OVERSEAS KOREANS AGENCY
Working Holiday Info Center

KOREA WORKING HOLIDAY 2026 - 2027

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Korea is...

Following its miraculous development over the last 50 years, Korea is now a modernized nation that still maintains its traditional culture.
You will be captivated by Korea's vibrant and cosmopolitan lifestyle as well as its stunning landscape, cultural heritage, and various festivals.

Start planning your Working Holiday to Korea today!

General Information

※ source
kostat.go.kr, www.worldbank.org

Official Name	Republic of Korea
Capital City	Seoul
Language	Korean
Population	51.60 million (2026)
Currency	Korean Won
GDP (2024)	US $ 1,875 billion

1 Korea Working Holiday Program | Visa

Korea has a Working Holiday Program with thirty countries/region worldwide. The main purpose of this visa is to allow you to have an extended holiday while supplementing your funds with short-term work in Korea. This one-time only visa allows you tremendous flexibility to immerse yourself in Korea culture.
Working Holiday Permit holders are also permitted to study or train at a private educational institution during their stay.

※ List of Participating Countries/Region (May. 2026)

Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Finland, Denmark, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, U.K, USA

Visa Validity

- Stay up to 12 months **
- Unlimited leave and re-entry from and to Korea while the visa is valid (possibly single entry visa in view of V Pandemic)
- Do not have to obtain additional work permit (maximum working hours: 25 hours/week) **
- Entitled to undertake most types of temporary employment during your stay with the exception of certain professional jobs (doctor, language instructor, athlete, entertainer, etc)

Country/Region	Limit of Employment period	Limit of Academic Activity period
Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, U.K, USA	No limitation	No limitation
Canada	No limitation	6 months
Ireland	No limitation	6 months
New Zealand	No limitation	6 months
Israel	3 months under same employer	6 months
Australia	6 months under same employer	4 months
Hong Kong	6 months under same employer	6 months
Italy	6 months	No limitation
Belgium	6 months	6 months
Denmark	9 months	6 months

※ Please note that above Korean Working Holiday Visa condition may vary among respective countries/region.

** Extension can be made to the U.S. nationals (up to 6 months) and the U.K. nationals (up to 1 year) in accordance with respective agreements.
For the extension process, please contact Korea Immigration Contact Center 1345 in advance for the detailed process before the visa expires.

** Canadian participants may stay for up to 24 months, with the opportunity to engage in the program twice, each time for a maximum of 24 months. Additionally, Canadians are exempt from the twenty fivehour working-hour restriction.
Reference : https://www.mofa.go.kr/ca-en/brd/m_5231/view.do?seq=761716&page=1

** For Japanese participants, participation limit for the Japan-Korea Working Holiday Program is expanded from one time to two times, check below for further details.
Reference : https://overseas.mofa.go.kr/jp-ja/brd/m_1106/view.do?seq=758599&page=1

Eligibility condition

- Be between the ages of 18 and 30 years (inclusive)** at the time of application
- Not be accompanied by any dependents at any point in time during your stay in Korea
- Be inside your home country when you apply and when your visa is granted
- Must hold a valid passport
- Must hold health insurance for the duration of your stay in Korea
- Have sufficient funds to support yourself for the initial period of your holiday (KRW 3,000,000 minimum)
- Have a return ticket or proof of sufficient funds to purchase one
- Not have previously entered Korea on a working holiday visa
- Not have criminal record
- Must submit fees for visa along with your application form
- Must come to Korea for the primary purpose of having a holiday

(Those desiring to work or study for a longer period of time should consider different types of visa instead of the working holiday visa.)

* Visa Fees

– Fees may vary depending on nationality

** Age restriction may vary depending on your nationality, please check this main page for the updates below and contact your jurisdictional Korean embassy/consulate/ KVAC for further details.
https://whic.mofa.go.kr/contents.do?menuNo=90&contentsNo=38
※ List of your jurisdictional Embassies/Consulates of Republic of Korea:
https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/wpge/m_5756/contents.do

Documents Required

- Visa application form
- Valid passport and one passport photo (3.5x4.5cm)
- Return ticket or proof of sufficient funds to purchase one
- Supporting financial documentation
  (ex: certified copy of a bank statement)
- Health Insurance which remains valid throughout your stay in Korea
  (Coverage: KRW 40,000,000 minimum)
- Travel plans
- Application fees
- Criminal record check
- Medical certificate
- Proof of student status or highest academic qualifications

※ Please note that above requirements may vary among respective Embassies/Consulates/KVAC. Therefore, you must obtain up-to-date official information from the appropriate Embassy/Consulate/KVAC before preparing any documents. * See further information on page 35.

※ List of Embassies/Consulates of Republic of Korea:
www.mofa.go.kr/eng/nation/m_4902/list.do

2 Korean [Language]

Being able to speak Korean makes you much more marketable and increases your likelihood of getting a job in Korea.
A good command of the Korean language will not only benefit you in your career but also help you to master daily life and participate more actively in Korean society.
English is not widely spoken in everyday life or in the workplace in Korea. Therefore, we advise you to learn Korean as much as possible prior to your Working Holiday in Korea.
Korean language courses are taught at several universities around the world. The Korean Embassy and Consulates in your home country can also help you locate opportunities to learn Korean near your vicinity.

