

News Advisory  
23 January 2017

## **Korea implements point system in recruitment of foreign workers**

The Ministry of Labor and Employment in Korea (MOEL), starting this year, is implementing a “point system” in the recruitment of foreign workers under its Employment Permit System.

The point system seeks to improve the overall quality of workers in the roster of candidates. In the previous system, all workers who passed the Korean language test are included without pre-determination of their skills and other competencies.

Under the new system, potential candidates whose Korean language ability is low but with high competency for the job have now a better chance to work in Korea. The employability of applicants is now evaluated not only through their ability to read and speak Korean but also their physical ability, level of competence, and job experience.

The point system uses the following selection criteria: a) Korean language test (TOPIK); b) mandatory skills test; c) work experience; d) physical condition; e) related training; and f) skills competency certification.

Applicants should pass the Korean language test before they can take the mandatory skills test and the optional competency test.

The implementation of the new system starts with online registration for the paper-based Test on Proficiency in Korean (TOPIK). from January 31 to February 3, 2017

Only applicants with the following qualifications may register for the TOPIK: Persons aged between 18 to 38 years' old (born between Jan. 17, 1979~ Jan. 17, 1999); With related work experience; no derogatory record; no record of deportation; not restricted to depart from the Philippines; no physical and medical handicaps that will hamper work efficiency (e.g. slip disc, finger amputation, color blindness, color weakness, ishihara deficient, etc); and no Tuberculosis (TB) history. Other details of the new system may be viewed at the POEA website [poea.gov.ph](http://poea.gov.ph). /END