

# Customized Guide for Foreign National Koreans

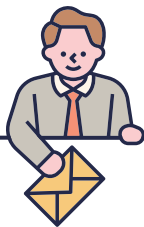
to Support Their Settlement in Korea



법무부 출입국·외국인정책본부  
KOREA IMMIGRATION SERVICE, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE



## Preface



The Korea Immigration Service (KIS) of the Ministry of Justice sincerely welcomes foreign national Koreans to the Republic of Korea.

The Ministry of Justice has enacted and enforced the Act on the Immigration and Legal Status of Overseas Koreans since 1999 to promote the rights and interests of overseas Koreans residing in the Republic of Korea and has since started offering services related to foreign national Koreans by newly establishing Overseas Korean (F-4) Status of Stay. The Ministry of Justice has continued to support overseas Koreans' stable settlement in Korea by allowing employment activities for foreign national Koreans from China and the former Soviet Union with implementation of the employment management system in 2002, and further expanded their employment opportunities by implementing the Work and Visit system in 2007. Against this backdrop, the number of foreign national Koreans residing in Korea has seen significant increases from 101,000 in 2000 to 780,000 in 2021, thereby contributing to the nation's development by actively engaging in various fields as part of Korean society.

The Customized Guide for Foreign National Koreans published this time has been designed to provide foreign nationality Koreans with detailed and useful information on immigration and sojourn matters to help them settle in the Republic of Korea from reporting obligations, violation cases of the Immigration Act, foreign resident registration, extension of stay to employment opportunities in Korea.

We hope this booklet will effectively help you lead your life in Korea and wish you all the best health and happiness.

Commissioner of Korea Immigration Service, Ministry of Justice

Lee, Jae-Yoo

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# PART I

## Foreign National Koreans



**Customized Guide for Foreign National Koreans**  
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# Foreign National Koreans

## 1. Definition of Foreign National Korean

### | Legal Definition of Foreign National Koreans |

A person who falls under any of the following stipulated in Article 3 (Definition of Foreign National Koreans) of the Enforcement Decree of the ‘Act on the Immigration and Legal Status of Overseas Koreans’

1. A person who had held the nationality of the Republic of Korea due to birth (including those who had emigrated abroad before the Government of the Republic of Korea was established) and acquired the nationality of a foreign country
2. A lineal descendants of the person under Subparagraph 1 who acquired the nationality of a foreign country

## 2. Migration History of Foreign National Koreans

How did overseas Koreans nationals end up settling abroad? Here are migration histories of foreign national Koreans by region that began in the mid-19th century. (Introduction in Alphabetical Order)



### Russia & CIS

The migration of Koreans to Russia and CIS, now locally referred to as ‘Koryoin’, began during the imperial period of Russia. In 1860, the border treaty between China and Russia brought Russia and Korea (Joseon at that time) to be close for the first time in history and the great famine in the northern region from 1869 to 1870 caused large-scale emigration to Russia. Around the time of the October Revolution in 1917, the number of Koreans residing in Russia increased to about 100,000, of which 80,000 lived in Primorsky Krai, accounting for 1/3 of the total population of Primorsky Krai.

Emigration to Primorsky Krai was initially triggered by an economic problem, but after the forced annexation of Korea and Japan in 1910, the migration began to use Primorsky Krai as a forward base for the independence movement. Independence activities and intellectuals moved to this area away from their homeland and this migration, which took on the characteristic of political exile and independence movement, proceeded at a faster pace as the oppression of the Empire of Japan in Joseon intensified. The largest migration occurred between 1917 and 1923 and most of them settled in Primorsky Krai.

In 1937, Stalin forcibly relocated 171,781 Koreans to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan for the economic purpose of reclaiming underdeveloped areas of Central Asia using their labor and the military concerns of Koreans playing the role of Japanese spies ahead of the war with Japan.

After the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the independence of Central Asian countries in 1991, Koreans began to emigrate to southern Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus to escape political and economic unrest and rising nationalism. They migrated especially to Russia's Volgograd region and Ukraine, which were suitable for farming, and focused on seasonal farming called 'Kobondi'.

Koreans residing in Sakhalin were formed through voluntary agricultural migration in the 1860s, but it began in earnest due to forced labor at the end of the Empire of Japan. The number of Koreans sent to this area for forced labor at the end of the Empire of Japan reached about 150,000, and by the end of World War 2, about 43,000 Koreans were living in Sakhalin.

(Source: National Archives of Korea)

## Americas

The emigration of Koreans to the United States began in January 1903 when a group of Koreans arrived at a sugarcane plantation in Hawaii as contract workers. The first immigrant ship carrying 101 Koreans arrived in Honolulu on January 13th, 1903. After that, a total of 7,226 Koreans arrived in Hawaii until 1905, when Korean migration to the United States was restrained by Japan.

Starting from 1910, with the additional migration of Korean women to form families, Korean society changed into a family-centered society. Also, economically, Koreans started to move away from working as sugarcane workers or day laborers around cities to engage in longer-term businesses (self-employment, rice farming, sweet potato farming, etc.). From 1903 to 1915, a total of 1,087 Koreans emigrated to the mainland.

Another important kind of early Korean immigrant in the United States is political exile for overseas independence movement away from the Japanese rule over Joseon. Between 1910 and 1924, about 541 Koreans immigrated to the United States as students

under the pretext of studying at American universities. They emerged as intellectual and political leaders of Korean society in Hawaii and the mainland of the United States and led overseas independence movements.

(Source: National Archives of Korea)

## Europe

The migration of Koreans to Europe can be broadly classified into 4 types depending on the region.

The first is Northern Europe, which includes Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Denmark. Among them, Sweden has the largest number of Koreans (2,050 people), and the immigration started by Koreans who developed relationships from participation in the Korean War. In addition, about 40,000 Korean orphans were adopted and raised in this region, laying the foundation for forming Korean society.

The second is Western Europe, which includes England, France, Italy, and Spain. In this region, Korean society was formed mainly centered around international students.

The third is Central Europe, which includes Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. Korean society was formed starting with the settlement of miners and nurses dispatched to Germany in the 1960s.

The fourth is Eastern Europe, where the migration of expats was formed as it began to establish diplomatic relations with Korea in the late 1980s.

(Source: National Archives of Korea)

## China

The origin of Koreans in China, called 'Joseonjok' in China, was formed in the mid-19th century. Especially, between the 1860s and 1870s, as disasters and famines occurred in a row in Joseon, many victims began to emigrate on a large scale to the fertile and uninhabited areas of Jiandao. It is known that the Korean population in Jiandao already reached 77,000 in the 1860s. At the beginning of the migration, Koreans settled near the Tumen River and Yalu River but gradually spread to Yanbian and other areas, forming Korean society in the Northeastern region of China.

During the Japanese colonial rule, as the migration of Koreans to Manchuria rapidly increased, Korean society in the Northeastern region of China expanded further. The exploitation and deprivation of Joseon peasants by the colonial government caused many peasants to emigrate to Manchuria, and although the number was limited compared to peasants, there were also some people who emigrated to carry on the



independence movement. With the continuous influx of population, the Korean population reached 220,000 in 1910 and increased significantly to 600,000 in 1930. In 1931, the Empire of Japan caused the Manchurian Incident to establish Manchukuo and migrated Koreans in groups to use the Northeastern region of China as a logistics and food base for the invasion of the continent, and as a result, the Korean population increased to 1.45 million in 1940.

After the surrender of Japan in 1945, Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture was established in 1952.

