INFORMATION WHP/WHS
Applicable to students from Australia, Canada, New-Zealand and South-Korea

Working Holiday Program (WHP) and Working Holiday Scheme (WHS)
Exchange students and students who are enrolled in a one-year Master’s programme who hold the
Australian, Canadian, New-Zealand or South-Korean nationality have the possibility to apply for a WHP
(Canada and South-Korea1) or WHS (Australia and New-Zealand). You can apply for these programmes
instead of a residence permit for study purposes. These programmes offer students the opportunity of a
‘working holiday’ (with the possibility of paid work).

We strongly advise students who are eligible for this type of residence permit to apply for WHP/WHS
instead of a residence permit for study purposes. The reasons for this are twofold; first, the WHP/WHS
procedure is much cheaper than the residence permit procedure (€51 versus €350*) and secondly, the
WHP/WHS allows you to work during your stay here; a regular residence permit requires a work permit
should you like to work. If you already transferred the visa fee of €350 to us, but decide later on that you
do wish to apply for WHP/WHS, then we can refund the visa fee to you.

*Fees are subject to change.

Please note that in case you have dual citizenship of a Non-EU and EU/EEA country as well, you do not
need to apply for the WHS/WHP. If this is the case, please notify the Services team of the International
Office of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam at studentimmigration@vu.nl.

Costs
The fee for the WHP/WHS permit is around 51 EUR (whereas a residence permit for study purposes
costs 350 EUR).

What conditions do you have to meet to apply for a WHP or WHS?
You wish to come to the Netherlands for longer than three months as part of a Vrije Universiteit
Amsterdam programme (for a maximum one year).
General conditions:
• You are a national from Canada, New-Zealand, Australia or South-Korea;
• You have a valid passport;
• You come to the Netherlands for a maximum period of one year;
• You are age 18 or older, but are younger than 31;
• You have health insurance that also covers health expenses in the Netherlands;
• You have sufficient funds for the first 6 weeks of your stay in the Netherlands;
• You have a return ticket or sufficient funds to purchase one;
• You have no criminal conviction.

Please note that you are only allowed to apply for WHP/WHS once.
This means that you are not eligible for this type of permit if you have been granted one before.

1 If you are a national from South-Korea, please read the extra information at the next page.
Although you are not required to provide proof of sufficient means of financial support, the Dutch Immigration Service (IND) strongly recommends that you have at least € 900 per month available (plus return ticket) in the Netherlands as employment is not guaranteed.

Please read the information on the website of the Dutch Immigration Authorities (IND).

**Working Holiday Programme (WHP) for South Korean nationals**

As of 1 June 2014, a maximum of 100 South Korean young nationals per year can take part in the Working Holiday Programme (WHP). As this type of WHP is limited to 100 participants per year we cannot guarantee that it will be possible to arrange a WHP. Also the application procedure for South Korean students differs from the procedure applicable to Australian, Canadian and New-Zealand students. The applications for South Korean students have to be submitted to the Dutch embassy in Seoul. The Dutch embassy will monitor the quota of 100 participants.

Should you wish to apply for the program, please find all relevant information on the website of the Dutch Embassy in Seoul. Please notify Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam that you wish to apply for the Working Holiday Programme via studentimmigration@vu.nl. You can also contact us via that e-mail address should you have any questions about the WHP.

**Application procedure WHP/WHS when you arrived in the Netherlands**

**Information page – keep for future reference**

You do not need an entry visa (MVV) to enter the Netherlands. You do need to inform the contact person at the International Office of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam that you wish to apply for a WHS/WHP. After your arrival in Amsterdam you will need to:

1. **Register with the Municipality of Amsterdam or Amstelveen (depending on the location of your room) during the Arrival Days**
   
   You need to bring the following documents:
   
   - Two copies of your passport (all personal data)
   - A copy of your rental contract

2. **Visit the Dutch Immigration Service (IND) office for the WHP/WHS application**

   You need to bring the following documents:
   
   - A copy of your return ticket (or proof of having sufficient funds to purchase one)
   - A copy of your passport (bring the passport itself as well)
   - Proof of health insurance
   - The IND application form
   
   • A passport photo. Please visit the IND website for the requirements.
   • Payment of 51 EUR (in cash).

The address of the Dutch Immigration Service (IND):

Immigration Office (IND-loket) Amsterdam
Stadhouderskade 85
1073 AT Amsterdam
Mon-Fri: 9.00-16.00
Phone IND 088 0430 430 (within the Netherlands)
(Phone IND +31 88 0430 430 (from abroad)

* The Arrival Days are organized by Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam International Office and take place at the start of the semester. You will receive more specific information about the date and location of the Arrival Days after your enrolment as an (Exchange) student has been confirmed by VU Amsterdam.