

Full Implementation of Korea Electronic Travel Authorization (K-ETA) Starting September 1st, 2021

Starting from 1 September, 2021, travelers from countries that are required a K-ETA must hold a K-ETA by applying on the K-ETA website (or mobile app) at least 24 hours before their flight. Only K-ETA approved travelers will be able to board a flight bound to the Republic of Korea.

Please read the following information carefully to avoid inconvenience when travelling to Korea.

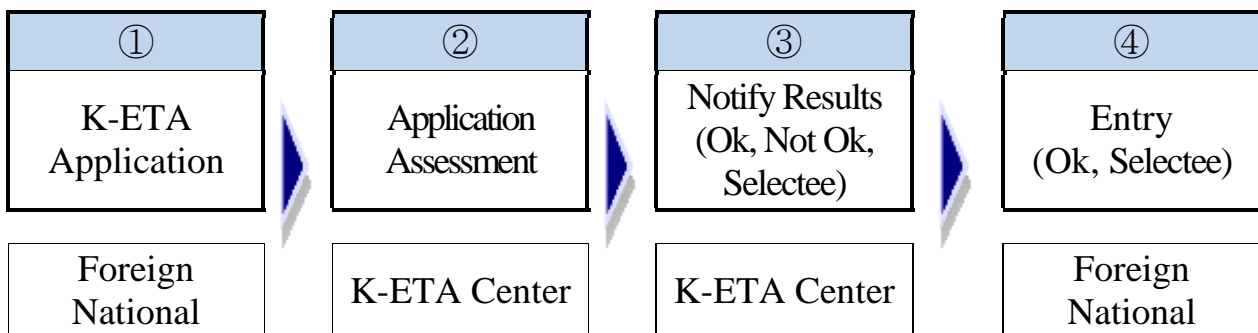
Subject	K-ETA Pilot Operation (From 3 May to 31 August, 2021)	K-ETA Full Implementation (From 1 September, 2021)
Countries Eligible for K-ETA	A total of 112 countries, including visa waiver countries (B-1) and designated visa-free entry countries (B-2)	
K-ETA Eligible Countries Adjusted due to COVID-19	K-ETA available to 21 countries (visa is required for 91 countries)	K-ETA available to 49 countries (visa is required for 63 countries) * List of countries subject to change depending on the COVID-19 situation (Check the website for more information)
Boarding Flight	No additional procedure required. Traveler can board the flight after check-in.	Traveler must apply for K-ETA at least 24 hours before boarding the flight. *Website: www.k-eta.go.kr Mobile app: K-ETA *Fee is 10,000KRW and validity is 2 years (multiple entry)
Entering Korea	Travelers need to fill out and submit the Arrival Card. Traveler goes through normal immigration entry clearance.	Travelers are exempt from submitting the Arrival Card. Travelers can use exclusive entry clearance lanes.

1. Main Contents of K-ETA

1. Main Contents

○ K-ETA (Korea Electronic Travel Authorization) is a travel authorization that foreign nationals, who are eligible to travel to the Republic of Korea without a visa, need to obtain by providing personal and travel related information through the K-ETA website (or mobile app) in advance

○ Application and Approval Procedure



① **(Application)** Foreign national should apply for the K-ETA on the K-ETA website* at least 24 hours before departure

● PC: www.k-eta.go.kr, Mobile App: K-ETA (App Store, Google Play Store)

② **(Assessment)** The K-ETA system will automatically analyze the application information (bio data (facial image), watch list, passenger reliability, etc.)

– If there are no issues, generally the application will be automatically approved within 30 minutes.

– If any issues arise, the K-ETA official will check and determine the traveler as ‘Selectee*’ or ‘Not OK’ within 24 hours.

■ Selectees will be sent to secondary inspection upon entry and in-depth interviews will be carried out.

