FAQ 'WHP / WHS'

Requirements

1. *How do I prove that I have sufficient financial means?*
   You have to submit a return ticket. If, at the time of your application, you do not yet have this, you have to prove (e.g. with a bank statement) that you have sufficient means to purchase such a return ticket.
   You also have to prove that you have sufficient financial means to cover the first period of your stay in the Netherlands. Since there is no minimum required amount, this is up to your own assessment how much you will need to support yourself financially.

2. *What are the requirements for the bank statements and return ticket?*
   Both have to be in English or Spanish and have to state your name.

Procedure application for residence

1. *How to apply?*
   For general information about the requirements and procedure for Working holiday, please refer to Working Holiday Program (WHP) / Working Holiday Scheme (WHS).
   - Are you a citizen of Canada, Australia or New Zealand?
     You apply for the residence permit for WHP/WHS at de IND in the Netherlands. You can do this online. Go to ind.nl/en and click on ‘Apply’.

   - Are you a citizen of South Korea?
     You first have to apply at the Dutch embassy in Seoul for a proof of preregistration for participation. You do this by sending an email with your name, date of birth and passport number, to SEO-CA@minbuza.nl. If there are no vacant spots left for participation in the WHP, you will be put on a waiting list. If there are spots available, you will receive an email with your proof of preregistration, which has a serial number. You have to take a printed version with you to the Netherlands. You will need this when applying for the residence permit at the IND.

   - Are you a citizen of Argentina?
     You first have to apply for a Provisional Residence Permit (mvv). This is a special visa to enter the Netherlands. You submit this application yourself at the Dutch embassy in Buenos Aires, which they will forward to the IND. You then will receive a letter from the embassy with instructions on how to pay the fees. Please check the website of the Dutch embassy for the application form and information on how to apply.

Every year, only a maximum of 100 persons from both Argentina and South Korea are allowed to participate in the WHP. No maximum number of participants applies to Australia, Canada and New Zealand.
2. **When applying, is it necessary for me to state a date of entry as well as the IND desk where I want to collect my residence permit?**
   Yes, this is indeed necessary. The date of entry defines the effective date of your residence permit. Also, your residence permit will be delivered to your IND-desk of choice. If this information is not specified when applying, it will slow down the processing of your application.

3. **How do I know if the IND has received my payment?**
   If your payment has not been received (in good order), the IND will contact you.

4. **Will I be informed about the progress of my application?**
   The statutory decision period for an application for WHP/WHS is 90 days. If this period has not expired, we cannot inform you about the status of your application. However, the IND often concludes the application within a shorter period of time. If more information is needed to process your application, the IND will contact you.

5. **How will I be informed that a decision has been made on my application?**
   If you have submitted your application at the Dutch embassy, they will inform you in writing as soon as a decision has been made. If you have submitted your application in the Netherlands, the IND will inform you in writing.

### Travelling to the Netherlands

1. **When do I have to enter the Netherlands?**
   After the embassy has informed you that your application has been granted, you have 90 days to collect the mvv. After the mvv has been placed in your passport, you have another 90 days to enter the Netherlands. Please note that if you collect the mvv too soon, it might not be valid anymore by the time that you actually wish to enter the Netherlands.

2. **Is the date of entry fix or am I allowed to enter the Netherlands a couple of days earlier or later?**
   The residence permit for WHP/WHS has a maximum validity of 1 year and cannot be extended. The date of entrance that you stated in our application defines the effective date of your residence permit. This, to ensure that your stay will not exceed the allowed maximum of 1 year. It is possible for you to enter the Netherlands at a later date, but this means that you will only be allowed to stay in the Netherlands for a shorter period of time. For example, if you stated 1 March as your date of entry but your actual date of entry is 1 April, you will be allowed to stay in the Netherlands for the remaining 11 months.

3. **Can I change my date of entry?**
   You can only change your date of entry as long as the IND has not yet decided on our application. Once the decision has been made, this is no longer possible.

4. **The mvv in my passport has (almost) expired. Is it possible to extend the validity?**
   No, this is not possible. After the mvv has been placed in your passport, you have 90 days to
enter the Netherlands. This period cannot be extended. If the validity of your mvv has expired, you will have to submit a new application.

**Residence permit**

1. *What is the effective date of my residence permit?*
   
The date of entrance that you stated in our application defines the effective date of your residence permit.
   
   Please note, if you have not stated a date of entry in your application, the effective date of your residence permit by default will be the day after the embassy has put the mvv in your passport. This means that, if you enter the Netherlands at a later date, you will only be allowed to stay in the Netherlands for a shorter period of time. For example, if you stated 1 March as your date of entry but your actual date of entry is 1 April, you will be allowed to stay in the Netherlands for the remaining 11 months.

2. *How do I know if my residence document is ready?*
   
   If you apply at the Dutch embassy, you have to state a date of entry. Normally, your residence document will be ready from two weeks after this date of entry.
   
   If you have stated a Dutch address in your application, you will receive an invitation letter to come pick up your residence document at an IND-desk. If you did not state a Dutch address, you will have to contact the IND yourself, as soon as you arrived in the Netherlands.

   If you apply in the Netherlands, the IND will inform you when a decision has been made. Normally, it will take one week, after the decision has been made, before your residence document is ready. You will receive an invitation letter to come pick up your residence document at an IND-desk.

3. *Can I collect my residence permit at the Dutch embassy?*
   
   No, this is not possible. You can only collect your residence permit at an IND desk in the Netherlands. For this, you have to make an [online appointment](#).

4. *Am I allowed to work during my residence in the Netherlands?*
   
   In order to support your holiday financially, you are allowed to work in the Netherlands without your employer having been granted a working permit (TWV) for you. Providing that the work carried out by you is of an incidental nature only. This means that you are allowed to work fulltime, but not for one and the same employer for the duration of the entire year. Also, you are not allowed to have an employment contract for the entire year upon arrival in the Netherlands. This, because the main goal of your stay in the Netherlands is cultural exchange and not paid employment.

   You are not allowed to work in the Netherlands as a self-employed person. If you would like to do this, then you have to apply for a [residence permit as a self-employed person](#).
Residence in the Netherlands

1. *Do I have to take out insurance?*
   You must have a travel insurance with coverage for possible expenses for urgent medical care, emergency treatment at a hospital and repatriation for medical reasons.

   As soon as you start working in the Netherlands, it is mandatory for you to take out a Dutch basic health insurance. If it is established that you are obliged to do so, you have three months to arrange this.
   Please note, the effective date of this insurance is the day that it became mandatory for you to take out health insurance. In other words: the day you started working in the Netherlands. For more information, please check the website [Zorgverzekeringslijn](http://www.zorgverzekeringslijn.nl).

2. *How can I obtain a citizen service number (BSN)?*
   For more information, please contact the municipality where you will register.