Study Korean [Charged]

Organizations	Websites
Ewha Language Center	http://elc.ewha.ac.kr
Hanyang University International Language Institute	http://hkli.hanyang.ac.kr
Konkuk University Language Institute	https://fli.konkuk.ac.kr
Korea University Korean Language and Culture Center	http://klcc.korea.ac.kr
Kyung Hee University Institute of International Education	https://ile.khu.ac.kr/
Seoul National University Language Education Institute	http://language.snu.ac.kr
Sogang University Korean Language Education Center	http://klec.sogang.ac.kr
Yonsei University	http://www.yskli.com

Study Korean Online [Free]

- KBS World – Let's Learn Korean
  http://rki.kbs.co.kr/learn_korean
- Nuri-Sejonghakdang
  https://nuri.iksi.or.kr/front/main/main.do?language=en
- Seoul Online King Sejong Institute
  https://www.iksi.or.kr/co/seoul.do
- EBS Durian
  http://www.ebs.co.kr/durian/kr/course



3 Housing

※ When you first arrive, you may wish to stay in a youth hostel or guest house as this is the good way to obtain initial guidance and orientation at a reasonable price.

[Short-term Stay]

Guest House

Guest houses are Korean homes which have been converted for the exclusive use of guest accommodation.
They provide an authentic Korean experience while providing opportunities to interact with Korean locals and other travelers.

Youth Hostels

Youth hostels are found in many different locations in Korea providing affordable, quality accommodation for visitors.
There are a total of 70 youth hostels located in every major city throughout Korea.
Rates range between KRW 15,000 and KRW 40,000.

[Long-term Stay]

Homestay

Living as part of a Korean-speaking household, you will have your own bedroom and have meals with your hosts. It is a great way to meet Koreans and share their way of life. You will also be able to improve your fluency in Korean.

One Room

The One Room is a widespread and extremely popular housing option among students and single adults. The One Room is a large single room equipped with a bathroom, kitchenette and living space.

Goshiwon (Goshitel or Livingtel)

Goshiwon was initially for people who were preparing for national exams to become public servants. However, now that regular One Room or studio apartments are demanding high rent, Goshiwon is becoming a popular accommodation choice. It is fully furnished and prices can go higher if there is a private bathroom and window within the room itself.

Officetel/Studio Apartment

The "Officetel" is a combination of Office and Hotel such that people can live and work in the same building. Many of them come fully furnished. The Officetel is also more expensive and offers larger living spaces/facilities than the One Room. Tenants are also responsible for monthly maintenance fees and additional utility fees.

Residence

Serviced residences are furnished apartment buildings with hotel-like services.

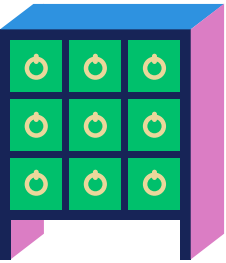
They have all of the necessities of a modern apartment including an indoor swimming pool, exercise room and amenities within each unit.

These units are usually two to three times bigger than your average hotel room and usually include a kitchen. Some residences can also offer tenant cleaning and laundry services.

Apartment

Apartments in Korea are the most popular housing options among Koreans and its popularity is explained by the fact that tenants are becoming ever more demanding with comfort.

Nearly all apartment complexes have facilities nearby such as supermarkets, district offices, and also easy access to public transportation. The majority of apartment style residences are unfurnished.



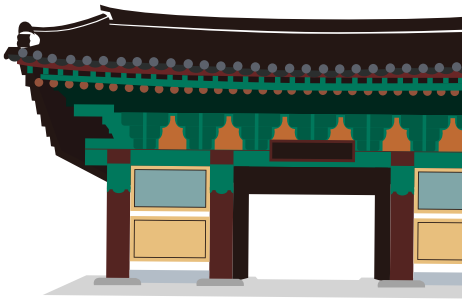
How to find your accommodation

The housing market in Korean cities is very competitive and there is an obvious shortage of reasonably-priced residences.

Whether you rent a one-room or an officetel, a rental contract must be signed. Signing a contract without a clear understanding of your rights and responsibilities can result in costly consequences.
It is advisable to have the contract checked by your Korean friends.

Please be aware that it can be difficult to find accommodation during the months of February and August due to the start of the school semester.

※ Information on accommodation, residences, and convenience facilities for foreign nationals in Seoul:
- Housing : https://english.seoul.go.kr/service/living/housing/1-wolse-jeonse/
- Accommodations : https://english.seoul.go.kr/service/living/accommodations/



There are many ways to go about researching for a residence.

Online

A convenient and cost efficient way to search for housing is through the internet. The internet can provide quality resources such as real estate websites and listings of property from an online newspaper.

