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# BUSAN PCS GUIDE 2014

# 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BUSAN

## DO MY DEPENDENTS NEED A PASSPORT IN BUSAN?

All foreign civilians must have a valid passport to enter the Republic of Korea. Unless you're just coming for a short visit, you will also need to have an A-3 visa and a SOFA stamp.

The A-3 visa is a stamp in your passport entitling you to stay in the Republic of Korea for an extended period (normally up to 60 months), and to leave and enter the country multiple times. Unless applied for in advance, dependents typically receive a tourist visa upon arrival in the Republic of Korea.

The Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) is an international agreement between the United States and the Republic of Korea that defines the legal position of U.S. Forces in the host nation. Civilians covered by SOFA (including family members) must have their passport validated with a SOFA stamp. It is NOT automatic.

All dependents regardless of sponsorship status need to obtain a SOFA stamp and A-3 visa within 90 days of arrival in the Republic of Korea. Both are valid for two years and need to be reissued if they expire while you are stationed in the Republic of Korea.

You can find information on the process and forms at [8tharmy.korea.army.mil/sja/clientlegalsvc/](http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/sja/clientlegalsvc/). The staff at the Busan Storage Center, Bldg S-1311, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Rm. 203 (DSN: 315-763-7797) will review your application and take it to the Korean Immigration Office in Jungang-dong, Jung-gu, Busan for processing. Additionally, this office is responsible for registering service members and their dependents in Defense Biometric Identification Data System (DBIDS) for access to U.S. installations as well as issuing ration cards.

Further information, regarding visas for the Republic of Korea, is available from the Korean Embassy in Washington, D.C. at 202-939-5660 or on their web at [usa.mofa.go.kr](http://usa.mofa.go.kr)

## WHAT SCHOOLS ARE AVAILABLE IN BUSAN?

There are no DoD schools located in Busan. The two primary international schools are Busan International Foreign School (BIFS) and Busan Foreign School (BFS). It is possible for dependents to attend other Korean schools as well. However, service members must get approval through the Non-DoD Schools Program (NDSP) at [www.dodea.edu/nondod/](http://www.dodea.edu/nondod/).

For more information, please see the following resources:

Busan Foreign School - [www.busanforeignschool.org](http://www.busanforeignschool.org) and [www.flickr.com/photos/usnavykorea/sets/72157648744788102/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/usnavykorea/sets/72157648744788102/)

Busan International Foreign School - [www.bifskorea.org](http://www.bifskorea.org) and [www.flickr.com/photos/usnavykorea/sets/72157648744788082/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/usnavykorea/sets/72157648744788082/)

Nearest DoD elementary school is at CFAC in Chinhae - [www.ctjoy-es.pac.dodea.edu](http://www.ctjoy-es.pac.dodea.edu)

Nearest DoD high school is at Camp Walker in Daegu - [www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/CampWalker/DaeguHS](http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/CampWalker/DaeguHS)

Both BFS and BIFS charge fees that are not covered by DoDEA, but both schools offer programs to DoD and other U.S. government employee families to cover these costs. Please contact the schools directly for more information.

Additionally, there is no DoD childcare available in Busan. Korean daycare/preschool can vary on costs depending on the school and program. Please talk with your sponsor and other military spouses for referrals and always ask for references.

For the most up-to-date information on moving to Busan, check out the information on our Command website at [www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnfk/ffr/relocation-to-busan.html](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnfk/ffr/relocation-to-busan.html) and view the videos on the U.S. Navy Korea YouTube Channel at [www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLb8-W-RsXlnSgnSWfvufGCFbnzbHi33-2](http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLb8-W-RsXlnSgnSWfvufGCFbnzbHi33-2)

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## CAN I DRIVE MY CAR IN BUSAN?

Active-duty military personnel and family members (age 18 or older) who are planning to drive a Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) must get a USFK driver's license. However, you may use your stateside license to legally drive in the Republic of Korea for the first 30 days after your arrival.

Drivers must pass a written test regarding Korean traffic rules and the license is valid for five years. You must call ahead to schedule an appointment at the Driver's Test Office at the Busan Storage Center (BSC), Bldg T-1335 (DSN: 315-763-7779). You can download a copy of the USFK Pam 385-2, Guide to Safe Driving in Korea from [usarmy.vo.llnwd.net/e2/c/downloads/326068.pdf](http://usarmy.vo.llnwd.net/e2/c/downloads/326068.pdf)

You will be able to ship one POV or purchase a vehicle from the local economy when you arrive in the Republic of Korea. All vehicles must pass an inspection, they must be insured, and they must be registered at the Vehicle Registration office at the BSC, Bldg 1311 (DSN: 315-763-7742). All E-7 and above service members are authorized to register a POV. Service members E-6 and below must receive approval from the CNFK Chief of Staff through an exception to policy letter. Only one POV is authorized per family for command sponsored personnel unless an exception to policy is approved.

The first step to registering a vehicle is to get a temporary registration from the BSC. If you are shipping your POV from the U.S., it will go to the Vehicle Processing Center on Camp Henry in USAG Daegu (DSN: 325-768-8381). You must take your temporary registration with you to pickup your vehicle.

After pickup, you must obtain a vehicle safety inspection from the Car Care Center at Camp Henry (DSN: 315-768-8164) or the Vehicle Registration Office located at the BSC. Once completed, take the inspection form and the vehicle registration forms to the Vehicle Registration Office at the BSC to order your license plates. Plates can take up to one week to process and must be installed at the Vehicle Registration Office at the BSC.