(Source: National Archives of Korea)

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## PART II

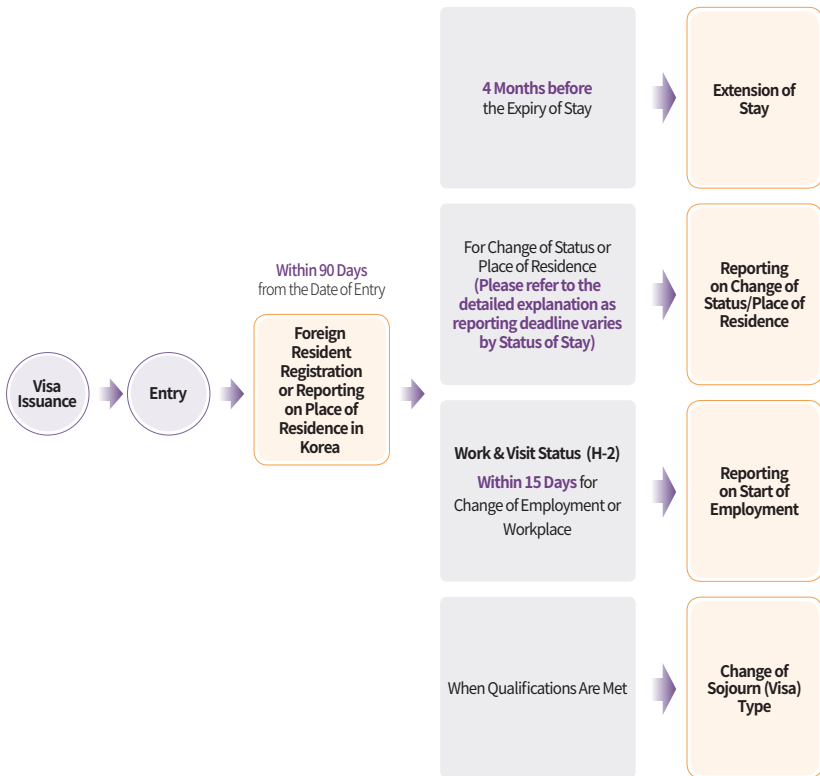
# Flow Chart from Entry to Permanent Residency at a Glance



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# Flow Chart from Entry to Permanent Residency at a Glance

## 1. Overview of Sojourn after Entry





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## PART III

# Detailed Information on Status of Stay You need to Know



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# Detailed Information on Status of Stay You need to Know

## [Visit Reservation for Immigration Application]

- In order to visit Immigration Office/Branch(hereinafter referred to as 'Immigration Office') located nationwide for petition application, please make a visit reservation on the website of HiKorea in advance!
- ※ As details may vary according to changes in the guideline, please call the Immigration Contact Center at 1345 without area code or visit the website of HiKorea.

## 1. Work and Visit (H-2) Status

### ① Qualification Requirements

- **Eligibility: Foreign national Koreans with nationalities of China and 6 countries in the former Soviet Union (CIS)\***
  - \* 6 Countries in the Former Soviet Union (CIS): Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan
- **Age: 18 and over**

### ② Sojourn Information You need to Know

- **②-1 Foreign Resident Registration** : Foreign national Koreans who entered Korea on the Work and Visit Visa (H-2) must visit a jurisdictional immigration office within 90 days from the date of entry to register as a foreign resident.



### Required Documents

- Integrated application form, passport and a copy of passport, 1 photo of standard size, documents proving the place of residence, fee
  - Completion Certificate of Early Adaption Program
  - Health examination certificate issued by a hospital designated by the Ministry of Justice
  - Occupation and annual income statement
  - Proof of Korean language proficiency (3 years of availability granted upon submission)
- ※ Additional documents may be requested during the screening process.

- **②-2 Extension of Stay : A maximum period of 3 years is granted upon first entry.** Afterwards, if you have received the Certificate of Extension of Work Period for an Employee whose Work Authorization has expired issued by the Employment Support Center, you may **extend your stay for an additional period of 1 year and 10 months** without leaving the country.

### Required Documents

- Passport and a copy of passport, integrated application form, fee, documents proving the place of residence, ARC (Alien Registration Card)
  - Confirmation of Employment Activities Extension for Employment Expired Persons
  - Occupation and annual income statement, proof of income amount
- ※ Additional documents may be requested during the screening process.

**Wait!**



(A) For those with the Work & Visit Visa (H-2) to be expired soon, if you fall under the purpose of **visiting family or living together, raising children, studying, etc.,** you may continue your sojourn with an extension of the period for 'purposes other than employment'.

- **How to Apply** : It is the same as when applying for the extension of the sojourn period. However, you must submit 'Guidelines & Precautions for Holders of Work & Visit Visa (H-2) with Purposes Other than Employment'

- **Extension Period** : 1 year per 1 application

※ However, in the case of employment activities after obtaining the grant for extension of the sojourn period for "purposes other than employment", the sojourn grant may be canceled or the extension of the sojourn period may be restricted.

(B) When you leave the country as the sojourn period has expired after entering the country for the first time with the Work & Visit Visa (H-2), you can re-enter the country with the Work & Visit Visa (H-2).

- **Eligibility** : Among (1) those who have left the country after returning their ARC (Alien Registration Card) to the immigration officer at the airport within the sojourn period, (2) those who are "aged 60 and under" as of the date of departure

※ Those who have been ordered to leave the country while staying in Korea with the Work & Visit Visa (H-2) are excluded.

- **How to Apply** : Work & Visit Visa (H-2) can be applied according to the departure with the visa returned at the jurisdictional overseas embassy in the country of nationality.

- **Visa Type** : Multiple visas valid for 3 years

※ You can enter and leave the country freely within this period, but you must apply for 'alien registration' if you wish to stay for a long-term of 91 days or more for employment activities.

## Reporting Obligations You Must Check

If important information, such as name, passport information, place of residence, etc., has been changed, you must apply for 'Reporting on Change of Alien Registration Information' and 'Reporting on Change of Place of Residence' **within 15 days** (from the date of the change).

Reporting Details	How to Report	Required Documents
Name, gender, date of birth, nationality	- Visit to Immigration Office	- Integrated application form - Passport - ARC (Alien Registration Card) - Documents proving changes
Passport number, issue date, expiry date	- Visit to Immigration Office - Reporting through immigration petition agencies - Reporting online (HiKorea) - Reporting by fax (☎1577-1346)	
Place of Residence	- Visit to Immigration Office - Reporting through immigration petition agencies - Reporting online (HiKorea) - Reporting to the jurisdictional Administrative Welfare Center	
School Enrollment (If Applicable)	- Visit to Immigration Office - Reporting through immigration petition agencies	Documents proving school enrollment such as certificate of registration, etc.
Occupation & Annual Income		Proof of income amount, occupation and annual income statement

### ③ Employment Activities

Employment is granted only to companies stipulated by immigration laws, such as manufacturing, agriculture/livestock/fishery, service industries, etc., that are eligible for special employment.

- ✓ For detailed information on the occupation groups where employment is possible, please consult the [detailed version of the pamphlet](#) on the Hi Korea homepage.

- **③-1 Reporting on Commencement of Employment** : You are obligated to report the start of employment or change of workplace **within 15 days**.
  - **Those Required to Report**
    - Holders of Work & Visit Status (H-2) who have initially started employment in the industries which are allowed for Work and Visit Status

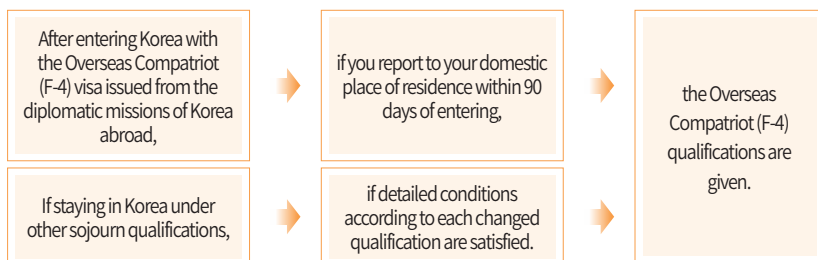
- Holders of Work & Visit Status (H-2) who have changed their workplace after initial start of the employment
  - **When to Report**
    - Initial Start of Employment ⇒ Within 15 days from the start date of employment
    - Change of Workplace ⇒ Within 15 days from the date of change of workplace
  - **How to Report**
    - Visit to Immigration Office or reporting through agencies
    - Reporting online (HiKorea) or by fax (☎1577-1346)
  - **Required Documents**
    - Statements such as Start of Employment for Holders of Work & Visit Visa, a copy of Confirmation of Special Employment Availability, a copy of standard labor contract, a copy of business registration certificate, passport and a copy of passport, Residence Card (Foreign Resident Registration Card)
- ※ In accordance with a unified method of reporting on the commencement of employment between the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Employment and Labor, report of commencement of employment by the employer to the Employment Support Center shall be considered to be reported to the Ministry of Justice as well.