Offline

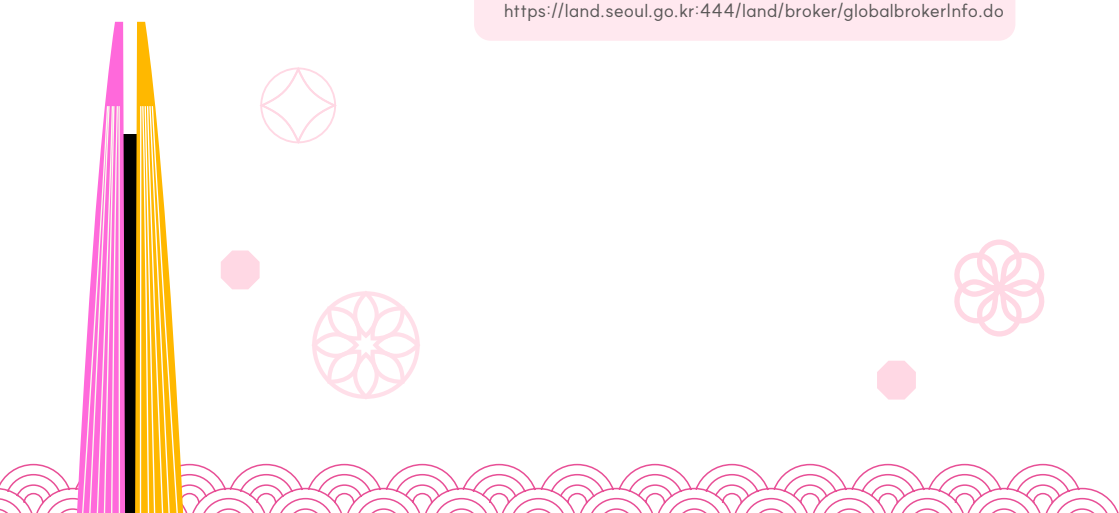
Although housing advertisements through the internet and newspapers could be an option for locating a perfect house, working with a real estate agent in person is prevalent among potential tenants in Korea. They are easily found in every neighborhood.

Many offices of the agents have signboards in front of their office or on their windows that show properties currently available.

Once you have found a suitable agent, you can specifically notify him/her about your specific requirements and your available budget. He/she will guide you by showing you a range of houses and you can choose one that matches your needs.

The agent should check the ownership of the apartment and authenticate the identity of the owner.

* Real Estate Agencies for foreigners:
https://land.seoul.go.kr:444/land/broker/globalbrokerInfo.do





4 Working in Korea

Like in every other country around the world, finding a job in Korea can be difficult, particularly if you do not have knowledge of the Korean language. Fluency in Korean is definitely a great advantage for obtaining a job in Korea.

However, if you have the right profile and the right approach, you will most likely succeed in any job.
Working in Korea as opposed to coming as a tourist is a great way to integrate yourself into Korean culture & life and to make new friends.

Jobs Accessible to Korea Working Holiday Makers

Language Jobs

Language-related jobs in Korea may include editing, translation, subtitling, voice acting, and educational content creation. However, employment eligibility depends on the industry, workplace, specific duties, and immigration regulations. Some positions may require additional qualifications or a different visa.

※ Before accepting a language-related job, Working Holiday (H-1) visa holders should consult the Ministry of Justice's Immigration Contact Center.

* Immigration Contact Center :
1345 (Korea) / +82-2-6908-1345 / 1346 (Overseas)

Hospitality Job

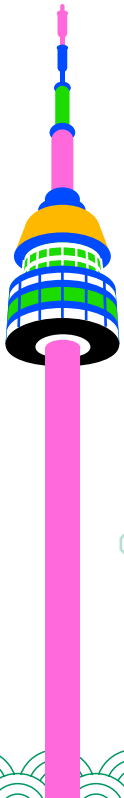
• Hotel/Restaurant

As Korea is becoming a popular tourist destination among foreign visitors, hotels, restaurants and catering sectors are now employing bilingual or native speaking staff to assist guests and customers. A person in this field mainly needs to be courteous with good command over the language and have good interpersonal skills. The most important aspects of this industry are that your customers are comfortable, good food is served, and excellent service is provided to guests.

Volunteering Job

• WWOOF Korea

WWOOF(World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms) Korea links people who want to volunteer on organic farms or small holdings with people who are looking for volunteer help. In return for volunteer service, WWOOF provides food, accommodation and opportunities to learn about organic lifestyles.
http://wwoofkorea.org



Tips for Job Seekers

1. Fine-Tune Your Resume

Your resume is your first introduction to potential employers. It should clearly and succinctly present you and only describe the aspects that are relevant to the job that you are applying for. You must attach a recent photo of you to your resume.

2. Find Jobs

- Online job search websites are probably the most used by workers looking for jobs. The following websites are the most popular English job search websites with useful information for job seekers.
  Scroll through the list and find the website that best fits your own needs.

Websites in English	
Working Holiday Info center	https://whic.mofa.go.kr/eng
Seoul Foreigner Portal	https://global.seoul.go.kr
Seoul Metropolitan Government	https://english.seoul.go.kr/
Global Talent Center	https://www.kotra.or.kr/gtc_eng/index.do

Websites in Korean	
잡코리아(Job Korea)	https://www.jobkorea.co.kr
사람인(Saramin)	https://www.saramin.co.kr
알바몬(Albamon)	https://www.albamon.com
알바천국(Albachunguk)	https://www.alba.co.kr
KOWORK	https://kowork.kr/en (English and Korean version available)

3. Build a Network

The majority of job openings are never advertised; instead, they are filled by word of mouth. Your network of friends, relatives, and acquaintances is a valuable job search resource.

