

ACS Monthly newsletter

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AMERICAN CITIZEN SERVICES

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Message from the ACS Team

Greetings,

This newsletter is a public service for U.S. citizens in the Republic of Korea. Please feel free to share this newsletter with other U.S. citizens.

Best wishes,

ACS Team
U.S. Embassy Seoul



Contact us!

American Citizen Services
U.S. Embassy Seoul
188 Sejong-daero, Jongno
Seoul 03141 Korea

- or -

American Citizen Services
U.S. Embassy, Seoul
Unit #9600, Box 9997
DPO AP, 96209-9997

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2016 Is an Election Year: Are You Registered to Vote Overseas?



Are you a U.S. Citizen over the age of 18? Register to vote – every vote counts!

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) works to ensure Service members, their eligible family members and overseas U.S. citizens are aware of their right to vote and have the tools and resources to successfully do so - from anywhere in the world.

Visit FVAP.gov (www.fvap.gov) to kick off the process and for more information. It has overseas voting information and procedures for every state. Even if you've registered to vote in the past, you need to register again to request an absentee ballot from your state.

When you're ready to vote, drop off your completed ballot at the Embassy. Make sure you use the appropriate postage-paid return envelopes, or in envelopes bearing sufficient domestic U.S. postage, addressed to the relevant local election officials (check www.fvap.gov for this information).

Again, for more information about voting overseas, go to www.fvap.gov or send us an email at VoteSeoul@state.gov

Military Service Obligations for Dual U.S.-Korean Nationals



All male citizens of the Republic of Korea, *including dual nationals of the United States and Korea*, have military service responsibilities in accordance with the Korean Constitution and the Military Service Law.

Korea's Military Manpower Administration is responsible for implementation and enforcement of regulations related to military service responsibilities. For more complete information, please refer to the Military Manpower Administration website www.mma.go.kr (English information is available). The [MMA Overseas Travel Procedure Guidebook](http://www.mma.go.kr/contents.do?mc=usr0000186) (at <http://www.mma.go.kr/contents.do?mc=usr0000186>) may also provide useful information for male dual nationals.

Tax Information for U.S. Citizens Paying Taxes Overseas



The 2016 tax filing season is here! *All U.S. citizens and resident aliens must file a U.S. individual income tax return for 2015*, even if they permanently live outside the United States and may not owe any tax because of income exclusion or tax credit.

For more information, including how to file, extensions, forms, and payment options, you can visit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website for international taxpayers at <http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/International-Taxpayers>. Please note that U.S. military personnel can pick up tax forms from their unit tax advisor or from many base libraries.

The Department of State also has more information for taxpayers living abroad at http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/abroad/legal-matters/benefits.html#headerandtext_5.

Are you trying to contact an IRS office from overseas? If you are a taxpayer with specific individual or business account questions, you should contact the International Taxpayer Service Call Center by phone or fax. The International Call Center is operational Monday through Friday, from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. EST, telephone: 267-941-1000 (not toll-free), fax: 267-941-1055. Taxpayer service, formerly offered by IRS offices overseas, is no longer available.

If you are a tax professional or software provider calling about an e-file issue (and it is not account-related), please contact the e-help office in Austin, Texas, at 512-416-7750 (not toll-free). Assistance is available Monday through Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. CST.

International Taxpayer Advocate: To request Taxpayer Advocate assistance, call the Taxpayer Advocate Service toll-free number: 1-877-777-4778, or refer to Contact a Local Taxpayer Advocate (LTA) in Caribbean US Territories (Puerto Rico & U.S. Virgin Islands) and International, or Contact a Local Taxpayer Advocate (LTA) in Hawaii & Pacific U.S. Territories (Guam, American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands).

Tax Information for U.S. Citizens Paying Taxes Overseas (Continued) ...

Where do I mail my tax forms and correspondence? Please use the applicable address below.

Individual taxpayers located outside the United States:

Internal Revenue Service
International Accounts
Philadelphia, PA 19255-0725

Business taxpayers located outside the United States:

Internal Revenue Service
International Accounts

Ogden, UT 84201-0038

Direct Deposits for Social Security Beneficiaries in Korea



Are you a Social Security beneficiary living in Korea? If you still receive a paper check for your Social Security or other federal benefit payments, you need to change to electronic direct deposit by April 1, 2016. U. S. law requires that all federal benefit payments be made electronically.

Over the next month, you will receive a letter from the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, containing a Direct Deposit Sign-Up Form and further information. You will need to complete the form and mail to the U.S. Embassy in Seoul. If you already receive your payment by direct deposit, you do not need to do anything.

For more information, please visit www.godirect.gov.

Upcoming Outreach Outside of Seoul

Are you located outside of Seoul? Is it inconvenient to come to the Embassy? We offer passport, birth registration (Consular Report of Birth Abroad), and notarial services at military bases and cities throughout Korea.

Upcoming outreach events are below:

Osan Air Base: February 2 and April 5

Yongsan Army Base: February 3 and February 17

Camp Casey: February 16 and March 8

Chinhae Naval Base: February 17

Busan: February 18-19

Daegu: March 17-18

Appointments are required for many of these services. To make an appointment or obtain additional information, please see our website at http://seoul.usembassy.gov/acs_off-site.html.

Closures in February

American Citizens' Services and the U.S. Embassy will be closed for the following holidays:

February 8, 9, 10 – Lunar New Year

February 15 – Presidents' Day