

Global Immigration alert

April 2025

Republic of Korea

New documentation requirement for F-3 Dependent Visa applications

Executive summary

Effective 1 April 2025, foreign nationals who seek to apply for F-3 Dependent Visas are required to submit apostilled or legalized original documents that confirm their family relationship with the primary applicant.

Background

Previously, F-3 Dependent Visa applicants could submit original documents proving the family relationship without an apostille or consular legalization, provided these documents were in English or Korean. The Ministry of Justice has now introduced a new procedure to verify the authenticity of all overseas documents submitted to the Korean immigration offices, including those in English and Korean.

Key developments

Under the new regulation, applicants are required to submit original documents (e.g., marriage certificate, birth certificate) issued no more than three months prior to the filing of the visa application, that are apostilled or legalized. Since processing times for obtaining these documents can vary by country, applicants may consider the timeline for their visa application. Applicants may request additional copies of the original documents from the issuing authority to ensure they have sufficient documentation for both the visa application and other applications.

Impact on employers

Employers may ensure that the impacted employees are aware of, and comply with, the new document requirements to minimize delays and business disruptions.

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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