③ **(Notification)** Results will be sent to the e-mail address submitted by foreign national applicant

④ **(Entry)** Those who received ‘OK’ will be exempt from submitting the arrival card, and those who received ‘Selectee’ will be sent to

secondary inspection for in-depth interview before final determination of admission. K-ETA approved (including 'Selectees') persons will receive convenience such as being exempt from submitting arrival cards upon entry.

○ K-ETA Required Countries: 112 Countries that can enter Korea without a visa

- Nationals of ① **66 visa-waiver (B-1) countries** and ② **46 designated visa-free entry (B-2) countries**
- However, due to the current COVID-19 situation, the K-ETA will only be available for ① visa-free entry eligible nationals of 49 countries (attachment 2) as of 1 September and ② priority entry (business) persons (attachment 4) from the 63 countries (attachment 3) that are temporarily suspended visa-free entry.

○ K-ETA Fee: 10,000KRW

○ K-ETA Validity: 2 years from the date of approval, regardless of number of entries within the validity period

- For priority entry persons such as business persons, K-ETA is valid for single entry.

2. List of 49 K-ETA Countries (as of 1 September, 2021)

The United States, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Nicaragua, Commonwealth of Dominica, Barbados, Venezuela, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Kitts-Nevis, Malta, Ireland, Guyana, Monaco, Holy See (Vatican City State), San Marino, Andorra, Albania, Slovenia, Guam, New Caledonia, Palau
Greece, Netherlands, Denmark, Germany, Latvia, Romania, Luxembourg, Lithuania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Sweden, Spain, Slovakia, Estonia, Austria, Italy, Czech Republic, Croatia, Portugal, Poland, France, Finland, Hungary, Norway, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Iceland

3. List of 63 Countries Currently Suspended from K-ETA Application (as of 1 September, 2021)

63 Countries	
Asia (17)	Macau, Malaysia, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Qatar, Kuwait, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Hong Kong
Americas (23)	Guatemala, Grenada, Dominican Republic, Bahamas, Brazil, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Haiti, Antigua and Barbuda, El Salvador, Uruguay, Jamaica, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Trinidad and Tobago, Panama, Peru, Canada, Argentina, Honduras, Paraguay, Ecuador
Europe (4)	Russia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia
Oceania (11)	Nauru, New Zealand, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Fiji, Tonga, Tuvalu, Australia
Africa (8)	Republic of South Africa, Lesotho, Morocco, Mauritius, Botswana, Seychelles, Eswatini, Tunisia

4. K-ETA Application Guide for Priority Entry Persons

1. K-ETA application will be available for priority entry (business) persons starting from 1 September, 2021.

○ Among those nationals from 63 countries currently suspended from visa-free entry (attachment 3), whose purpose of stay is short-term visit (C-3), and who intends to enter Korea for ‘important business purposes’.

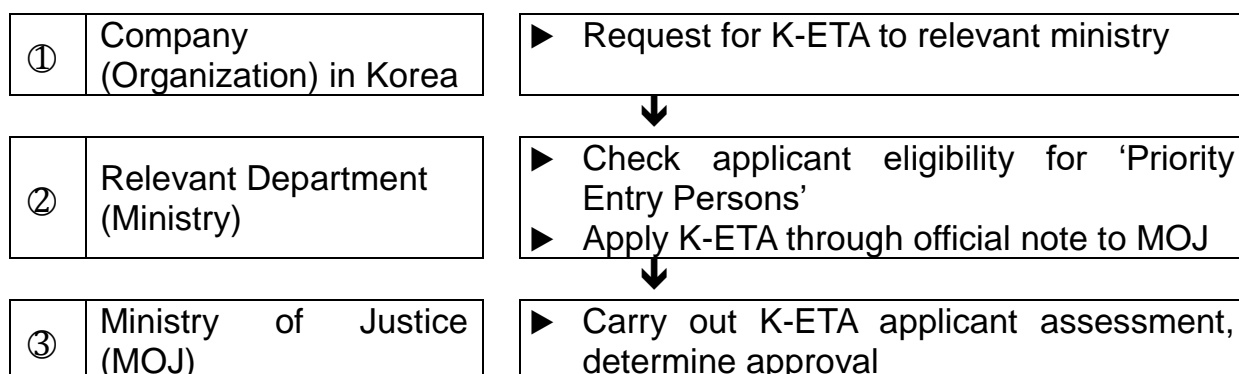
■ **(Eligible applicants for C-3 visa)** A person who plans to stay for a period not exceeding 90 days for the purpose of commercial activities such as market research, business contact, consulting, contracts, etc. and tourism, transit, recuperation, visiting relatives, non-official sports games, attending events or meetings, performing cultural art, engaging in a training, taking lessons, attending a religious ceremony, collecting documents for academic research or any other equivalent activities

