

Every month, KOTRA Express provides answers to some frequently asked questions submitted by foreign-invested companies in Korea and potential investors.

Immigration priority service for foreign investors

Q. Are there special benefits for foreign investors (D-8 visa holders) in the immigration process?

A. Yes. D-8 visa holders can use the fast-track immigration lane at the airport without having to present the Immigration Priority Card.

Additional information

- Employees and executives of an overseas parent company of a foreign invested company who do not hold a D-8 visa can also enjoy the same benefits through issuance of the Immigration Priority Card.
- An **Immigration Priority Card** is issued by the Ministry of Justice to make the immigration process more convenient. KOTRA is one of the agencies that are delegated to select recipients of the Immigration Priority Card, and the card issuance application can be filed by the foreign investor. Immigration Priority Card holders can use the fast-track immigration lane (the one for flight crew and diplomats) for an expedited immigration process.
- The validity of the **Immigration Priority Card** is **3 years** (from the date of issuance).
- **Eligibility for the Immigration Priority Card**
 - ① Executives and employees of overseas parent companies or Asia regional headquarters that meet the following minimum investment requirements (notification-based FDI amount)

Business category	Minimum investment amount (notification-based)
Manufacturing	USD 15 million
Finance and insurance	USD 50 million
Wholesale & retail, transport & storage	USD 5 million
Others	USD 10 million
Operation of an R&D center	USD 2 million
Businesses accompanying new growth driver industry technology	

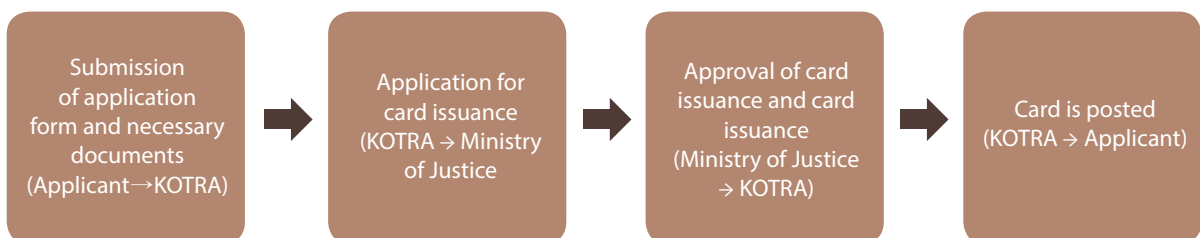
※ When applying for reissuance after the card's expiration date, the ratio of FDI on arrival basis to FDI on notification basis should be 50% or more

- ② Executives and employees of overseas parent companies or Asia regional headquarters of foreign-invested companies with full-time employees of 100 or more
- ③ Executives and employees of foreign economic organizations in Korea
- ④ Members of investment delegations invited by related central administrative organizations or local autonomous bodies

• **Documents to submit**

- ① Application form for immigration priority card
- ② One of the following documents:
 - * Executives and employees of overseas parent companies or Asia regional headquarters of foreign-invested companies: Copy of foreign-invested company registration certificate
 - * Executives and employees of foreign economic organizations in Korea: Certified copy of corporate registration
 - * Members of investment delegations invited by central administrative organizations or local autonomous bodies: Letter of invitation
- ③ Certificate of employment at an overseas parent company of a foreign-invested company or Asia regional headquarters (or documents confirming that the applicant for the card belongs to the company or organization eligible for card issuance)
- ④ One of the following documents:
 - * Companies operating an R&D center: Certificate of recognition of a company-affiliated research institute or certificate of recognition of a research & development department (or official letter of designation as a research & development facility by the Ministry of Trade, Industry & Energy)
 - * In the case of companies accompanying new growth driver industry technology, an official letter from the Ministry of Strategy and Finance on the decision to grant tax reduction/exemption
 - * In the case of companies employing 100 or more full-time employees, a list of the employees insured by the business establishment or a report on status of tax withholding issued by a tax office
- ⑤ Copy of applicant's passport

• **Issuance Procedure**



If you have further questions, please contact +82-1600-7119 or visit www.investkorea.org >>How We Can Help >> Online Consulting.