureau of Consular Affairs: Secure Borders, Open Doors"

Embassy website: <http://ecuador.usembassy.gov>



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The telephone number for American Citizen Service inquiries is **(011 593-2) 398-5300**.

Public call-in hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. For after-hours emergencies, call **(011 593-2) 398-5200**.

ADDRESS: Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro

EMAIL: ACSQuito@state.gov