

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.



Shape the future
with confidence

EY is building a better working world by creating new value for clients, people, society and the planet, while building trust in capital markets.

Enabled by data, AI and advanced technology, EY teams help clients shape the future with confidence and develop answers for the most pressing issues of today and tomorrow.

EY teams work across a full spectrum of services in assurance, consulting, tax, strategy and transactions. Fueled by sector insights, a globally connected, multi-disciplinary network and diverse ecosystem partners, EY teams can provide services in more than 150 countries and territories.

All in to shape the future with confidence.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. Information about how EY collects and uses personal data and a description of the rights individuals have under data protection legislation are available via ey.com/privacy. EY member firms do not practice law where prohibited by local laws. For more information about our organization, please visit ey.com.

© 2025 Ernst & Young LLP.
All Rights Reserved.

EYG no. 010522-25GbI

2101-3682263
ED None

This material has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to be relied upon as accounting, tax, legal or other professional advice. Please refer to your advisors for specific advice.

ey.com

Jee Young Chung
Partner - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +82 2 3787 4004
Email: jee-young.chung@kr.ey.com

Zion Bae
Senior Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +82 2 3787 4223
Email: zion.bae@kr.ey.com