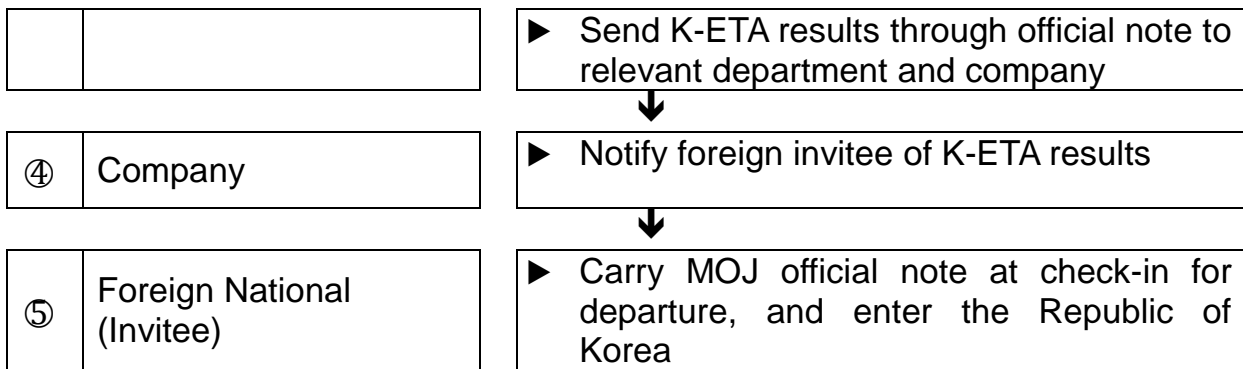
○ Short-term Employment (C-4) visa holders are not eligible to apply for K-ETA through the ‘Priority Entry Persons’ scheme.

■ **(Eligible applicants for C-4 visa)** A person who plans to stay for the purpose of temporary performance, advertisement or fashion models, lecture/speeches, research, technical consulting or any other equivalent for-profit activities

* Business persons from the 49 countries eligible for K-ETA application can apply for K-ETA on the K-ETA website (www.k-eta.go.kr) or mobile app (K-ETA) regardless of the COVID-19 situation.

2. Application and Approval Procedures





* K-ETA assessment may take up to 5 business days from the date of receipt of the official note regarding application

3. Detailed Information

- ① Company (organization) in Korea that intends to invite a foreign national requests for K-ETA to the relevant department by submitting an application enclosed with company-related documents (certificate of business registration, etc.) and the foreign invitee information (application excel form, passport bio page copy)
- ② The relevant department carries out company screening and checks the invitee's eligibility for priority entry persons. Then sends an official note to the Ministry of Justice for K-ETA application.
- ③ The Ministry of Justice determines whether or not the foreign invitee is eligible to enter Korea, and sends the K-ETA assessment results to the relevant department and company
 - * The relevant department will receive an official note, and the company will receive the official note via e-mail.
- ④ The company delivers the official note regarding the K-ETA results from the Ministry of Justice to the foreign invitee
- ⑤ K-ETA approved foreign invitees are required to carry the

official note from the Ministry of Justice to receive the boarding pass and enter Korea.