## 2. Overseas Korean (F-4) Status

### ① Qualification Requirements

- **Eligibility : A person who falls under any of the following among those who have held the nationality of the Republic of Korea (including those who had emigrated abroad before the Government of the Republic of Korea was established) or their lineal descendants who have acquired the nationality of a foreign country**
  1. A person who had held the nationality of the Republic of Korea due to birth (including those who had emigrated abroad before the Government of the Republic of Korea was established) and acquired the nationality of a foreign country
  2. A lineal descendants of the person under Subparagraph 1 who acquired the nationality of a foreign country

## 2 Flow Chart of Granting F-4 Status



## 3 Key Information on Sojourn

- **3-1 Reporting on Place of Residence in Korea** : You need to visit a jurisdictional Immigration Office and file a report for Reporting on Place of Residence in Korea **within 90 days** from the date of entry (if you wish to stay for 91 days or more).

### Required Documents

- Overseas Korean (F-4) Application Form, passport and a copy of passport, 1 photo of standard size, documents proving the place of residence, fee
- Occupation and annual income statement, certificate of registration  
※ Additional documents may be requested during the screening process.

- **3-2 Extension of Stay** : The Period of Stay is granted up to 3 years for every extension and is extendable by applying for Extension of Stay before the period of stay expires.

### Precautions

Please note that those who violate the law or do not pay taxes and health insurance premiums may be restricted from being granted the extension of Period of Stay.



### Required Documents

- Overseas Korean (F-4) Application Form, passport and a copy of passport, Residence Card, documents proving the place of residence (lease agreement, etc.), fee
- Occupation and annual income statement, certificate of registration  
※ Additional documents may be requested during the screening process.

- **3-3 Change of Status of Stay** : If you meet certain requirements during your stay in Korea, you can change your status to Overseas Korean (F-4) Status.

- ✓ For detailed information on the changing of qualification requirements or necessary documents, please consult the [detailed version of the pamphlet](#) on the Hi Korea homepage.

### **Details on Reporting Obligations**

Please be informed that if your place of residence is changed you must report the change to either the office of Si · Gun · Gu, the office of Eup · Myeon · Dong, or the immigration (branch) office having jurisdiction over the new place of residence **within 14 days** from the change.

- **Required Documents** : Integrated application form, passport, Residence Card, documents proving the place of residence
- **How to Report** : You can visit the Immigration Office, report through immigration petition agencies or online (HiKorea), or report to the jurisdictional Administrative Welfare Center

## **4 Scope of Employment Activities**

Foreign nationality Koreans holding Overseas Korean Status (F-4) are restricted from employment in the following occupations.

- 41 occupations for simple labor workers according to the Korean Standard Occupational Classification
- Engaging in conduct disturbing good morals or other social order
- 12 occupations in the service and sales industries where restrictions on employment are deemed necessary for maintaining employment order, etc. in the Republic of Korea.

※ Even where job seeking is allowed (excluding the total 53 restricted occupations), when a specific qualification is required under the statutes of the Republic of Korea, he/she should obtain such qualification.

- ✓ For detailed information about the occupations where employment is restricted, please consult the [detailed version of the pamphlet](#) on the Hi Korea homepage.

### | Clear-Cut Comparison of Employment Scope for Foreign National Korean |

Occupation Type	Overseas Korean (F-4)	Work and Visit (H-2)
Caregiver	Allowed	Partially Allowed (Personal Care)
Certified Nursing Assistant	Allowed	Restricted
Childcare/ Housekeeping Service	Allowed	Partially Allowed (Employment Activities within Household)
Manufacturing	Partially Restricted (Manual Packaging & Manual Labeling Not Allowed)	Allowed
Parcel Delivery Service	Restricted	Partially Allowed (Loading & Unloading)

## 3. Permanent Resident (F-5) Status

### ① Required Qualifications

- (A) A person or his/her accompanying family who is capable of making a living
- (B) A person who has basic knowledge to continue to stay in Korea
- (C) A person of good conduct

### ② Requirements for Change of Status of Foreign National Korean

- A person who has been staying in Korea for at least 2 years with Overseas Korean Status (F-4) and meets certain requirements
- A person meeting the requirements for acquiring nationality under the 'Nationality Act' as a foreign national Korean defined in subparagraph 2 of Article 2 under the 'Act on the Immigration and Legal Status of Overseas Koreans'
- A person with the Work & Visit Status (H-2) engaging in employment activities in manufacturing, agriculture/livestock, fishery, caregiver, and housekeeper industries and meets certain requirements



For detailed information about the changing of qualification to Residency (F-5), please consult the [detailed version of the pamphlet](#) on the Hi Korea homepage.

### ③ Scope of Employment Activities

For Foreign National Koreans with Permanent Resident (F-5) Status, there are no special restrictions on the scope of activities, including employment.

### ④ Cancellation of Status of Stay

For Foreign National Koreans with Permanent Resident (F-5) Status, Status of Stay may be cancelled in the following cases.

- In the case of obtaining permanent residency by fraud or other illegal means
  - ※ This also applies if other documents such as withholding receipts were submitted without submitting proof of income amount and the amount is different from the amount stated on the proof of income amount.
- In the case of being sentenced to penal labor or imprisonment without forced labor of 2 years or more for committing a crime stipulated in any one or more of ‘Criminal Act’, ‘Punishment of Violences Act’, ‘Act on Special Cases Concerning the Punishment of Sexual Crimes’, ‘Act on the Protection of Children and Youth against Sex Offences’, ‘Act on the Aggravated Punishment of Specific Crimes’, ‘Act on the Aggravated Punishment of Specific Economic Crimes’, ‘Narcotics Control Act’, and ‘Act on Special Measures for the Control of Public Health Crimes’
- In the case of having a combined period of imprisonment of 3 years or more after being sentenced to penal labor or imprisonment without forced labor for violating the laws of the Republic of Korea within the last 5 years
- In the case of acting contrary to the national interest of the Republic of Korea in national security, diplomatic relations, national economy, etc.



## Important Reporting Obligations

If important information, such as name, passport information, place of residence, etc., has been changed, you must report change in foreigner registration matters and change in place of residence **within 15 days** (from the date of the change).

What to Report	How to Report	Required Documents
Name, gender, date of birth, nationality	- Visit to Immigration Office	- Integrated application form - Passport - Residence Card (Foreign Resident Registration Card) - Documents proving changes
Passport number, issue date, expiry date	- Visit to Immigration Office - Reporting through immigration petition agencies - Reporting online (HiKorea) - Reporting by fax (☎1577-1346)	
Place of Residence	- Visit to Immigration Office - Reporting through immigration petition agencies - Reporting online (HiKorea) - Reporting to the jurisdictional Administrative Welfare Center	
School Enrollment (If Applicable)	- Visit to Immigration Office - Reporting through immigration petition agencies	Documents proving school enrollment such as certificate of registration, etc.
Occupation & Annual Income		Proof of income amount, occupation and annual income statement

### 5 Reissuance of Permanent Resident Card

- Permanent Resident Card is valid for 10 years from the issue date, so please get your Permanent Resident Card reissued before the expiry date.
- For those who have obtained permanent residency before September 21st, 2018, special exceptions of reissuance are applied as follows.