## WHERE CAN I LIVE IN BUSAN?

Busan is the second largest city in the Republic of Korea and has an abundance of modern apartments. However, there are still some differences to the U.S. standard such as size, electric voltage, garage, etc. There are ample apartments all over Busan, well within the Overseas Housing Allowance limits, in popular areas including Haeundae, Kyungsung, Gwangali and Centum City.

Service members have 3 options for house hunting: on your own, through the CFAC Housing Office in Chinhae, or through a local realtor, who has been verified by the CFAC Housing Office.

It is highly recommended going through the CFAC Housing Office in order to get better service and prevent complications such as financial dispute or eviction. Regardless of how you find your new home, all housing units must be inspected and certified by a CFAC Housing Representative as adequate and the lease must be processed by the CFAC Housing Office.

The CFAC Housing Office maintains an off-base referral list of units that meet the requirements as outlined in USFK Reg 210-51, USFK Housing Referral Service Program. Safety inspections will be performed and a fair market price will be determined and agreed to by the owners. If you enter into a lease with property from this list, the CFAC Housing Office can assist if problems arise during your lease period.

Typically, service members pay the monthly rent in the local currency, the Korean won, to the landlord and should ask for a receipt for each transaction. Each apartment complex is slightly different, but in general maintenance/electric bills are similar to homeowner/condo fees plus monthly electric bill in the U.S.

For more information, please see the CFAC Housing Office website at [www.cfachousing.net](http://www.cfachousing.net) or call DSN: 315-762-5273.

To see what a typical Korean apartment in Busan looks like, check out the video at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZA3zDH21As](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZA3zDH21As).

# 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BUSAN

## HOW DO I GET HEALTHCARE IN BUSAN?

Medical screening for overseas duty is required for both active duty personnel and their dependents prior to transfer from their detaching command. Certain conditions requiring continuous specialty care may be determined to be incompatible with this location. Decisions on overseas suitability are referred to Naval Hospital Yokosuka's OSS committee. Their guidelines can be found at [www.med.navy.mil/sites/nhyoko/Pages/OverseasScreening.aspx](http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nhyoko/Pages/OverseasScreening.aspx).

Branch Health Clinic (BHC) Chinhae on Fleet Activities Chinhae is the closest DoD medical facility and is a satellite clinic of the U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka, Japan. It is staffed by a Family Medicine Physician and an Independent Duty Corpsman. It provides outpatient medical care (adult, pediatric and OB/Gyn) to the active duty service members and their dependents.

All active duty Navy service members stationed in Busan must be enrolled at BHC Chinhae. Dependents in Busan are typically enrolled in TRICARE Overseas Prime Remote, which allows them to see a local Korean physician for primary care, but some families choose to enroll at BHC Chinhae or seek periodic care at BHC Chinhae for certain needs and second opinions. For more information about BHC Chinhae, see their website at [www.med.navy.mil/sites/nhyoko/Pages/Chinhae.aspx](http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nhyoko/Pages/Chinhae.aspx)

International SOS (ISOS) is the Tricare-affiliated service that coordinates healthcare overseas. You can find more information about this program at [www.tricare-overseas.com/TPR.htm](http://www.tricare-overseas.com/TPR.htm). In most cases, medical care will be referred to the most convenient ISOS network provider in Busan.

Many of the Korean hospitals in Busan maintain an international clinic with reception, appointment booking and translation services in English, Russian, Chinese, Japanese and other languages. Many of the specialty physicians are U.S. or British trained and fluent or conversant in English.

In Busan, inpatient and specialty care is provided at one of four Tricare-approved and accredited local Korean hospitals.

Busan St. Mary's Hospital (Sung Mo)  
[www.bsm.or.kr/02info/info08.asp](http://www.bsm.or.kr/02info/info08.asp)  
COMM from US: 011-82-51-933-7061

Pusan National University Hospital  
International Health Center  
[www1.pnuh.co.kr/english/english/00\\_main/main.jsp](http://www1.pnuh.co.kr/english/english/00_main/main.jsp)  
COMM from US: 011-82-10-2799-7031

Dong-Eui Medical Center  
International Medical Center  
[eng.demc.kr/index.asp](http://eng.demc.kr/index.asp)  
COMM from US: 011-82-51-850-8941

Inje University Haeundae Paik Hospital  
International Health Care Center  
[haeundae.paik.ac.kr/eng/main/main.asp](http://haeundae.paik.ac.kr/eng/main/main.asp)  
COMM from US: 011-82-51-797-0566

Emergency care can be provided at any of the above-listed facilities.

For clinical issues that cannot be addressed at the Tricare-affiliated facilities or BHC Chinhae, referrals can be made to the Wood Medical Clinic on Camp Walker at U.S. Army Garrison Daegu or the Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital on U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan in Seoul.

The central appointment line for the entire Korean peninsula is DSN: 315-737-2273. For more information about the U.S. Army medical facilities, see their websites at [www.korea.amedd.army.mil/Medical/PCMH/default.html](http://www.korea.amedd.army.mil/Medical/PCMH/default.html) and [www.korea.amedd.army.mil/Medical/PCMH/Walker/default.html](http://www.korea.amedd.army.mil/Medical/PCMH/Walker/default.html)

If you have questions or would like to provide feedback, please contact us at [cnfk.pao@fe.navy.mil](mailto:cnfk.pao@fe.navy.mil).

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## LOCAL LANDMARKS IN BUSAN



**MAJOR U.S. INSTALLATIONS  
IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

**REPUBLIC OF KOREA NAVAL OPERATIONS BASE IN BUSAN**