- **Those who are eligible for this scheme do not have to obtain a separate visa or apply for the K-ETA directly through the K-ETA website.**

4. Required Documents

- Company-related documents (certificate of business registration, etc.), a copy of the passport bio page of the foreign invitee, list of applicants, etc.
 - Required documents may differ by department, please contact the relevant department for more information.

5. Where & How to Apply

- For K-ETA application for the 'priority entry (business) persons', please contact the relevant department to the company's business and submit the documents

<Departments and Business Area>

Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (major manufacturing, medium enterprise), Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (culture, sports), Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (agriculture, livestock, food), Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (construction, transportation), Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (marine products, marine transport), Financial Services Commission (finance), Ministry of SMEs and Startups (SMEs), Ministry of Education (industry-academic cooperation), Ministry of Science and ICT (IT, information and communications, basic science), Ministry of Health and Welfare (health care, medical treatment), Ministry of Drug and Food Safety (food safety, medical device, pharmaceuticals), Defense Acquisition Program Administration (defense industry), Korea Communications Commission (broadcasting), etc.

6. Validity

- K-ETA approved 'priority entry (business) persons' should enter

Korea within the validity period specified on the official note. (In general, 10 days before and after the expected date of entry)

- Unlike the K-ETA issued through online application, the K-ETA approval official note given to 'priority entry (business) persons' is valid for one-time use only. The K-ETA will no longer be valid after the person's departure from Korea.

7. Other Matters

- Even if you receive K-ETA approval, this does not mean you will be exempted from COVID-19 related quarantine measures. Please contact the relevant department for matters related to quarantine, such as PCR test results or quarantine exemption.

5. K-ETA FAQ for Travelers

Q1. When K-ETA is fully implemented from September 1st, which countries are eligible for K-ETA?

A. When K-ETA is implemented in full scale from September 1st, only nationals of 49 countries/regions where visa-free entry is available are eligible for K-ETA. From September 1st, K-ETA required foreign visitors must apply for K-ETA and pay for the application fee. The K-ETA eligible countries/regions are subject to change depending on the COVID-19 situation, and the change would be announced on the official K-ETA website (www.k-eta.go.kr).

Q2. If I am a national of visa-free entry suspended country/region, but I am fully vaccinated, can I apply for K-ETA? If so, can I be exempted from quarantine?

A. Please be advised that the vaccination status is irrelevant to K-ETA application. Even if you are fully vaccinated, only nationals of 49 countries/regions will be able to apply for K-ETA. Also, all visitors entering Korea are required to quarantine for 14 days except for those who obtained exemption for quarantine. For detailed information on the quarantine requirements, please contact the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency (☎ 1339).

Q3. I cannot enter the address in the address box. How can I fill out the address where I will stay?

A. For the address search, you can get the result quickly and easily if you enter both the five-digit postal code and the road name (without the building number and special characters) in the 'Address Finder' pop-up

window. For your reference, detailed guidance can be found at the [Notice] board (No. 5: Address Finder) of the official K-ETA website.

Q4. When I upload my photo, it says that the file size limit exceeded.
What should I do?

A. As numerous K-ETA applications from all over the world are being submitted, there is a limitation with the file size. Your photo size should be less than 100KB and 700*700 pixels. If you find it difficult to change the size, download the K-ETA application (K-ETA) from Google Play (Android Phone) or App Store (iPhone). The mobile app will automatically resize the photo.

Q5. Can I change/edit my application (passport number, name, nationality, etc.) after completing the K-ETA application?

A. Incorrect information can be corrected at any time before the application is submitted. After you submitted your application, you cannot change/edit the information except for your address and contact information in Korea and the purpose of your visit; hence you must re-apply. However, if your previous application is under screening, the system will automatically reject the new application. The result will be sent to the e-mail the applicant entered within 24 hours. You will be able to re-apply after you receive the notification.