4. Send Unsolicited Resumes

- If you have a specific company and work in mind, prepare an application even when there is no job posting yet.

Ministry of Employment and Labor [MOEL]

Labor Law Counseling

- Counseling service on employment & labor administration such as wage, retirement pay, dismissal, trade unions, occupational safety, equal employment, general labor matters, etc.
  http://www.moel.go.kr/english

Contact	
Domestic	1350 (Foreign language #5) English, Chinese Available
Overseas	+ 82-52-702-5089

Available from Monday to Friday, from 9:00 to 18:00



Q&A

01 Am I restricted in the type of work I can do in Korea on my Working Holiday Visa?

Working Holiday (H-1) visa holders may generally undertake temporary employment to support their stay. However, certain occupations are restricted, including some entertainment-related work and professional services such as medical practitioners, lawyers, professors, pilots, and language instructors. Other positions, including language- and cooking-related jobs, may require additional qualifications or a different visa. Eligibility depends on the specific duties and immigration regulations. Before accepting employment, please confirm with the Ministry of Justice's Immigration Contact Center (Domestic: 1345 / International: +82-2-6908-1345 / 1346).

02 How much money will I earn?

Salaries vary depending on your skill, experience, education, certification, and type of employer (industry).
The minimum wage for 2026 has been set at 10,320 KRW per hour. Foreigners will enjoy the same level of minimum wage as Korean workers.
Part-time workers often find it difficult to cover their living expenses with the low wage. Careers using languages(translator, editor, etc.) usually fall into the high paying job category in Korea.

03 Is there any restriction with my working hours as a Working Holiday Visa holder?

According to the Ministry of Justice, H-1 (Working Holiday) Visa holders cannot work more than *25 hours per week.
The participants should engage in employment as an incidental aspect of their holiday, rather than primary purpose, in order to supplement their travel funds.

* Canadian participants are exempt from the 25-hour restriction and may work up to 40 hour per week (2,080 hours per year).



5

Holiday in Korea

Korea, with its four distinct seasons, has many fascinating scenes and unique attractions for travelers. Travelling around the country while you are staying with your Working Holiday Visa would be a great experience and you will never forget memories in Korea.

Recent Hallyu (Korean Wave, the popularity of Korean pop culture) boom has helped people recognize Korean culture and entertainment internationally resulting in many youth from all over the world coming to Korea with their enthusiasm to enjoy their holiday in Korea.

Medical Hallyu tours, heritage palaces, Temples, Korean Cuisine such as Bulgoggi, beauty and wellness tours, world class shopping centers are all available in one country–Korea.

Feel the Festive Sprit throughout the Year

From the "Hwacheon Mountain Trout Ice Festival" and the "Boryeong Mud Festival," you will be able to experience the exciting nature of Korea. If you are interested in cultural festivals, "Pusan International Film Festival" and "Bucheon Comic Festival" can be the right choices for you.
Throughout the year, Korea has numerous festivals as well as international expos and exhibitions.
While you are staying in Korea with your Working Holiday Visa, you will hardly miss these events information provided by the regional government of each city/province.

Four Seasons of Korea

Korea has four distinct seasons and many attractions coming along with the seasons. In spring, you will hardly miss flower festivals in mountains and cherry blossom attractions all around the nation. Your summer in Korea will be refreshing and exciting with various water sports such as water skiing, windsurfing and rafting. Fall is a season for hiking and picnic due to its mild weather.
During the winter, you can warm yourself up in the hot springs after enjoying some skiing and snowboarding.

Cultural Heritages and Historical Spots

To fulfill your historical interests, organize a trip from the ancient city of Gyeongju, known as 'the museum without walls', to Jeju Island–an island created by volcanic activity thousands years ago. During your trip, you can learn about the UNESCO World Heritage listed sites all around the Korean peninsula, helping you better understand the culture and history of Korea.
How about Andong Hanok Village where Queen Elizabeth spent a day during her visit to Korea in 1999? The elegant beauty of a Hanok (traditional Korean house) is truly inspiring. Watch the world-renowned traditional mask dance.

Korea, the Center of Pop Culture-Hallyu (Korean Wave)

Have you ever heard of hallyu, the Korean Wave? Once you have discovered the gorgeous landscape and traditional culture of Korea, go out to the streets filled with skyscrapers.

City life has a variety of fun and entertainment and you will find the popularity of Korean pop culture everywhere, which is called "Hallyu". With the rising popularity of Hallyu, K-pop and K-dramas are on boom among the young generation all around Asia.

K-pop concerts are held almost every month in Seoul sponsored by corporations. "WAPOP" and "Dream Concert" are the main popular K-pop concerts among hallyu fans all around the world.

Catch up with the latest trends of Korean Wave and enjoy Korean dramas, music, movies and various cultural opportunities while you are staying in Korea.



