

‘Seeking startups to expand into Seattle area’; recruitment via Hansangnet until Aug. 29

Supporting the selection and expansion of AI, big data, environmental startups

The Overseas Koreans Agency (Commissioner Lee Sang-duk) is recruiting companies for its Startup Overseas Expansion Support Program through Hansangnet (www.hansang.net) until Aug. 29. This program leverages the overseas Korean business network to support outstanding startups in their global expansions.

The Startup Overseas Expansion Support Program selects outstanding startups in the recently spotlighted AI/big data and environment sectors, providing them mentoring and facilitating their participation in an investment attraction event held in Seattle.

The Seattle investment attraction event will be hosted by the OKA in November. Overseas Korean investors, entrepreneurs, IT professionals and local investors are expected to attend. The event will feature various programs, including ▲ Startup company presentations (IR), ▲ One-on-one business meetings between startups and investors, ▲ Networking events and ▲ Visits to global



The 2025 SME Export Consultation Meeting is held at the Lotte Hotel in Busan on June 10, hosted by the Overseas Koreans Agency.

corporate headquarters.

Seattle is home to the headquarters of global companies like Microsoft and Amazon, and is gaining attention as a region offering abundant opportunities for collaboration with venture capital (VC) firms and accelerators.

Registration as overseas Koreans now possible without basic certificate

OKA announces revised bill that Commissioner Lee says, ‘provides user-centered consular services’

The Overseas Koreans Agency (Commissioner Lee Sang-duk) announced that overseas Koreans residing or staying abroad no longer need to submit their basic certificates in person when applying for overseas Korean registration or changing registered information.

The OKA promulgated the “partial amendment to the enforcement decree and enforcement rules of the Overseas Korean Registration Act,” which simplifies the documents required from applicants for overseas Korean registration-related services. The Overseas Korean Registration Act was enacted to register overseas Koreans residing or staying abroad, thereby identifying their status and supporting their safe stay and activities.

Under this law, Korean nationals intending to reside or stay abroad for more than 90 days must register with the diplomatic mission overseeing that region. They must also file a “change



OKA Commissioner Lee Sang-duk delivers a congratulatory address at the commemorative event for the launch of the pilot service of the Overseas Koreans Certification Center held at the Diplomatic Town in Seocho-gu, Seoul, on Nov. 28, 2024.

report” if their registered details change or a “relocation report” if their address or place of residence changes. Previously, applicants faced the inconvenience of having to obtain and submit a basic certificate for these reports in person.

This amendment enhances the convenience for applicants by allowing the person responsible at the registration office to directly verify basic certificates for applicants for overseas citizen registration or those filing change/relocation reports, subject to their consent, eliminating the

need to separately obtain and present such certificates.

“This amendment will improve the efficiency of processing overseas citizen registration-related tasks,” Commissioner Lee said. “We will continue striving to provide user-centered consular services.”

