

# Effective February 12, 2026, the Ministry of Justice will implement 'Overseas Korean Status Consolidation Policy,' applying the same standards for all countries.



## 1 The two different visas for overseas Koreans will be consolidated into the Overseas Korean (F-4) visa.

### 1 Same Standards for All Countries



The period of stay (up to 3 years) will be granted based on Korean language proficiency and the enrollment/completion of the Korea Immigration & Integration Program (KIIP).



Individuals with a criminal record involving murder, rape, drugs, or voice phishing are ineligible for the F-4 visa.

### 2 Issuance of Overseas Korean (F-4) Visa

Current Work and Visit (H-2) visa holders may change their visa status to F-4 visa by submitting a 'Consolidated Application Form.'

※ Online Application is available via Hi, Korea ([www.hikorea.go.kr](http://www.hikorea.go.kr)).

- Required Document: F-4 Consolidated Application Form (Report Form)

- Processing Fee: waived until December 31, 2027

(The Domestic Residence Report issuance fee is not waived)

※ Additional documents may be required during processing



#### Please note

- Issuance of Work and Visit (H-2) visa will be suspended.
- Current H-2 visa holders may remain in Korea until their allowed period of stay expires.

## 2 F-4 visa holders will be eligible to work in a broader range of occupations.

F-4 visa holders will now be able to engage in **10 occupations** that were previously restricted.

<b>10</b> Newly Permitted Occupations	construction laborer	mining laborer	loading/unloading laborer	loading/unloading laborer (miscellaneous types)	manual packaging laborer
	manual labeling laborer	gas station attendant	store shelf stocker	parking attendant	vending machine attendant

※ The number of occupations restricted for F-4 visa holders will be reduced from 47 to 37.

## 3 Benefits will be provided to individuals with high Korean proficiency or outstanding volunteer records.





Individuals who demonstrate high Korean language proficiency or an outstanding record of volunteer work will be eligible for relaxed income requirements\* when applying for Permanent Resident (F-5) visa.

\* High Korean language proficiency (completed KIIP level 5): at least 70% of the previous year's GNI per capita.

Volunteer work experience of 100 or more hours within the previous 6 months: at least 80% of the previous year's GNI per capita.

### For more information

 Immigration Contact Center under the Ministry of Justice  
(Call **1345**, without area code; interpretation available)

 Hi, Korea website  
[www.hikorea.go.kr](http://www.hikorea.go.kr)

 Overseas Korean Residency Support Centers designated by the Ministry of Justice (23 locations nationwide)