

For International Applicants

# ADMISSION GUIDELINE

---

- Spring & Fall Semester **2026** -



KOREA ADVANCED INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## Contents

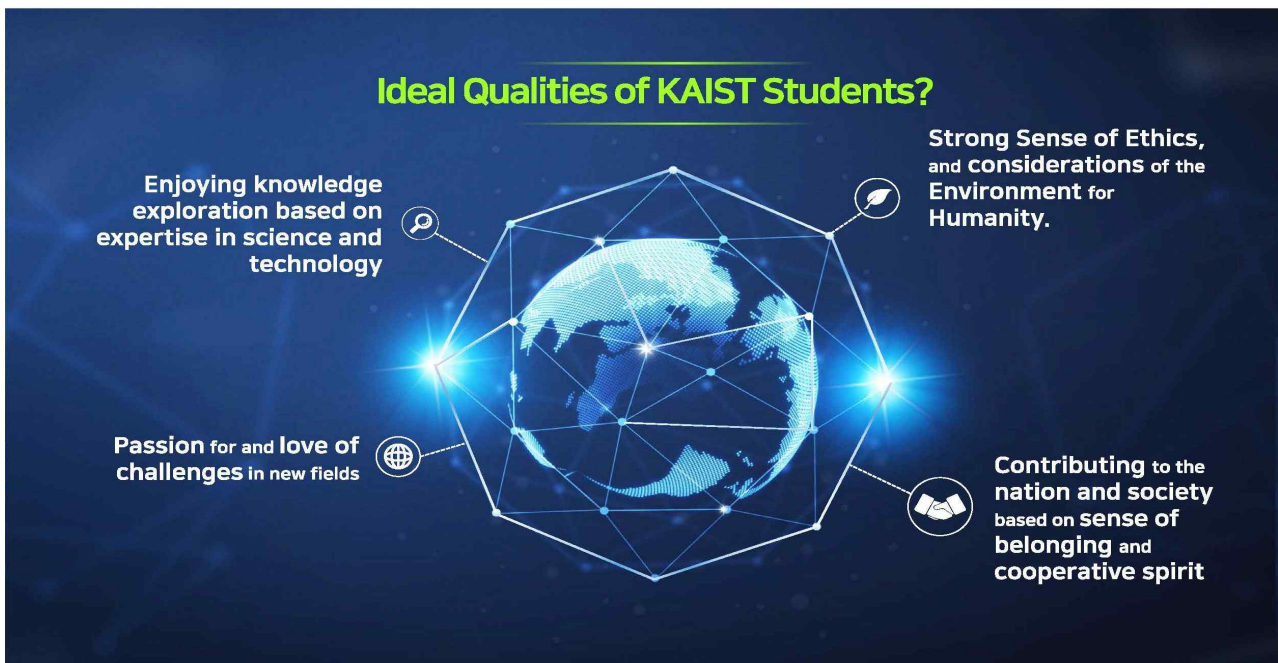
I. Academic Programs for Undergraduate Students .....	P.4
II. Application Timeline .....	P.5
III. Application Process at a Glance .....	P.6
IV. Eligibility & Requirements .....	P.8
↳ Applicants who completed (or will have completed) high schools in Korea .....	P.13
V. Application Fee .....	P.14
VI. Selection Process .....	P.15
VII. Important Notes .....	P.16
VIII. Apostille Requirements .....	P.17
IX. KAIST Application Fee Waiver Program .....	P.18

## Welcome!

We deeply appreciate your interest in KAIST. KAIST is the first and top science and technology university in Korea. KAIST was established in 1971 by the Korean Government to educate elite scientists and engineers committed to industrialization and economic growth in Korea.

Since then, KAIST and its 74,999 graduates have been the gateway to advanced science and technology, innovation, and entrepreneurship. KAIST has emerged as one of the most innovative universities with more than 11,000 students enrolled in five colleges and seven schools, including 1,217 international students from more than 90 countries.

KAIST continues to strive to make the world better through the pursuit in education, research, entrepreneurship and globalization.



### OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

**TEL** +82-42-350-4803 | **FAX** +82-42-350-2420 | **E-MAIL** creative.adm@kaist.ac.kr

**WEBSITE** <https://admission.kaist.ac.kr/intl-undergraduate>

**MAILING ADDRESS** Undergraduate Admissions Team, Office of Admissions, KAIST, #102, Yang Boon Soon Bldg. (E16-1), 291 Daehak-ro, Yuseong-gu, Daejeon 34141, Republic of Korea

**WORKING HOURS** Monday to Friday (excluding holidays), 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM (KST)

**1**

## Academic Programs for Undergraduate Students

College	School	Departments/Divisions	
College of Natural Sciences ☞ <a href="http://natsci.kaist.ac.kr/eng">http://natsci.kaist.ac.kr/eng</a>	-	Physics	
		Mathematical Sciences	
		Chemistry	
College of Life Science & Bioengineering ☞ <a href="https://bio.kaist.ac.kr/">https://bio.kaist.ac.kr/</a>	-	Biological Sciences	
		Brain and Cognitive Sciences	
College of Engineering ☞ <a href="https://engineering.kaist.ac.kr/">https://engineering.kaist.ac.kr/</a>	School of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering	Mechanical Engineering	
		Aerospace Engineering	
	School of Electrical Engineering	Electrical Engineering	
	School of Computing	Computer Science	
	-	-	Civil & Environmental Engineering
			Bio & Brain Engineering
			Industrial Design
			Industrial & Systems Engineering
			Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering
	-	-	Materials Science & Engineering
Nuclear & Quantum Engineering			
College of Business ☞ <a href="https://btm.kaist.ac.kr/en/">https://btm.kaist.ac.kr/en/</a>	-	Business and Technology Management	
-	School of Transdisciplinary Studies ☞ <a href="http://sts.kaist.ac.kr/site/sts/">http://sts.kaist.ac.kr/site/sts/</a>	-	