Experience Korean Culture

Korean Food Promotion Institute

- Event venue (Subject to change)
  3rd floor, 18, Bukchon-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul

- Event programs (Subject to change)
  The Taste of Korea. K-Food experience. The event programs may change, so please contact the number below to double check availability before visiting.

- Things to notice
  https://www.hansik.or.kr/main/main.do?language=en_US

- Contact
  +82-2-6320-8400
  Korea Food Promotion Institute

Bukchon Traditional Culture Center

- Event venue
  37, Gyedong-gil, Jongno-gu, Seoul

- Event programs (Subject to change)
  provide information about Bukchon Hanok Village, handcraft programs etc. The event programs may change, so please contact the number below to double check availability before visiting.

- Things to notice
  https://hanok.seoul.go.kr/front/eng/exp/expCenter.do?tab=1

- Contact
  +82-2-2133-1371, +82-2-2133-1372
  Bukchon Traditional Culture Center

6 Living in Korea

Living Expenses

Korea is not overly expensive compared to European countries. It is difficult to say exactly how much money a Working Holiday Maker needs per month. The following table shows estimated basic monthly living costs for a Working Holiday Maker. Numbers are only approximate, as there can be a huge difference according to where you choose to situate yourself and your lifestyle.

You will require an average of KRW 1,300,000 per month to cover your living expenses. Those who have inexpensive accommodation and live modestly can probably get by less than KRW 1,000,000 per month.

* Monthly Expenses (Average)

Type	Approximate cost of living
Rent and Utilities	KRW 600,000
Food and Drink	KRW 400,000
Public Transportation	KRW 50,000
Cell Phone	KRW 50,000
Entertainment (Travel, Movies, Sports, Concerts, etc)	KRW 100,000
Clothing (Clothing/Beauty)	KRW 100,000
Total	KRW 1,300,000

* Lunch meals cost about KRW 8,000.

Foreigner Registration

Foreigner (Alien) registration (Applying for Residence Card) is compulsory for all Working Holiday Makers arriving in Korea. Registration must be done within 90 days of entry at the nearest Immigration Office of your stay (jurisdiction).

A foreigner registration card (Residence Card) is required for many activities in Korea, such as opening a bank account, purchasing a mobile phone, signing a lease and working legally in Korea.

It is essential that you submit all relevant documents with your application. Immigration officer will take your fingerprints and give you a receipt with the date that you can return and pick up your Residence Card. It usually takes 3 weeks to process to issue Residence Card.

* If your individual information has been changed while residing in the Republic of Korea (such as your name, nationality, date of birth, passport number, passport validity date, passport issued date, your address in Korea), you need to report that to the immigration office within 14 days. Regarding this, please contact Immigration Contact Center for the further reporting process, call 1345 without area code.
* If you have lost your residence card, you need to report it to the immigration office.

Application Period

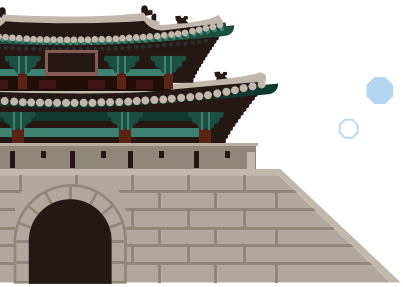
- Within 90 days from the arrival date

Required Documents

- Valid passport (Working Holiday Visa)
- Application form (Available at Korea Immigration Center)
- Fees (35,000 KRW)
- Travel plans
- Housing Contract Document
- Job certificate (only for the person concerned)
- 1 Photo (3.5x4.5cm, white background)

※ You must make an online reservation before visiting the immigration office.
www.hikorea.go.kr

How do I know which office is in my jurisdiction?
Call 1345



Bank

All Working Holiday Makers are advised to open a Korean bank account. Keeping your money in a bank account is safer than carrying cash and it is easier for you to keep track of your spending. Opening an account is quite simple, just bring your passport (or foreigner residence card) to a branch. There is no charge for opening and maintenance of bank accounts.

A check (debit) card is one of the most common payment methods in Korea. The amount is immediately deducted from your account as you make a payment. To make a check (debit) card, you need your Residence Card, and passport. Check cards can also be used for making cash deposits and withdrawals.

For further information on banking please contact the appropriate bank branch.

The Korean Currency is called Won(KRW)

Bills: 1,000won, 5,000won, 10,000won, 50,000won
Coins: 10won, 50won, 100won, 500won

Cell Phone

Pre-paid SIM card can be used in Working Holiday Makers' existing phones, if they have an unlocked and WCDMA (Wideband Code Division Multiple Access) compatible cell phone. Contact with your mobile company, center or mobile manufacturing company in your home country to determine whether your cell phone will work in Korean networks.

Using a Prepaid SIM card is a convenient and economical solution for staying in touch while in Korea Working Holiday.

There are three main operators in Korea:

SK https://www.tworld.co.kr/web/home
080-2525-011 / 02-6343-9000
(English, Chinese and Japanese Available)

KT https://www.kt.com/
02-2190-1180 / +82-2-2190-0901 (toll-free from KT phones)

LG http://www.uplus.co.kr
1544-0010 / Mobile phone 114 (free)

You need to bring foreigner residence card to the operator branch to purchase SIM card and activate your cell phone, otherwise you will be required to re-register your cell phone every 3 months.