Q6. I am a Korean with multiple nationalities. But, I do not have a Korean passport, so I plan to use my US passport to enter the country.
Do I need to apply for K-ETA?

A. By law, those who have Korean citizenship should enter and leave Korea with a Korean passport, even if you have multiple nationalities. If you use a Korean passport, K-ETA is not required when you get your boarding pass and enter the country. However, if you do not have a

Korean passport, you need to get a Korean passport from a Korean diplomatic mission before entering the country.

Q7. If I plan to stay at more than one place, how should I fill out the address?

A. If you plan to stay at various locations, please enter the address of the main location where you will be staying during the visit. If there is a change in the address after you obtained the K-ETA approval, please update it at the K-ETA website [K-ETA Application Results]-[Check e-Arrival Card]. Please be advised that there may be disadvantages if you do not update your address.

Q8. I am a national from a country where visa-free entry has been suspended, but if I depart from (or is currently living in) a visa-free entry country, can I apply for K-ETA?

A. K-ETA application eligibility is based on the passport issuing country and not on the country you reside or depart. Therefore, if you are a national of a country where visa-free entry has been suspended, you cannot apply for K-ETA.

Q9. I have submitted the K-ETA application and received an application number. However, I received a notification e-mail saying that the application information will be deleted if the application is not completed.

A. The K-ETA system automatically sends the 'Notification of Delete for Application' e-mail if there is any incomplete application remaining in the system. You may receive the e-mail if you stopped filling out a K-ETA application and started to fill out a new application. You can check the status of the application on K-ETA website [K-ETA Application Results] – [Check K-ETA Results]. If your application is approved, you

can enter the country with the 'Approval for Electronic Travel Authorization (K-ETA)'.

Q10. Do I need to print out and submit the 'Approval for Electronic Travel Authorization (K-ETA)' and the 'e-Arrival Card' upon arrival?

A. If you receive 'Approval for Electronic Travel Authorization (K-ETA),' you do not need to print or bring the 'Approval for Electronic Travel Authorization (K-ETA)' and 'e-Arrival Card' with you when entering Korea.

6. K-ETA FAQ for Priority Entry Persons

Q1. Who are eligible for K-ETA under 'Priority Entry (Business)

- A. Foreign nationals of the 91 countries/regions where visa-free entry has been suspended who intend to enter the Republic of Korea for an important business purpose are eligible for K-ETA under Priority Entry (Business) Persons. However, those who intend to work for short term to engage in profit-making activities (C-4), such as temporary performance activities, advertisement/fashion models, lecture/speeches, research, technical guidance, are not allowed to apply and must obtain a visa at a diplomatic mission for entry.

Q2. Please explain the K-ETA application procedure for 'Priority Entry (Business) Persons.

- A. First, the domestic company (or organization) applies for K-ETA to the department (Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, Defense Acquisition Program Administration, Ministry of SMEs and Startups, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, etc.) related to their business area.

When the department recognizes that the entry purpose of the applicant is 'important business purpose (priority entry persons)', the department requests K-ETA application to the Ministry of Justice via official letter.

The Ministry of Justice carries out assessment on the received K-ETA application, and then notifies the result to the company by e-mail and also to the department in official letter.

Lastly, the company notifies and sends the official letter containing the K-ETA result to the foreign invitee. Foreign invitees are required to

carry the 'official letter for K-ETA approval' to be issued the boarding pass and enter the country.

Q3. What kind of documents are required when applying for K-ETA under 'Priority Entry (Business) Persons'?

A. To apply for K-ETA under 'Priority Entry (Business) Persons', you need to submit the documents required by the relevant department, such as certificate of business registration, a copy of the passport bio page of the foreign invitee, and the list of the applicants.

For further information, please visit the official K-ETA website and refer to '[Notice] #6. K-ETA Application Guide for [Priority Entry (Business) Persons]'.