#### Special Exceptions for Permanent Resident Card Reissuance

- For those for whom 10 years have not elapsed from the date of acquisition of permanent residency, it shall be issued within 2 years from the date on which 10 years have elapsed from the date of acquisition of permanent residency
- For those who wish to get Permanent Resident Card reissued even when 10 years have not elapsed, it shall be reissued and the reissued Permanent Resident Card shall be valid for 10 years from the issue date

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## PART IV

# Sojourn Procedures for Families of Foreign National Koreans



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# Sojourn Procedures for Families of Foreign National Koreans

## ① Qualification Requirements

Spouses and minor children of foreign national Koreans with visas may be granted Family Visitor (F-1) Status. However, the family relationship must be clearly verifiable through the official documents of the country of nationality (family relation certificate, marriage certificate, etc.).

- **Family members of those with Overseas Korean Status (F-4)**

(spouse, minor children, and parents\*)

\*For parents, only parents of students attending domestic elementary, middle, and high schools

- **Family members of those with the Work & Visit Status (H-2)**

(spouse and minor children)

### Wait!



- Children of Foreign national Koreans who are enrolled in elementary, middle, and high schools are eligible for being granted Overseas Korean Status (F-4).

- Overseas Korean (F-4) Status is granted to children of foreign national Koreans residing in Korea with foreigner registration (including reporting on the place of residence) if meeting one of the following requirements.

- ① Those who are enrolled in elementary/middle/high school in Korea, or ② Those aged between 6 to 18 who are unable to attend school due to unavoidable circumstances including **long-term treatment of illness or severe disability**

## ② Sojourn Information You need to Know

- **②-1 Foreign Resident Registration** : You must visit the jurisdictional Immigration Office and apply for foreigner registration **within 90 days** from the date of entry

### Required Documents

- Passport and a copy of passport, integrated application form, 1 photo of standard size, documents proving the place of residence, fee, documents proving the family relationship, etc.
- **②-2 Grant of Extension of Stay** : Period of stay is granted **up to 2 years per 1 application** and it can be extended within the period that does not exceed the period of stay of a principal status holder.

### Required Documents

- Integrated application form, passport and a copy of passport, Residence Card (Foreign Resident Registration Card), documents proving the family relationship, documents proving the place of residence, fee, certificate of registration, etc.

### Note

- Minor children with foreigner registration may be granted the extension of stay up to the age below 25 if the father or mother has been continuously staying in Korea for at least 3 years (excluding married children).
  - Father or mother of foreign nationality Koreans attending domestic elementary, middle, and high schools may be granted the 1-year sojourn period limited to 1 time when the principal status holder graduates.
- **②-3 Grant of Change of Status** : Requirements and required documents for each family member are as follows.

#### Requirements for Permission

##### ▪ Spouses of Foreign national Korean

- In principle, visas are issued by the overseas embassy, and change of sojourn is granted but limited.

\* In the case of the change of status, the grant is determined after comprehensive screening such as whether the country is notified, the date and background of marriage, any offenses, income level, authenticity of marriage certificate, etc.

##### ▪ Minor Children of Foreign national Korean

- Change of Status is granted after proving family relationship with foreign national Koreans with the birth certificate, etc.

##### ▪ Fathers or Mothers of Foreign National Koreans Attending Domestic Elementary, Middle, and High Schools

- For the father or mother of Foreign National Koreans attending domestic elementary, middle, and high schools, the change of status is granted after proving family relationship with foreign national Koreans with the birth certificate, etc.

#### Required Documents

- Integrated application form, passport and a copy of passport, 1 photo of standard size, documents proving the family relationship, documents proving the place of residence, fee, etc.
- **2-4 Grant of Status of Stay** : Please visit the jurisdictional Immigration Office within 90 days from the child's date of birth to apply for your child's status of stay (F-1).

#### Required Documents

- Integrated application form, passport and a copy of passport, 1 photo of standard size, birth certificate, documents proving the place of residence, fee, etc.
  - ※ However, if a birth certificate from a domestic hospital is submitted, a confirmation letter is required stating that the birth will be notified to the home country by the next extension in order to confirm the proof of foreign nationality Korean with documents from the home country in the future.

## PART V

# Examples of Law Violations for Easy Understanding



**Customized Guide for Foreign National Koreans**  
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## Examples of Law Violations for Easy Understanding

### Example ①

Q

I am currently staying in Korea with Overseas Korean Status (F-4). I recently moved with my family to the building right next to my previous residence within the same apartment complex. Do I still need to file a report on the change of place of residence in this case?

A

In the case of the place of residence being changed due to moving, etc., the reporting on the place of residence must be filed at the jurisdictional Immigration Office or Administrative Welfare Center within 14 days for Overseas Korean Status (F-4) and 15 days for registered foreigners (including foreign national Koreans) with other Status of Stay.

⇒ You can report more conveniently online (HiKorea\*).

\*HiKorea: [www.hikorea.go.kr](http://www.hikorea.go.kr)

**Violation of Laws** : Article 36 (1) and subparagraph 2 of Article 98 of the Immigration Act and Article 6 (2) of the Act on the Immigration and Legal Status of Overseas Koreans

**Dispositions** : Penalty of up to KRW 1 million or an administrative fine of up to KRW 2 million

### Example ②

Q

I am currently staying in Korea with the Work & Visit Status(H-2). I got a new passport issued as the previous one expired. Do I need to notify the Immigration Office of this?

A

In the case of a change of name, gender, date of birth, and number/issue date/expiry date of passport, you must report it to Immigration Office within 15 days. You must also file a report on the change in the case of change of occupation and annual income amount, as well as enrollment and school name of the domestic elementary, middle, and high schools for minor children aged between 6 to 18.

⇒ In the case of passport information among the above reporting details, you can report more conveniently online (HiKorea\*) or by online fax (☎1577-1346).

\*HiKorea: [www.hikorea.go.kr](http://www.hikorea.go.kr)

**Violation of Laws** : Subparagraph 2 of Article 35 and Article 100 (2) 1 of the Immigration Act

**Dispositions** : Administrative fine of up to KRW 1 million



Example ③

Q

I've been staying in Korea for a year now with Overseas Korean Status (F-4). I had been working at a restaurant nearby for delivery service for a month now but got a spot check crackdown from Immigration Office and have to attend the Immigration Office tomorrow. I thought there were no limitations to employment for the Overseas Korean Status.

A

For Overseas Korean Status (F-4), employment is restricted in workplaces that are against good morals and social order, such as simple labor and speculative acts. Delivery service is subject to penalty as it is applicable for restricted employment for the Overseas Korean Status (F-4).

Violation of Laws : Article 18 (1) and subparagraph 8 of Article 94 of the Immigration Act  
Dispositions : Notice of penalty up to KRW 30 million

Example ④

Q

I have entered Korea with the Work & Visit Status (H-2) and am currently working. I left my first job and just started working at a new workplace. Do I need to report to the Immigration Office?

A

For the Work & Visit Status (H-2), you must file a report on the start of employment within 15 days from the date you first started working in the granted industry or the day you changed your workplace.

⇒ You can report more conveniently online (HiKorea\*).

\*HiKorea: [www.hikorea.go.kr](http://www.hikorea.go.kr)

Violation of Laws : Subparagraph 3 of Article 35 and Article 100 (2) 1 of the Immigration Act  
Dispositions : Administrative fine of up to KRW 1 million

Example ⑤

Q

I am staying in Korea with a permanent residency that was granted in 2007. I heard that I need to get my Permanent Resident Card reissued. Am I eligible for reissuance?

A

As Article 33 of the Immigration Act took effect on September 21st, 2018, the issuance of the Permanent Resident Card with a validity period of 10 years and the reissuance of the Permanent Resident Card for Permanent Resident Status (F-5) became mandatory. If you do not comply with the obligations, you will be subject to an administrative fine, so please get your Permanent Resident Card reissued as soon as possible.

