

INFORMATION WHP/WHS

Applicable to students from Australia, Canada, New-Zealand, Argentina and South-Korea

Working Holiday Program (WHP) and Working Holiday Scheme (WHS)

Exchange students and students who are enrolled in a one-year Master's programme who hold the Australian, Canadian, New-Zealand, Argentinian or South-Korean nationality have the possibility to apply for a WHP or WHS residence permit. You can apply for these programmes instead of a residence permit for study purposes. The WHP/WHS residence permit offers students the opportunity of a 'working holiday' (with the possibility of paid work).

We strongly advise students who are eligible for this type of residence permit to apply for WHP/WHS instead of a residence permit for study purposes. The reasons for this are twofold; first, the WHP/WHS procedure is much cheaper than the residence permit procedure (€51 versus €350*) and secondly, the WHP/WHS allows you to work during your stay here; a regular residence permit requires a work permit should you like to work. Before you make a decision, we would like to urge you to check the requirements carefully on [the website of the IND](#) as there are a number of conditions. One of which is, for example, that you can only apply for the WHP/WHS residence permit once in your life.

If you already transferred the visa fee of €350 to us, but decide later on that you do wish to apply for WHP/WHS, then we can refund the visa fee to you.

*Fees are subject to change.

Please note that in case you have dual citizenship of a Non-EU and EU/EEA country as well, you do not need to apply for the WHS/WHP or any other type of residence permit. If this is the case, please notify the Services team of the International Office of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam at studentimmigration@vu.nl.

Costs

The fee for the WHP/WHS permit is around €51 (whereas a residence permit for study purposes costs €350).

What conditions do you have to meet to apply for a WHP or WHS?

You wish to come to the Netherlands for longer than three months as part of a Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam programme (**for a maximum one year**).

General conditions:

- You are a national from Canada, New-Zealand, Australia, Argentina or South-Korea;
- You have a valid passport;
- You come to the Netherlands for a maximum period of one year;
- You are age 18 or older, but are younger than 31;
- You have health insurance that also covers health expenses in the Netherlands;
- You have sufficient funds for the first 6 weeks of your stay in the Netherlands;
- You have a return ticket or sufficient funds to purchase one;
- You have no criminal conviction.

Please note that you are only allowed to apply for WHP/WHS **once**.



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This means that you are not eligible for this type of permit if you have been granted one before. Although you are not required to provide proof of sufficient means of financial support, the Dutch Immigration Service (IND) strongly recommends that you have at least € 900 per month available (plus return ticket) in the Netherlands as employment is not guaranteed.

Please read the information on [the website of the Dutch Immigration Authorities \(IND\)](#).

Working Holiday Programme (WHP) for Argentinian and South Korean nationals

A maximum of 100 South Korean young nationals per year can take part in the Working Holiday Programme (WHP). The same applies to Argentinian nationals. As this type of WHP is limited to 100 participants per year we cannot guarantee that it will be possible to arrange a WHP. The applications for South Korean and Argentinian students have to be submitted to the Dutch embassy in Seoul and Buenos Aires respectively. The Dutch embassy will monitor the quota of 100 participants.

Should you wish to apply for the programme, please find all relevant information on the website of the [Dutch Embassy in Buenos Aires](#) and [Dutch Embassy in Seoul](#). Please notify Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam that you wish to apply for the Working Holiday Programme via studentimmigration@vu.nl. You can also contact us via that e-mail address should you have any questions about the WHP/WHS.

Application procedure WHP/WHS

Apply in your home country

Students from Argentina and South-Korea are obligated to apply from their home country, but this is also an option for students from Australia, Canada, and New Zealand. You can visit the Dutch representation in your home country and submit the application there. The Dutch representation will forward your application to the Dutch Immigration Service (IND).

Apply in The Netherlands

When you are a citizen from Australia, Canada or New Zealand, you can also apply upon arrival in The Netherlands. You can send the required forms to the IND by mail to the following address:

Immigratie- en Naturalisatiedienst
Postbus 5
9560 AA Ter Apel
The Netherlands

You can download the application form from the website of the IND.



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