

Changes for the EPIK Program's Spring 2022 Term Application Process

EPIK Application Process Overview

For applicants unfamiliar with the process, the following may be confusing, so please review the application stages under the **"Application Procedures"** section through the applications tab on the EPIK homepage. In brief, application to the program is a months long process that goes through several stages:

1. **Initial Online Application**: Applicants must begin the process by submitting an initial online application through our application portal. Certain documents will need to be prepared in advance and uploaded with the online application. A guide and details on this will be found on the **"Apply Now"** page found in the applications tab on the EPIK homepage.
2. **Interview**: If the initial online application passes the review stage, applicants will be invited to an interview.
3. **Document Submission**: If an applicant passes their interview, they will be asked to submit physical documents to the EPIK Office. A guide and details on this will be found on the **"Required Documents"** page found in the applications tab on the EPIK homepage.
4. If all is in order with the required documents that must be submitted to the EPIK Office following the interview, an official recommendation for placement will be sent to the offices of education, and they will make the final hiring decision.

Below is a list of changes in brief to the EPIK Program's application process for the Spring 2022 term divided by application stage.

EPIK Application Process Changes

□ General Changes (Timeline, Eligibility, Application Withdrawal)

- Applications for the Spring 2022 term will open on **August 23rd, 9AM**, Korean Standard Time.
- All applicants who do not possess a degree in education or a valid teaching license will be required to complete a 100 hour or more TEFL/TESOL/CELTA/CELT certification through an accredited source before a set date to be eligible for the program. Applicants may apply for the program before the course/certificate is complete, but please be aware of the following changes:
 - Courses with an in-class/in-person component will receive preference.
 - There will be greater scrutiny on which certificate programs will be deemed acceptable. The EPIK Office will be the sole determiner of which courses are ultimately accepted.
 - In-class/in-person components taught via synchronous online classes (Zoom, etc.) may be considered as in-class or online on a case-by-case basis.

- ~~Application withdrawal from the program following an interview will now lead to a reapplication penalty of the current term plus 2 additional terms. Withdrawal following recommendation to an office of education will result in a reapplication penalty of the current term plus 4 additional terms. Withdrawal before an interview is conducted will not result in a reapplication penalty. *Removed on 2021.11.22~~

□ Initial Online Application Changes

All applicants:

- Applicants must upload one of the following:
 1. A scan of a nationally apostilled national level criminal record check dated on or after August 1st, 2021. Please review the “Required Documents” section of our website for details on which documents are acceptable and how to obtain them.
 - OR
 2. A scan of a non-apostilled national level criminal record check dated on or after August 1st, 2021 + a scan of proof of application for a national apostille (receipt, e-mail confirmation, scan of application for apostille, proof of payment, etc.). Acceptable proof will be determined by the EPIK Office. If you have inquiries on this, please email epik@korea.kr
- Letters of recommendation from volunteer groups or organizations, social clubs, etc. will only be accepted in if the experience is based on a teaching or education-based context. Letters from freelance contacts, independent nanny or babysitting experiences, tutoring, etc. will also not be accepted. Letters from religious organizations will also only be accepted if in a teaching/education related or employed context.

For UK/Australian Applicants:

- A scan of a UK/Australian birth certificate, certificate of birth abroad, or naturalization document must be uploaded with the initial online application. These documents do not need to be apostilled for the initial online application, but all will need to be for the document submission stage of the application process.

□ Document Submission (Following Successful Interview) Changes

All applicants:

- While placeholder documents will still be accepted for the diploma and TEFL/TESOL/CELTA/CELT certificate at the document submission stage for those who have yet to obtain the documents, applications with submitted completed documents will receive priority with some exceptions.
- Applicants must now ensure that they will receive their physical bachelor’s diploma and final transcripts no later than mid-December.

For UK/Australian Applicants:

- Previously, if an applicant from these countries did not have access to a birth certificate, a simple scan of an official naturalization document or certification of birth abroad

showing their citizenship status would have been sufficient. From the Spring 2022 term and onward, these will also require an apostille.