

Global Immigration alert

December 2025

Republic of Korea

Korea extends Temporary Electronic Travel Authorization exemption until 31 December 2026

Executive summary

The Ministry of Justice [extended](#) the temporary exemption period in connection with the Korea Electronic Travel Authorization (K-ETA) for residents of 22 jurisdictions until 31 December 2026.

Background

The K-ETA is a travel authorization granted to foreign nationals entering the Republic of Korea without a visa for up to 90 days for business or tourism purposes. The requirement was introduced on 1 September 2021 and applies to residents of [112 jurisdictions](#). On 1 April 2023, the authorities introduced a temporary exemption for residents of 22 jurisdictions. The K-ETA does not confer work authorization to its holder. Individuals who seek to enter the Republic of Korea for work purposes must apply for a work permit before entering the jurisdiction.

Key developments

The temporary exemption applies to nationals of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States (including Guam), and residents of Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan. These individuals remain exempt from the K-ETA requirement until 31 December 2026 and may enter the jurisdiction for business purposes using only their valid passport.

Individuals who are not exempt from the K-ETA requirement must complete and submit an [E-Arrival Card](#) in the three days leading up to their arrival.

Impact on employers

This extension benefits employers that send K-ETA exempt employees to the Republic of Korea by streamlining admission processes.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.



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