Dialing Code +82

National Health Insurance (mandatory)

[www.nhis.or.kr]

The National Health Insurance covers everyone residing in Korea. Eligibility for foreigners to be granted are those who have filed for the foreign registration status under article 31 of the Immigration Control Act. and have resided in Korea for at least 3 months.
The system allows people to use medical institution services at a discount by paying a certain amount of money every month according to income. The premium is automatically deducted from an employees' account every month. Those who are not working can also sign up for the insurance program.

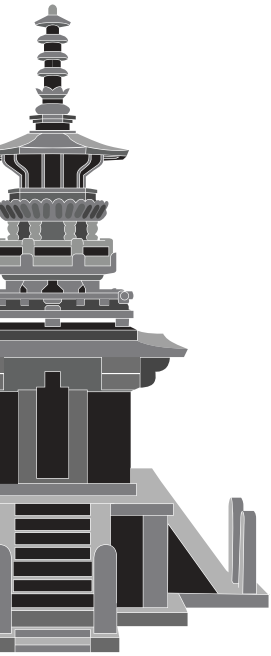
※ From July 16th 2019, any foreigner who has stayed in the Republic of Korea for more than six months, he or she MUST be subscribed to the National Health Insurance. For further details regarding your subscription/exclusion inquiry in detail, please contact 1577-1000 (extension 7 for foreign languages) or 033-811-2000 (multiple languages) or http://www.nhis.or.kr/ (Multiple languages available).

Required Documents

- NHIS Application form for the insured employee or NHIS Application form for the self-employed
- Residence Card
- Passport (Working Holiday Visa)
- Certificate of employment contract(if applicable)
- Any other documents NHIS further requires

*Foreigners whose health coverage is guaranteed by foreign law, foreign insurance, or employer's contract may apply for exclusion from NHIS. Please directly contact NHIS before your first payment regarding the detailed exclusion application process. NHIS has all authority over screening your exclusion application.
(NHIS ✆ 033-811-2000 [Foreign language services available]).
*Cases of health coverage guaranteed by foreign law.
France : Intergovernmental agreement, Japan : National health insurance system reimburses policyholders for medical expenses incurred overseas,
USA, UN : Healthcare system for government officials, military personnel/ retirees and their families.

National Health Insurance Service (NHIS) Call Center
✆ 1577-1000, ✆ 033-811-2000
(Foreign language services available)
http://www.nhis.or.kr (English, Japanese, Chinese available)



Medical Advice

It is recommended that you consult your doctor 6 weeks prior to Korea Working Holiday to get appropriate advice on health precaution and any medications you should take with you.

You must have valid medical insurance for at least 3 months when you arrive in Korea. You can also join National Health Insurance and be qualified for the same benefits as Koreans. In some participating countries, when you apply for Korea Working Holiday Visa, you will be asked to show proof of health insurance coverage. It is possible that your health insurance policy at home is also valid in Korea. Ask your insurance provider to ensure you have appropriate coverage.
All patients are required to carry a certified form of identification with them when they visit any medical facilities.

Tax Refund

Tax Deduction from Your Salary

1. Pension: 4.75% of your salary
2. National Health Insurance: 3.595% of your salary
3. Income Tax

Tax Base	Tax Rate
KRW 14 million or less	6%
More than KRW 14 million	KRW 840,000 + 15% of the amount exceeding KRW 14 million
More than KRW 50 million	KRW 6.24 million + 24% of the amount exceeding KRW 50 million
More than KRW 88 million	KRW 15.36 million + 35% of the amount exceeding KRW 88 million

4. Income Tax (Depends on how much you earn)

Income Tax is imposed on all income earned in Korea. Working Holiday Makers are authorized to work in Korea and they are subject to Korean tax on their income. If your source of employment is in Korea, you can file annual tax returns prior to leaving Korea.

If you think you are entitled to get some money back, you should seek advice from a <National Tax Service>.

https://www.nts.go.kr/english/main.do
📞 1588 – 0560 (Interpretation Service in 18 languages)

Report the Lease and Monthly Rent

Regarding rent, any sum that exceeds a deposit of 60 million KRW or a monthly rent of 300,000 KRW is subject to report to your jurisdictional community center within 30 days of the contract.
*Either a landlord or a tenant can report. Please contact your jurisdictional community center for a detailed process.

Registering with Embassy [Consulates]

We encourage you to register with your Embassy in Korea.
The Embassy will be able to help you in an emergency.

Working Holiday Safety Tips

1. Accept the Korean way of life and follow local laws.
Only Korean Government can intervene in the judicial processes in Korea. Being non-Korean does not entitle you to any special treatment.

2. Secure your passport.
Passport loss can cause you problems. If your passport is lost or stolen, you must apply for a replacement passport at your embassy or consulates in Korea.

3. Be sure to write Contracts. No Verbal Contracts!
Contracts must be in writing to be enforceable.

To avoid problems,
- sign a written tenancy agreement before you move into the house.
- sign a written employment contract before you commence work.