Violation of Laws : Article 33 (4) and Article 100 (1) 4 of the Immigration Act  
Dispositions : Administrative fine of up to KRW 2 million

**Example 6**

**Q**

**My nephew is about to apply for the visa change to Overseas Korean Status (F-4). However, he has been caught 4 times for drunk driving during his stay in Korea. Will those records be a problem when applying for Change of Status?**

**A**

Change of Status is restricted for those who have been sentenced to imprisonment without forced labor or heavier punishment for crimes that fall under serious social crimes [drugs, voice phishing, habitual drunk driving (3 times or more)] during their sojourn in Korea. Please make sure to check the restrictions on the qualification change below!

- Where a male not falling under any of the following cases becomes a foreigner by renouncing or losing the nationality of the Republic of Korea
  - A. Where he has completed, or is deemed to have completed, his active military service, full-time reserve service, or supplementary service
  - B. Where he is enlisted in the wartime labor service
  - C. Where he is exempt from military service
- ※ However, it is applicable from January 1st when the person in question turns 41 years old.
- Where it is apprehensive that he/she may impair the interests of the Republic of Korea, such as national security, maintenance of public order, public welfare, and diplomatic relations of the Republic of Korea
- A person who has violated the following laws during his/her sojourn in Korea
  - A person who has been sentenced to imprisonment for crimes that fall under any of the specific violent crimes stipulated in Article 2 of the 'Act on Special Cases Concerning the Punishment of Specific Violent Crimes'\*
  - \* Homicide, Kidnapping, Enticement, Robbery, Rape, Infamous Conduct, Organization and Activities of Organizations, etc.
  - A person who has been sentenced to imprisonment without forced labor or heavier punishment for crimes other than the above within the last 5 years
  - A person who has been imposed a fine of KRW 7 million or more in total within the last 3 years
  - A person who has been imposed a monetary penalty of KRW 7 million or more in total in violation of the Immigration Act within the last 3 years

**Related Laws :** Article 5 (2) 1 and 2 of the Act on the Immigration and Legal Status of Overseas Koreans and Article 4 (1) of the Enforcement Decree of the same Act

**Example 7**

**Q**

**After acquiring US citizenship, an urgent matter came up and now I have to go to Korea. As my Korean passport still hasn't expired, can I use it to go through immigration?**

**A**

A person who voluntarily acquired foreign nationality as a Korean citizen will lose Korean nationality when he/she acquires the foreign nationality, regardless of whether or not he/she reports the loss of nationality. Therefore, if you use the Korean passport, it will be considered an illegal use of the passport, so please use your US passport.

**Violation of Laws :** Article 7 (1), Article 28 (1) and subparagraph 2 of Article 94 of the Immigration Act  
**Dispositions :** Notice of penalty up to KRW 30 million

## PART VI

# [Q&A] Frequently Asked Questions



**Customized Guide for Foreign National Koreans**  
to Support Their Settlement in Korea

## [Q&A] Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Common Matters for Sojourn

Q1

My sojourn period is about to expire.  
Do I have to apply for an extension at the Immigration Office?



- Yes, you do. You can only continue to stay in Korea if you get your sojourn extended before the expiry date.  
Failure to do so will result in a penalty depending on the expiry period and may result in deportation. Please make sure to apply for an extension of the sojourn period through application in advance.
- If you wish to apply for the grant of sojourn by visiting the Immigration Office, you must make a **visit reservation in advance**. Please visit the website of HiKorea ([www.hikorea.go.kr](http://www.hikorea.go.kr)) and apply for it from the 'Visit Reservation' menu. You can apply for the extension of the sojourn period from 4 months before the expiration of your sojourn period, so please make the visit reservation in advance and visit the Immigration Office at the reserved time.
- You can also apply through **electronic petition (e-Application)** online. There is no need to visit the Immigration Office and you can also get a 20% discount on the fee.
  - Register for membership and log in after accessing HiKorea ([www.hikorea.go.kr](http://www.hikorea.go.kr)) → Click the Petition Application menu → Select the name of the petition you want to apply for (Extension of Sojourn Period, etc.)
- Reporting through **immigration petition agencies**, which are registered at Immigration Office to apply for various grants and to report matters related to immigration, is also available.

Q2

I am planning to visit the jurisdictional Immigration Office next week. I am trying to make a visit reservation on the HiKorea website on the date according to my arrival. Can I make the visit reservation from overseas?



- Making a visit reservation on the HiKorea website from overseas is not possible.  
You can only make the visit reservation from the day after entering Korea.

Q3

**Can I apply for electronic petition (e-Application) at any time?  
How can I receive the registration certificate after application?**



- Electronic petition application is available from 7 am to 10 pm on weekdays and the applicable application period is as follows (based on business days, excluding weekends and holidays).
  - Grant for Extension of Sojourn Period for Registered Foreigners: Up to 1 day prior to the expiry of the sojourn
  - Grant for Extension of Sojourn Period for Foreigners with Short-term Sojourn: Up to 1 day prior to the expiry of the sojourn
  - Grant for Extension of Sojourn Period for Departure: Up to 1 day prior to the expiry of the sojourn for registered Foreigners and up to 2 days prior to the expiry of the sojourn for aliens with the short-term sojourn
  - Grant for Re-entry: Up to 3 days prior to the departure date
- After applying for the electronic petition, you can print the filing receipt and the filing receipt has the same effect as the receipt issued by Immigration Office.
- You can check the progress of the petition at any time by accessing HiKorea. When applying for the visa type change, you will receive a text message with the date and place of issuance within 5 days of application. If you are applicable for fingerprint collection, you will also receive a text message with the date and place of fingerprint collection.
- If you have applied for the extension of the period, please print out the 'Electronic Petition Confirmation Form' and carry it with you. If you want the grant information to be stated on the back of your registration card, please visit the nearest Immigration Office and apply for date stamping.
- If you have applied for the visa type change, please visit the Immigration Office on the designated date with your 'Electronic Petition Filing Receipt' to receive Residence Card (Foreign Resident Registration Card).

Q4

**I am still living at the address on the contract I signed 3 years ago but the contract period stated on the contract has expired. Would it be OK to submit this contract when applying for the extension of the sojourn period?**



- It is OK. Lease agreements based on implied contract renewals are also acceptable.
- In the case of not being able to prove the place of residence with the lease agreement, it can be replaced with 1) a tax payment notice in the name of the applicant or 2) a confirmation letter from the accommodation provider, the ID of the accommodation provider, a lease agreement of the accommodation provider, etc.

Q5

I have left the country to visit my hometown. Can I apply for the extension of the sojourn period from overseas?



- Application for the grant for sojourn such as the extension of the sojourn period can only be done in Korea.

Q6

I am a bit confused as the re-entry period for Work & Visit Status (H-2), Overseas Korean Status (F-4), and Permanent Residency Status (F-5) are all different.



- Re-entry period of foreign national Koreans by Status of Stay (from the date of departure within the sojourn period) is as follows.
  - Work & Visit Status (H-2) : 1 year
  - Permanent Residency Status (F-5) : 2 years
  - Overseas Korean Status (F-4) : Until the expiry of the sojourn

Q7

I am feeling quite lonely in a foreign country and looking for a place or a platform where I can make friends and get some useful tips. Is there something like a community for foreign national Koreans in my area?



- Please refer to the back of the booklet as 11 Overseas Korean Support Centers located nationwide are introduced. Please contact or visit the nearest center to get the information you need.
- For information on the sojourn, please contact the Immigration Contact Center at 1345 without area code.

## 2. By Status of Stay - Overseas Korean Status (F-4)

Q1

Do I have to submit again the evidentiary documents that I once submitted to the Korean diplomatic mission for the application for the F-4 Visa, such as document proving the overseas compatriot status, overseas criminal background check, and proof of Korean language competency, when I make the declaration as a domestic resident?



