Settle. Seoul

WORKING IN KOREA · INDIVIDUAL ARTICLE PDF

Part-time work that fits around a degree.

The right student job respects your visa permission, your timetable and your Korean level. Here is what is realistically available, and where to look.

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> Links in this PDF open the official source or the online guide. Opening hours, prices, programmes and access rules change — confirm with the responsible operator before you travel.

THE ESSENTIALS

- Check your work permission and hour limit before applying, not after.
- Record the employer, duties, pay and hours from the original advert.
- A job that breaks your visa conditions costs far more than it pays.

Adapted from the Settle Seoul 2027 digital edition, pages 52.

Official routes: Immigration contact centre 1345 · University international office · Settle Seoul job boards — see the Jobs page.

WORKING WHILE STUDYING

Permission comes first

The guide's job-offer rule applies doubly to students: match your visa and permission to the actual duties, location and employer before accepting. Student part-time work usually needs immigration approval and stays within a weekly hour limit that varies by visa, programme and language level. Confirm your own limit with 1345 or your international office.

Before you apply

- Ask immigration or 1345 what permission your visa needs for part-time work.
- Get the hour limit in writing from your university's international office.
- Some scholarships restrict outside work; check the award terms.

Before you sign

- Keep the original advert and every version of the offer.
- Confirm salary, hours, payday and who the legal employer is.
- Resolve conflicting information in writing before starting.

Red flag
Cash-in-hand work without paperwork can breach your visa conditions. If an employer discourages a written contract, walk away.

WHAT STUDENTS ACTUALLY DO

Realistic part-time work in Seoul

These are the roles students most commonly combine with a degree. Availability depends on your Korean level, your visa permission and the semester timetable.

Language & tutoring

- Conversation tutoring and language exchange partnerships, often arranged through university boards.
- Private English or other-language lessons where your visa permits teaching.
- Campus roles: research assistance, library or international-office support.

Hospitality & retail

- Cafés, restaurants and convenience stores; Korean ability widens the options considerably.
- Evening and weekend shifts fit around lectures but check they stay inside your hour limit.
- Busy tourist districts hire more readily for language skills.

Remote & freelance

- Translation, proofreading, design or content work for clients at home or abroad.
- Check whether remote work for a foreign employer is permitted under your visa; ask before assuming.
- Keep invoices and contracts; income may still need to be declared.

Where to look

Settle Seoul's job boards list roles suited to students and newcomers in Seoul. University noticeboards, department mailing lists and the international office are the other reliable routes.

Browse student-friendly jobs →

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