Dear Partners,

Greetings.

This is Wonho, Lee from Dong-A University, Office of International Affairs.

Hope everything is going well with you and your respected institutions.

I am writing this letter to you because we have an important announcement about the change in the Insurance Policy for the exchange students.

As some of you may already know, the Korean government is changing the regulations about the insurance policies for foreigners in Korea.

Up until now, the exchange students could get the insurance policy from their home country or get the Korean insurance policy (private ones) which were made specifically for foreigners, with less amount of coverage and less fee compared to the insurance policy, which is run by National Health Service of Korea, that Koreans are required to take out (I will refer to this policy as 'Korean Policy' from now on).

However, from 2021 April, the Korean government was trying to change the regulations about the insurance policies for foreigners making all of the foreigners residing in Korea must also take out the Korean Policy. Since the insurance fee might be more expensive for the exchange students and the procedure of taking out and paying for the Korean Policy may be difficult for foreign students, majority of universities(including Dong-A University) sent official letters to the Ministry of Education opposing to such change in the insurance policy.

However, today, the Korean government did not agree with the universities' oppositions and announced to go on with the change.

Therefore, we would like to give you some notifications about the insurance change.

The first thing would be the insurance fee.

All of the exchange students will have to get the Korean Policy and it will cost approximately 60,000KRW which would be approximately **$55 USD per month (this price is 50% of what Koreans pay)**.

Even though the price may increase, the range of insurance coverage would also increase and all of the foreigners will now have the same amount of coverage with Koreans.

Another thing would be the starting point of the application of the Korean Insruance policy.

The Korean Insurance will be applied to exchange students after their Alien Registration Cards(ARC) are made which means the students will NOT have Korean Insurance at the moment they enter Korea until their ARCs are made.

For us, it takes approximately a month to receive the complete Alien Registration Card from the Immigration Office which means that the students' ARCs will be made around at the end of Sep. or early Oct.

Therefore, this means that the exchange students coming to Korea will not have the Korean Policy from the moment they enter Korea until early Oct.

**Therefore, we strongly recommend your students to have insurance policies from their home countries which can cover their injuries or sickness for at least two month from the date they enter Korea** so that the students can have the insurance covered for them during their ARCs are made.

We understand this issue may be very confusing and complicated.

Please spread this news to the exchange students who will be joining us for 2022 Fall and  do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this issue.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Wonho, Lee