

Global Immigration alert

February 2026

Republic of Korea

Changes to employment information reporting requirements

Executive summary

The Korean immigration authorities recently classified certain employment-related changes as items that must be reported under the Alien Registration information update requirements. Beginning 1 July 2026, all submissions must be filed online. Until 30 June 2026, foreign nationals may continue to file either in person at the immigration office or online, and filings may still be submitted through an authorized immigration agency.

Background

Employment and assignment details for foreign residents are core components of Korea's stay-management framework. When changes occur, individuals holding work-eligible statuses are generally required to report them within 15 days. This rule applies broadly across E, D, F and H series visa categories.

The following changes were, and remain, reportable:

- *Job or occupation change*

- A report is required when primary duties change. If the job title does not exactly match the Korean Standard Classification of Occupations, employees must select the closest match based on primary duties.
- A change in employment status (e.g., employed to unemployed, excluding permanent departure) must also be reported. This requirement is separate from the employer's employment change notification for E-type visas.

- *Industry change*

- If the industry associated with the role changes, a report must be filed within 15 days. Where classifications do not perfectly align, employees must use the industry linked to the primary duties.

- *Annual income bracket change*

- "Annual income" includes all income from gainful activity, such as base salary and fixed contractual performance-based pay or bonuses.
- A report must be filed within 15 days of the point when a different annual income bracket can be reasonably foreseen. For foreign-currency pay, exchange-rate fluctuations are not considered; authorities focus on the accuracy of the reported bracket.
- If official documents later confirm that income falls into a different bracket, a follow-up report is recommended. A discrepancy alone does not trigger a fine.

Key developments

Until 30 June 2026, applications may be filed either in person at the immigration office or online through [HiKorea](#). Beginning 1 July 2026, however, only online submissions via HiKorea will be accepted, either through an individual's HiKorea account or through an authorized agency using the membership system.

Impact on employers

Employers may proactively adjust internal mobility and HR workflows to prepare for mandatory online filing. Employers are strongly encouraged to implement internal controls that ensure compliance with the 15-day reporting requirement.

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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