- No, you do not need to resubmit them.

Q2

I submitted the overseas criminal records certificate when I applied for the Work & Visit Visa (H-2) in the past. Do I need to resubmit the overseas criminal records certificate when applying for Change of Status to Overseas Korean (F-4)?



- Those, who have submitted the overseas criminal records certificate for visa issuance by the overseas embassy or change of status, are exempt from submitting the relevant documents.
- However, in the case of staying abroad for 6 months or more during the granted sojourn period in Korea, you are subject to submission of the overseas criminal records certificate.

Q3

The scope of foreign national Koreans has been expanded to the 4th generation and later. Do I still need to prepare documents stating proof of being a foreign national Koreans from the 1st generation for Change of Status to Overseas Korean (F-4)?



- Yes, you do. Please prepare documents stating proof of being a foreign national Koreans from the 1st generation.
- However, foreign national Koreans attending elementary, middle, and high schools are exempt from proving the relationship with the 1st generation as long as the family relationship is proven with their parents.



For detailed information on necessary evidentiary documents, please consult the **detailed version of the pamphlet** on the Hi Korea homepage.

Q4

I would like to change my status to Overseas Korean (F-4) after completing Social Integration Program but it is difficult as I am at work on weekdays. Can I still do that on weekends?



- Yes, you can. Social Integration Program is available in various time zones as not only daytime classes on weekdays but also evening classes on weekdays and weekend classes are operated.
- Please access the website of Soci-Net ([www.socinet.go.kr](http://www.socinet.go.kr)) or contact the Immigration Integration Support Center of the jurisdictional Immigration Office.

Q5

I would like to change my status to Overseas Korean (F-4) by obtaining a national technical qualification.  
What national technical qualification do I need to get?



- You can obtain 1 of 510 national technical qualifications in the technical and functional fields such as beauty, cooking, and laundry.
- For detailed information on the 510 certificates of the occupational fields which can be earned, please consult the [detailed version of the pamphlet](#) on the Hi Korea homepage.

Q6

I filed a report on the start of employment at Company A with the Work & Visit Status (H-2) on August 1st, 2018, and have been working for the same company since then. Can I change my status to Overseas Korean (F-4) before the period of 4 years and 10 months expire?



- Those with the Work & Visit Status (H-2) who have worked continuously for **at least 2 years in the same workplace (or at home) as agriculture/livestock/fishery industries, Ppuri industries, local manufacturing, or childcare housekeeper** are eligible for the visa change to Overseas Korean Status (F-4).  
Also, even if the above conditions are not met, those with the Work & Visit Visa (H-2) who have worked continuously for **at least 4 years in the same workplace regardless of the region** are eligible for the visa change to Overseas Korean Status (F-4).
- For example, if Company A is in agriculture/livestock/fishery industries, Ppuri industries, local manufacturing, and if you have worked continuously in the same workplace,
  - You are eligible to apply for Change of Status to Overseas Korean (F-4) after August 1st, 2020, which is 2 years after the start of the employment.
  - For other company types, you can apply for Change of Status to Overseas Korean (F-4) after August 1st, 2022, which is 4 years after the start of the employment
- Please note that the minimum period requirement, such as 2 years or 4 years, is calculated from the date of reporting on the start of employment.



Q7

I am currently working under the 'Covid-19 Temporary Seasonal Work Status'. Can I change my status to Overseas Korean (F-4)?



- In the case of being confirmed for participation in seasonal work for at least 180 days (6 months) through 'Confirmation of Seasonal Work Participation' issued by the local government, the grant for qualification change to Overseas Korean Status may be applicable after checking for restrictions on visa grant of Overseas Korean Status.
- In the case of a foreign national Korean, who has been registered for 'Covid-19 Temporary Seasonal Work Status' and participated for at least 60 days, obtaining a national technical qualification before January 3rd, 2022, permission for change of status of stay to Overseas Korean Status can be granted after checking for restrictions on grant of Overseas Korean Status.

Q8

I entered Korea before September 2, 2019 on the Overseas Compatriot (F-4) Visa. If I want to extend my stay in Korea, do I need to submit the document on Korean language competency?



- For those who received the visa before September 2, 2019, the proof of Korean language competency is not required in case the person wants to extend stay in the Republic of Korea.
- In other matters, for detailed information on the targets of exemptions, please consult the **detailed version of the pamphlet** on the Hi Korea homepage.

Q9

I am currently staying in Korea after filing Reporting on Place of Residence in Korea with Overseas Korean Status (F-4). I recently got my name changed in my home country. Do I have to notify the Immigration Office of this?



- In the case of the name change for foreign national Koreans who have filed Reporting on Place of Residence in Korea, please visit the jurisdictional Immigration Office with proof of name change, such as new and old passports and ID, a fee (KRW 30,000), and a photo to get your Residence Card reissued. There is no need to get the Overseas Korean Visa (F-4) reissued, though.

### 3. By Status of Stay - Work & Visit Status (H-2)

Q1

I am about to apply for foreigner registration after entering Korea with the Work & Visit Status (H-2) and noticed that there are the 'health examination certificate' and 'Completion Certificate of Early Adaption Program' in the list of required documents. I would like to know the procedure for getting those documents issued.



- Health examination certificate for H-2 Status can be issued at a hospital designated by the Ministry of Justice
  - How to Check the Name & Location of Hospital: Click on the **News & Announcements** menu after accessing the HiKorea website ([www.hikorea.go.kr](http://www.hikorea.go.kr)) ➔ Click on the **Notice** menu ➔ Search with the keyword "Medical Institutions (designated by the Ministry of Justice for medical examination)" in the **search bar**
- Early Adaption Program is training for the purpose of providing information on basic Korean law and order as well as useful tips in the initial stage of entry. You can participate by selecting a convenient place and time through the path below.
  - How to Apply for Early Adaption Program: Register as a member after accessing Socinet ([www.socinet.go.kr](http://www.socinet.go.kr)) ➔ Click on the **Early Adaption Program** menu ➔ **View the schedule and apply for participation** ➔ Attend the training with your passport

Q2

I am currently staying in Korea with Work and Visit Status (H-2). I plan to apply for foreigner registration with Work and Visit Status (H-2). again after returning my visa when leaving and re-entering the country. Do I have to resubmit the Completion Certificate of Early Adaption Program and health examination certificate that I submitted before?



- Health examination certificate must be submitted again.
- There is no need to resubmit the Completion Certificate of Early Adaption Program if previously submitted.

Q3

Would it be possible for my spouse who has been deported while staying with H-2 Status to get Work and Visit Visa (H-2) to be returned upon departure?



- In principle, those who have entered Korea with Work and Visit Visa (H-2) or changed their status to Work and Visit (H-2) in Korea and have returned their visa when leaving the country are subject to the issuance of Work & Visit Visa (H-2).
- However, those who have left the country due to deportation order during their sojourn with Work and Visit Status (H-2) are excluded from being subject to the issuance of Work and Visit Visa (H-2).

Q4

**The expiry (3 years) of my sojourn with Work and Visit Status (H-2) is coming up. How much longer can I stay in Korea?**



- For employment purposes, you can stay up to 4 years and 10 months from the date of entry (of the date of grant for change of status) only if you have received the 'Confirmation of Extension of the Employment Period for Those with Expired Employment Period' from the Ministry of Employment and Labor.
- Also, if foreign national Koreans with Work and Visit Status (H-2), who have to leave the country due to the expiry of period of stay, want to stay in Korea for the purpose of visiting family, living together, raising children, studying, etc., extension of stay can be granted with the extension period of 1 year per 1 application.

