



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

INFORMATION ON FILING I-130 PETITIONS IN KOREA

There are three types of petitions that are commonly filed here in Korea; 1) for spouses of U.S. citizens, 2) for spouses of lawful permanent residents in the U.S. military; and 3) for parents of U.S. citizens. This information sheet will focus on filing petitions for spouses.

Prior to Filing the I-130 petition:

Before filing the I-130 petition for your spouse, you (petitioner) must make sure that you have followed the requirements for reporting your marriage in Korea. If you have married your spouse outside of Korea, you must ensure that you have followed the rules of the country where you married.

If your spouse is Korean citizen, the marriage should be reported on his/her family census register.

Who May File in Korea

- Military and civilian members with orders to Korea
- U.S. citizens employed with private companies
- Students studying in the various universities
- English teachers

(The last three categories must present a residence card, and/or employment documents.)

Filing The I-130 Petition

Along with the I-130 petition, you must also submit legible, true copies of:

- Your marriage certificate
- Proof of U.S. citizenship/lawful permanent residence card
- Proof of termination of any prior marriage(s) for both petitioner and beneficiary.
- Photographs, one for yourself and one for your spouse to be attached along with the Form G-325A (Biographic Information). Please note that failure to provide complete and accurate information could result in a delay in processing the petition and subsequent immigrant visa.
- Birth certificate of your alien spouse. (If your spouse is a Korean citizen, you should submit three different Certificates; Certificate of Marital Status, Certificate of Family

Relation, Basic Certificate, all Certificates must be accompanied with English translation.)

- If the beneficiary has children from another relationship, birth certificates for these children must be submitted also.
- Fee of \$420 dollars (please check www.uscis.gov for current I-130 fees before coming to your appointment). Payment may be made with Won or U.S. dollars, and postal money orders. Proper identification, a local address or telephone number may be requested for money orders. Certified checks are not accepted. The Embassy cashier will not accept personal checks.

* The petitioner is required to bring copies and originals when filing. Originals will be returned to the petitioner. On the day you file the petition, your petition will be reviewed for completeness and verification of information provided. If there are any concerns, you will be referred to an Immigration Officer who will go over the petition with you and your spouse.

FILE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Petitions filed with the Seoul CIS office can be done by appointment only. You can make an appointment by sending an email to the following email address: CIS-Seoul.Inquiries@dhs.gov

On the day you file the petition, your petition will be reviewed for completeness and verification of information provided. If there are any concerns, you will be referred to a **Field Office Director** who will go over the petition with you and your spouse.

After the petition has been approved, it will be sent to the Immigrant Visa Branch. They will then send a Packet of instruction and forms to be completed by your spouse in support of your spouse's application for immigration (Packet 3).

*Spouses of Lawful Permanent Residents will not be eligible for Immigration immediately; instead, he/she will be assigned a preference date. Please contact the Immigrant Visa Branch for information on the preference categories and waiting period.

For inquiries on this or any other information, please contact the DHS/Citizenship & Immigration Service office at DSN 721-4548 or 397-4548 (commercial). Forms and filing fees can be found on our website at: www.uscis.gov