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General Contacts

- Police: 112
- Fire or Ambulance: 119 (Emergency Situation)
- Emergency Medical Information Center: 1339
- Local Telephone Number Guide: Local area code + 114
- Dasan Call Center (Information hotline for inquires on general life and tourism in Seoul): 02-120
  English, Chinese, Japanese Available
- Immigration Contact Center: 1345
  English, Chinese, Japanese, French, German Available
- Travel Hotline (24-hour Tourism Information): 1330
  English, Japanese, Chinese Available
- BBB (Free Interpretation): 1588 - 5644
  English, Japanese, Chinese, French, Italian, German, Swedish Available

	Country/Region	Embassy
Europe	Andorra	https://www.exteriores.gob.es/Embajadas/seul/en/Paginas/index.aspx emb.seul@maec.es +82-2-794-3581
	Austria	www.bmeia.gv.at/oeb-seoul/ seoul-ob@bmeia.gv.at +82-2-721-1700
	Belgium	republicofkorea.diplomatie.belgium.be/en seoul@diplobel.fed.be +82-2-749-0381
	Czech Republic	https://mzv.gov.cz/seoul/en/index.html seoul.consulate@mzv.gov.cz +82-2-725-6765
	Denmark	https://sydkorea.um.dk/en selamb@um.dk +82-2-6363-4800
	France	kr.ambafrance.org +82-2-6363-4848
	Germany	seoul.diplo.de/kr-de +82-2-748-4114
	Hungary	https://szoul.mfa.gov.hu/ mission.sel@mfa.gov.hu +82 2 792-2106
	Ireland	https://www.ireland.ie/en/republic-of-korea/seoul/ +82-2-721-7200
	Italy	https://ambseoul.esteri.it/ko/ seoul.stampa@esteri.it +82-2-750-0200
	Latvia	https://www2.mfa.gov.lv/seoul embassy.seoul@mfa.gov.lv +82-2-2022-3800
	Luxembourg	https://seoul.mae.lu/en.html seoul.amb@mae.etat.lu +82-2-777-2552
	Netherlands	https://www.netherlandsandyou.nl/web/south-korea/about-us/contact-embassy-seoul +82-2-311-8600
	Poland	https://www.gov.pl/web/hanguk seul.amb.sekretariat@msz.gov.pl +82-2-723-9681

	Country/Region	Embassy
Europe	Portugal	https://seul.embaixadaportugal.mne.gov.pt/en/ seul@mne.pt +82-2-3675-2251
	Spain	https://www.exteriores.gob.es/en/Paginas/index.aspx emb.seul@maec.es +82-2-794-3581
	Sweden	https://www.swedenabroad.se/en/embassies/southkorea-seoul/ ambassaden.seoul@gov.se +82-2-3703-3700
	United Kingdom	https://www.gov.uk/world/south-korea
Asia	Hong Kong	kr.china-embassy.org/kor/ seoul@csm.mfa.gov.cn +82 2-755-0568
	Japan	www.kr.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop_ja/index.html info@so.mofa.go.jp +82-2-2170-5200
	Taiwan	www.taiwanembassy.org/kr/index.html kor@mofa.gov.tw +82-2-6329-6000
	Israel	https://new.embassies.gov.il/seoul/en info@seoul.mfa.gov.il +82-2-3210-8500
Oceania	Australia	http://southkorea.embassy.gov.au/seol/home.html seoul-inform@dfat.gov.au +82-2-2003-0100
	New Zealand	https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/countries-and-regions/asia/republic-of-korea-south/new-zealand-embassy nzembsel@mfat.govt.nz +82-2-3701-7700
America	Canada	https://www.international.gc.ca/countrypays/republic_korea-republique_coree/index.aspx?lang=eng
	USA	kr.usembassy.gov support-southkorea@usvisascheduling.com
Latin America	Argentina	https://ecore.cancilleria.gob.ar/ ecore@mrecic.gov.ar +82-2-797-0636
	Brésil	https://www.gov.br/mre/pt-br/embaixada-seul/korean consular.seul@itamaraty.gov.br
	Chile	chile.gob.cl/corea-del-sur/en/ +82-2-779-2610

Official Websites of Korea

- Korea.net
  https://www.korea.net
- Hi Korea
  https://www.hikorea.go.kr/Main.pt?locale=en
- Korea Tourism Organization
  https://knto.or.kr/eng/index
- Seoul Metropolitan Government
  https://english.seoul.go.kr
- Seoul Foreigner Portal
  https://global.seoul.go.kr

Useful Websites

- KOTRA (Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency)
  https://www.kotra.or.kr/index.do
- Visit Korea (Information about Korea Tourism)
  https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/
- Study in Korea (Education and general information of Korea)
  https://studyinkorea.go.kr

Korean foreign Media

- Arirang TV
  - Government-run English-language broadcaster
  http://www.arirang.co.kr
- KBS World
  - Korean drama, entertainment, k-pop
  http://kbsworld.kbs.co.kr
- K-Heritage TV
  - Cultural heritage information run by public institution
  https://www.k-heritage.tv/en

8 FAQ

Q. Can I come to Korea on a Working Holiday?

Citizens of certain countries and age groups are able to come to Korea on a Working Holiday. Generally, the Working Holiday Visa may be granted for people between 18 and 30 years (inclusive) from thirty countries/regions worldwide. *This could be different by nationality.
Regarding the detailed age eligibility by nationality, please refer to this page here : https://whic.mofa.go.kr/contents.do?menuNo=90&contentsNo=38

Q. Can I apply for Korean Working Holiday visa in Korea?

Completed visa application form together with necessary supporting documents can only be lodged at Korean embassy/consulate in your country of origin. Applicants must obtain the Korean Working Holiday Visa prior to arrival to Korea.

