



## News Release

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# Korea amends policy on re-entry of foreign workers

The Ministry of Employment and Labor of Korea has announced the partial amendments on Korea's Act on Employment of Foreign Workers revising its policy on returning foreign workers which took effect on October 14, 2021.

The amendments include the shortened restriction period and expansion of coverage of foreign workers who are allowed to return to Korea as "sincere" or special re-entry workers.

With the new policy, the re-entry period of sincere workers was cut from three (3) months to one (1) month, a move which was expected to address the labor force shortage caused by the 3-month re-entry requirement.

Before the amendments, foreign workers are recognized as sincere workers if they have worked for 4 years and 10 months without changing work place. They are now be allowed to become a special re-entry worker even if they have changed work place or industry and are given the opportunity to work again in Korea for another 4 years and 10 months. Special re-entry exceptions may be also granted on conditions decided by the Korean authorities.

Meanwhile, employers who are hiring Sincere Workers for the first time, are required to attend a mandatory Employment Permit System (EPS) seminar on labor-related laws and human rights. The said amendments on the re-entry policy also included the mining sector as among the industries where foreign workers are allowed to be hired under the EPS.

Filipinos who want to go back to Korea are advised to visit the POEA website at [www.poea.gov.ph](http://www.poea.gov.ph) for announcements and updates on the EPS and special EPS-TOPIK in the Philippines. ###