#### 4. By Status of Stay - Permanent Resident Status (F-5)

Q1

**When acquiring Permanent Resident Status (F-5) from holding Overseas Korean Status (F-4), is only the amount of savings recognized as the net worth requirement?**



- Both financial and real assets are recognized. Financial assets include installment/deposit-type savings (held for at least 6 months from the date of application), funds, insurance, stocks, bonds, and security deposits for rent. As for real assets, publicly announced real estate prices such as houses and land or publicly announced taxes from commercial banks are recognized.

Q2

**I would like to get my status changed from Overseas Korean status (F-4) to Permanent Resident Status (F-5) but I have no income at the moment as I am raising minor children. Is it OK for me to not have any income if my spouse meets the criteria above the standard income?**



- When applying for Permanent Resident Status (F-5), you can add up the income of the family members living together from the start of the income calculation period to the date of application.
- When adding up the income of the family members, the applicant's income or assets must be at least 50% of the standard amount (GNI of the previous year), however, in the case of raising minor children or being a minor child, you are exempt from having to be at least 50% and can apply only with your family's income.

**Q3**

**Is there a way to acquire Permanent Resident Status (F-5) from holding Work and Visit Status (H-2)?**



- If you have been working at the same workplace with Work and Visit Status (H-2) for at least 4 years and meet certain requirements, you may be eligible for Permanent Resident Status (F-5).
- In the case of obtaining technical and functional qualifications implemented by Human Resources Development Service of Korea, etc. or in the case of having an annual income of 70% or more of GNI per capita of the previous year at the time of application for the permanent residency (only the income of the applicant is recognized), you may be eligible for Permanent Resident Status (F-5).

## 5. By Status of Stay - Families of Foreign National Koreans

**Q1**

**I gave birth while staying in Korea with Overseas Korean Status (F-4). Is there a procedure that I need to follow such as birth registration?**



- Please visit the jurisdictional Immigration Office and apply for Family Visitor (F-1) for your child within 90 days of the child's birth. Otherwise, you will be subject to an administrative fine after 90 days.
- Please take the integrated application form, passport and a copy of passport, 1 photo of standard size, birth certificate, documents proving the place of residence, fee, etc. with you when you visit the Immigration Office.  
- If a birth certificate from a domestic hospital is submitted, the birth must be notified to the home country by the next application for the extension of period of stay.

**Q2**

**I am currently staying in Korea with Overseas Korean Status (F-4). Can I invite my parents under Family Visitor Status (F-1)?**



- The scope of the family that foreign national Koreans can invite under Family Visitor Status (F-1) is limited to spouses and minor children.
- However, in the case of foreign national Koreans attending elementary, middle, and high schools with the Overseas Korean Status (F-4), Family Visitor Status (F-1) is granted for their parents to ensure stable sojourn and studies.

Q3

**I am staying in Korea with Overseas Korean Status (F-4) with my family. I got the Certificate of Domestic Residence Report issued but my family is not indicated in the family relations. Can I register my family relationship?**



- Family relations are not registered for Overseas Korean (F-4) status holders. Those with accompanying families indicated on the certificate is limited to the following that are granted based on family relationships.

**[Status of Stay to be indicated as Family Visitor]**

- Spouses and minor children (F-1) of holders of Overseas Korean Status (F-4)
- Spouses and minor children (F-1) of holders of Work & Visit Status (H-2)
- Spouses and children (F-1) of holders of Overseas Korean Status (F-4), Work & Visit Status (H-2), and Permanent Resident Status (F-5)
- Spouses and children (F-1) of foreign national Koreans who have applied for permanent residency

**[Examples of Family Visitor Status (F-1) to Be Indicated]**

- Applicant (F-4 or H-2):  
In the case of spouse/children holding F-1 → **Eligible for registration**
- Applicant (F-4 or H-2):  
In the case of spouse/children holding F-4 or H-1 → **Ineligible for registration**
- Also, the indication of accompanying family on the certificate is registered only for the applicant and only family members in the same place of residence are indicated on the certificate. Even if you have registered them as accompanying family, they are not indicated on the certificate if the place of residence is different.

Q4

**I have acquired Permanent Resident Status (F-5) from holding Overseas Korean Status (F-4). My spouse needs to change her status from the spouse (F-1) of an overseas Korean to the spouse (F-2) of a permanent resident, but her income requirement among the qualification requirements is insufficient.**



- If the spouse of a foreign national Korean has applied for foreigner registration with Family Visitor Status (F-1) and has been staying in Korea before the foreign national Korean's acquisition of permanent residency, the income requirement is exempted when changing the status to be the spouse of a permanent resident.
- If you and your spouse have children, your spouse may be exempt from the income requirement.

## 6. By Status of Stay - Employment of Foreign National Koreans

Q1

I would like to work while staying in Korea with Overseas Korean Status (F-4). Is there a way for me to check if the work I want to take falls under 'simple labor'?



- There are a total of 53 occupations that are restricted for Overseas Korean Status (F-4), which are 41 simple labors in accordance with the 'Korean Standard Classification of Occupations' and 12 occupations restricted to maintain domestic employment order.
- The 53 occupations where employment is not possible can be checked in the [detailed version of the pamphlet](#) on the Hi Korea homepage. Please check the list in advance so as to avoid unnecessary disadvantages from illegal employment.

Q2

I am staying in Korea with Overseas Korean Status (F-4). I would like to get a job as a certified nursing assistant and would like to know more about the scope of employment activities.



- You are eligible for employment activities as a certified nursing assistant with Overseas Korean Status (F-4). However, with Work and Visit Status (H-2), since the health industry is not included in the scope of employment activities, you cannot be hired by a hospital, etc. as a certified nursing assistant.
- Please refer to the comparison chart below regarding the scope of employment activities for foreign national Koreans that are easily confused.

Occupation Type	Overseas Korean (F-4)	Work and Visit (H-2)
Caregiver	Allowed	Partially Allowed* (Personal Care)
Certified Nursing Assistant	Allowed	Restricted
Childcare/ Housekeeping Service	Allowed	Partially Allowed* (Employment Activities within Household)
Manufacturing	Partially Restricted (Manual Packaging & Manual Labeling)	Allowed*
Parcel Delivery Service	Restricted	Partially Allowed* (Loading & Unloading)

\* In the case of employment activities for the Work & Visit Status (H-2), employment is applicable only with companies that have been issued the 'Confirmation of Special Employment Availability' by the Ministry of Employment and Labor.

Q3

**If I have a qualification of the Craftsman level or higher with the Overseas Korean Status (F-4), can I work in the construction industry?**



- In accordance with the 'Notice on Restrictions of Employment Activities for Overseas Korean Status (F-4)', employment for the holders of Overseas Korean Status(F-4) is restricted in occupations such as 'simple labor'. Regardless of whether you have a qualification of the Craftsman level or not, if the relevant occupation is considered 'simple labor', the employment is restricted.

Q4

**Can the Overseas Korean Status (F-4) holder work as a day laborer?**



- There are no restrictions related to the 'period of working' in the criteria for employment activities for Overseas Korean Status (F-4).
- The occupation lists where employment is restricted to Overseas Compatriots (F-4), is a total of 53, and for the complete list, please consult the [detailed version of the pamphlet](#) on the Hi Korea homepage.

Q5

**I have entered Korea with the Work & Visit Status (H-2). What should I do first to work legally?**



- First, please complete the 'Employment Training' at the Human Resources Development Service of Korea and follow instructions to apply for a job.  
- Website of Employment Training : <http://eps.hrdkorea.or.kr>
- Once you get a job, you must file a report on the start of employment within 15 days from the date of employment start.

## Customized Guide for Foreign National Koreans

to Support Their Settlement in Korea





## PART VII

# Other Useful Information



**Customized Guide for Foreign National Koreans**  
to Support Their Settlement in Korea

## Other Useful Information

- The Ministry of Justice has been implementing various policies to support unconstrained immigration and stable stay for foreign national Koreans such as expanding eligibilities for Short-term Visit Status (C-3), Work and Visit Status (H-2), Overseas Korean Status (F-4) and Permanent Resident Status (F-5).
- Please check out all useful information including various policies being implemented by the Ministry of Justice through different channels below.