Exception: If you are Austrian, you can also submit your application in Japan (Tokyo), China (Beijing, Shanghai), Hong Kong and Taiwan.
If you are a German national, please contact KVAC in Berlin (kvacdeinfo@iom.int / website : www.visaforkorea.eu) or your jurisdictional Korean Consulate in Germany for further application details.
If you are a French national, please contact KVAC in Paris (kvacfrinfo@iom.int / website : www.visaforkorea.eu),
If you are from the U.K., please contact KVAC in London (kvacukinfo@iom.int /website : www.visaforkorea.eu) for further application details.
If you are from the Netherlands, please contact the KVAC in Hague (kvacnlinfo@iom.int / www.visaforkorea.eu) for further application details.

Q. If I was previously granted a Korean Working Holiday Visa, can I apply for a Working Holiday Visa again?

No. As a general rule, if you have previously been granted a Korean Working Holiday Visa, you cannot apply for another one. However, exceptions apply depending on nationality. Canadian and Japanese citizens may participate in the program up to twice, in accordance with the relevant bilateral agreements. For further information about a second application, please contact the Embassy or Consulate of the Republic of Korea with jurisdiction over your place of residence.

Q. Can I extend my Working Holiday Visa in Korea?

Working Holiday Visa cannot be extended but you may be eligible to switch to another type of visa in limited circumstances. Please contact Korea Immigration Service for more details. (www.immigration.go.kr)

Q. What documents will be required to obtain Korean Working Holiday Visa?

Please refer to the <1. Korea Working Holiday Program/Visa> on this brochure for general information. Since the application requirements may vary we highly recommend you to contact directly to the respective Korean Embassy or Consulates.

Q. Do I need a job in order to get a Korean Working Holiday Visa?

No, you don't need an offer of employment to apply for a Korean Working Holiday Visa.

Q. Am I eligible to study in Korea on a Working Holiday Visa?

If you are planning to pursue an academic degree other than a Korean Language Course, you will usually be required to apply for a Student Visa (D-2).

Q. What happens if my passport is lost or stolen? Can I get the visa transferred to my new passport?

Visit the Embassy/Consulate to cancel your current passport and apply for a new one. You do not need to obtain a new Working Holiday Visa if you have registered with Immigration Office (Residence card). You can legally reside in Korea on Working Holiday Visa status with your Residence Card. However, you must report your new passport information to the immigration office over your jurisdiction within 14 days. (report change of information : passport number, validity and issue date etc.)

Q. I am planning on applying for the visa soon. Within how many weeks/ months do I have to leave for Korea once the Visa is issued?

Once the Visa is issued, you will have a valid entry date specified on your issued Visa. You will usually have 1 year before your entry to Korea but can vary among respective Embassies/Consulates.

Q. Do I need to visit the embassy in person or can I apply online/ via post?

You have to directly consult the Korean Embassy/Consulate/KVAC in your country/region for this matter as each embassy/consulate has a different visa application policy.

Q. Is the Working Holiday program supported by Korean government? If yes, What kind of jobs or accommodation are offered?

This Visa allows you to opportunities to stay in Korea but participants cannot expect any direct help from the Korean government in finding a job and accommodation. Basically you have to do it all by yourself since there is no particular program, accommodation or job placement coming along with the Visa. Working Holiday Info Center provides participants in Korea with free consultation on finding jobs, accommodation and life in general so please do not hesitate to contact us upon your arrival in Korea.

Q. Is there any online community/blogs or websites where Working Holiday makers in Korea can refer to?

Usually there are many meet-up communities for foreigners/expats residing in Korea and you can find them by online search or Social Network Service (SNS). Working Holiday Info Center also runs a Facebook page with information that can be useful for the participants.
(https://www.facebook.com/whkorea)

Working Holiday in Korea



Han River Picnic



Baseball Game



Nanta Performance



Korea War Memorial

Contact us

Address	15F, Seoul Finance Center, 136, Sejong-daero, Jung-gu Seoul, Republic of Korea
Zip Code	04520
Website	whic.mofa.go.kr/eng/
Email	workingholiday@mofa.go.kr
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/whkorea
Youtube	youtube.com/user/whickorea

We kindly encourage you to reach out to us via email.
Our primary mode of communication is through e-mail only.
Feel free to contact us at your convenience.

Information and related materials on the brochure are subject to change without notice. It is advisable to check the information to ensure the information is still applicable to this day.

Working Holiday Info Center

Address

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136, Sejong-daero,
Jung-gu Seoul,
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http://whic.mofa.go.kr/eng/