

“Excessive Paperwork Required by Public Institutions is a Burden...” ACRC Starts Solving the Recruitment Problem of International Graduates

– ACRC recommends public institutions to make institutional improvement to ease the job applicant burden on international graduates

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In the future, it is expected that job seekers who have graduated from overseas educational institutions will ease the burden of submitting documents when applying to public institutions.

The Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC, Chairperson Ryu Chul Whan) recommended 331 public institutions to ease the job applicant burden of international graduates.

In the meantime, job seekers who have graduated from overseas educational institutions such as universities have been requested to deliver Apostille* or proof of academic background that are translated into Korean and notarized by consular to apply to public institutions or work as instructors of for-profit educational institutions.

- * Apostille: A legalization procedure that authenticates the origin of a document of a country for use in another country. Requires the verification by a public institutions regarding, for instance, certificate of registration or academic transcript which is issued by schools or universities.

Therefore job seekers who want to get a job in Korea after graduating educational institutions based in other countries have no choice but to use private agencies and foreign language translation administrators, which requires a high cost and time burden.

Some public institutions have requested the original submission of academic documents that received Apostille during the recruitment process (e.g. document review, interview) that are blind process and thus not related to academic background, causing a burden on job seekers.

ACRC hence relived the requirements for the recruitment process so that for the screening process where academic background is not a recruitment requirement, copies of documents with Apostille can be also accepted.

In addition, many public institutions required recently issued documents*, so job seekers had to ask for academic background documents several times during the job search period and even go through confirmation of Apostille.

* Example of recent: documents issued within 3 months from the date of job opening

Therefore, ACRC recommended to set the recognition period for documents with low possibility of update, such as graduation certificates, for a long period of more than a year to lower the burden on job seekers with international education background.

At the same time, it was challenging for a international graduates if they have worked as an academy instructor and move to an academy in another region, as they have to receive the original academic document from their workplace or reissue it and resubmit it to the education office which has jurisdiction over the academy.

ACRC thus proposed the Ministry of Education and 17 metropolitan and provincial offices of education to set a function to link relevant information between education (support) offices in the educational administration information system, for the instructors who agrees to provide personal information.

Yoo Hyun Sook, Director General for Institutional Improvement of ACRC said, "Many students study abroad for academic reasons or various experience. We have come up with this institutional improvement plan to ease the challenges they face in the domestic employment process."

Director General Yoo added, "This began with the public's opinion received through Civil Proposal. ACRC will continue to listen to the difficulties of the youth and work for institutional improvement that can help them in their job-seeking activities."