### 1. Inquiry, Consultation and Access to Information

#### By Phone

##### Immigration Contact Center(at 1345 without area code)

- Available in 20 foreign languages including English, Chinses, and Russian
  - Business Hours : 9:00 to 22:00 (Only Korea, English, and Chinese are available after 18:00)
  - Speed Dialing by Language
    - (Chinese) 1345 without area code → 2 + \*
    - (Russian) 1345 without area code → 0 + \* → 12
    - (English) 1345 without area code → 3 + \*

- ※ 1. When using a mobile phone: 02 (area code for Seoul) + 1345  
 2. When calling from overseas: 82 (country code) + 1345



## Online

### Website of Korea Immigration Service([www.immigration.go.kr](http://www.immigration.go.kr))

- Search for 'Korea Immigration Service' on a search engine (Naver, Google, etc.)
- Introduction of Korea Immigration Service, latest news and announcements, important immigration policies, etc. are available.



### Website of HiKorea([www.hikorea.go.kr](http://www.hikorea.go.kr))

- Search for 'HiKorea' on a search engine (Naver, Google, etc.)
- Information from various sojourn-related petition applications, application progress, and result inquiry to detailed information related to sojourn and naturalization, etc. is available.
- Application for **Visit Reservation\*** available

#### Visit Reservation System

In order to resolve the inconvenience of having to wait for a long time for sojourn-related matters and to provide a more comfortable and pleasant environment for various petition-related matters, we are operating the visit reservation system.

- 👁 Please visit the Immigration Office with your reservation certificate after making a reservation for the date and time you want at HiKorea ([www.hikorea.go.kr](http://www.hikorea.go.kr)).
- 👁 If you visit the Immigration Office without making the visit reservation, you may not be able to get your matters sorted out or wait for a long time.

## Social Media

### Korea Immigration Service Kakao Channel

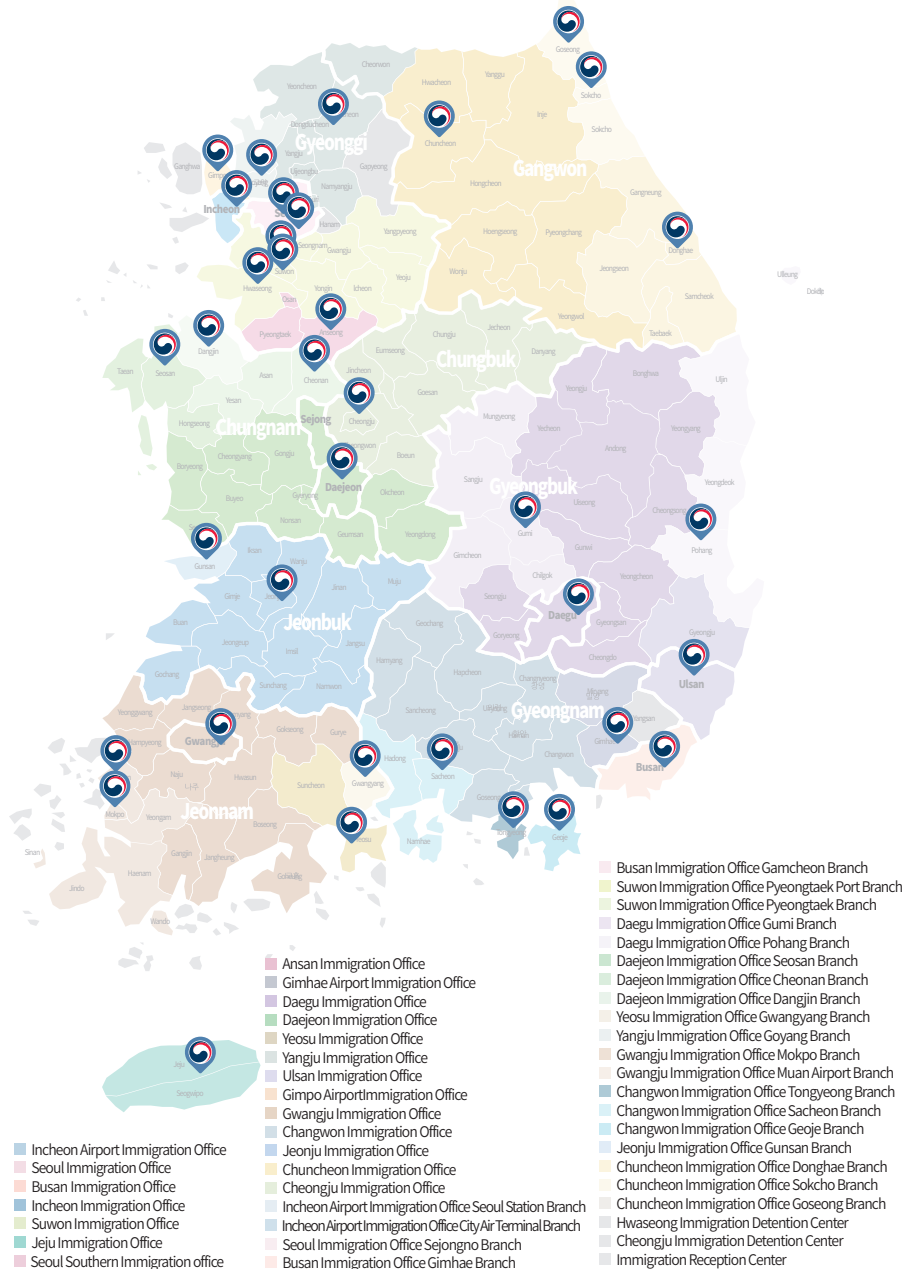
- Search for 'Korea Immigration Service' in the search bar of the KakaoTalk messenger app



### Official Facebook Account of Korea Immigration Service

- Search for 'Korea Immigration Service' in the Facebook search bar

## 2. Jurisdiction of Immigration Offices Nationwide



### 3. Overseas Korean Support Centers Nationwide

(in Alphabetical Order)

No.	Organization Name	Address	Contact Information
1	Gyeongsangbuk-do Goryeo People Support Center	2F, 369, Geumseong-ro, Gyeongju-si, Gyeongsangbuk-do	054-742-4336
2	Goryeo People's Village (Corporation)	35, Sanjeonggongwon-ro 28beon-gil, Gwangsan-gu, Gwangju	062-961-1925
3	Neomeo (Corporation)	37, Jigok-ro 6-gil, Danwon-gu, Ansan-si	031-493-7056
4	Multicultural Village (Corporation)	3F, 65, Hwarang-ro, Danwon-gu, Ansan-si	031-495-2288
5	Daejeon Multicultural Center	30, Gyeryong-ro, Yuseong-gu, Daejeon	042-543-1191
6	Southwest Seoul Global Center	40, Dosin-ro, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul	02-2229-4900
7	Green Star Educational & Social Cooperative	Unit # 401, 4-2, Sinbogun-ro 7-gil, Songak-eup, Dangjin-si, Chungcheongnam-do	041-357-7194
8	Korea Support Center for Foreign Workers	1F, Youngjin Office Building B, 1291, Nambusunhwan-ro, Guro-gu, Seoul	02-6900-8000
9	Korean People's Association	14, Daerim-ro 19-gil, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul	02-2676-6966
10	Korea-China Exchange Association	5F, Cheongam Building, 15-3, Gangnam-daero 18-gil, Seocho-gu, Seoul	02-522-7411
11	Hanjung Sarang Church (Corporation)	Unit # 201, Inhwa Obelia, 14, Nambusunhwan-ro 105-gil, Guro-gu, Seoul	02-837-9296

# Customized Guide for Foreign National Koreans

to Support Their Settlement in Korea

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