- ▶ Please note that KAIST operates a non-declared major system, allowing students to enroll without declaring a major. Upon reaching their second year, students have the opportunity to select a major that best aligns with their individual goals and interests without additional requirements or admission procedures. KAIST provides various resources, including academic fairs, lectures, seminars, and other programs to assist students in making informed decisions about their major.
- ▶ Please note that KAIST does not provide a transfer system. Therefore, regardless of the student's prior coursework or enrollment at other universities, they will be enrolled as a freshman upon admission.

## 2

# Application Timeline

KAIST has Two Application Tracks: EARLY and REGULAR

### | EARLY |

Application Window Opens	Application Deadline	Doc. Submission & Recommendation Letter Deadline	Interview	Admission Announcement	Firm Offer Announcement	Academic year Begins
SEP. 19 2025	OCT. 23 2025 (5:00 PM KST)	OCT. 30 2025 (5:00 PM KST)	DEC. 23 2025	JAN. 7 2026	Within <b>2 weeks</b> from the verification	Spring 2026 Fall 2026

※ Applicants for the EARLY track may opt to enroll in either the Spring or Fall 2026 semester, provided they meet the necessary eligibility criteria (p. 8).

※ Interview is not a mandatory admission process. If it's deemed necessary, applicants will be individually contacted and provided with further instructions. The interview date is subject to change.

### | REGULAR |

Application Window Opens	Application Deadline	Doc. Submission & Recommendation Letter Deadline	Interview	Admission Announcement	Firm Offer Announcement	Academic year Begins
NOV. 6 2025	JAN. 6 2026 (5:00 PM KST)	JAN. 13 2026 (5:00 PM KST)	MAR. 4 2026	MAR. 26 2026	Within <b>2 weeks</b> from the verification	Fall 2026

※ Interview is not a mandatory admission process. If it's deemed necessary, applicants will be individually contacted and provided with further instructions. The interview date is subject to change.

### ※ NOTE!

- 1) Please note that the dates for Admission Announcement are subject to change.
- 2) Submit your completed application and documents by the application deadline at 5:00 PM (KST: Korean Standard Time).
- 3) Upon completion of the application fee payment, an email will be sent to your recommender. Therefore, it is recommended to complete the payment as early as possible to allow your recommender sufficient time to submit the recommendation letter before the deadline.
- 4) Once the application fee has been paid, the application track cannot be changed (i.e. : from EARLY to REGULAR).
- 5) Due to the time-consuming nature of the application process, we strongly advise completing your online application at least one week prior to the application deadline.
- 6) Interview is not a mandatory admission process. If an interview is deemed necessary, applicants will be individually contacted via email and provided with further instructions.

### 3

## Application Process at a Glance

Step 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Read the admission guidelines carefully.</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🔗 <a href="https://admission.kaist.ac.kr/intl-undergraduate/application/ApplicationGuide/guide">https://admission.kaist.ac.kr/intl-undergraduate/application/ApplicationGuide/guide</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>- Get familiar with the application process &amp; the specific requirements that are mandatory for submission.</li> </ul>
Step 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Visit <a href="https://univapply.kaist.ac.kr/interapply/">https://univapply.kaist.ac.kr/interapply/</a> and create your account.</b></li> <li>- Fill out all the required fields on the online application form and check that all the information you entered has been saved properly.</li> </ul>
Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Review your application to ensure that all the information is accurate and complete,</b> with particular attention to the email address of your recommender.</li> </ul>
Step 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Pay the application fee (80 USD) by credit card or bank transfer.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Any additional charges, such as bank transfer fees, must be covered by the applicant.</li> <li>* Upon successful payment of the application fee, an email will be sent to your recommender providing instructions on how to submit their recommendation, and also you will be granted access to the Document Submission page, where you will be able to upload the required documents.</li> <li>* Once the payment of the application fee has been made, your application cannot be deleted or cancelled. However, you will still be able to update or modify your application within the designated application period.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Step 5-1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Upload scanned copies of all required materials on the Doc. Submission page before the document submission deadline.</b></li> </ul>
Step 5-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>The recommendation Letter must be submitted by your recommender before the recommendation letter submission deadline.</b></li> </ul>
Step 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Check the status of your application to confirm that all your documents have been successfully uploaded. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Applicants who are not of Korean origin are not required to submit the Loss of Korean Nationality and Certificate of Facts Concerning Entry &amp; Exit issued by the Korean Immigration Office.</li> <li>* KAIST does not provide individual notifications to applicants regarding documents in their application. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to verify whether all mandatory documents have been successfully submitted.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Step 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Your application will be automatically submitted upon the deadline. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* There is no submission button.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>[Submission Complete] ▷▶ [Document Review]</p>	
Step 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interview is not a mandatory admission process. If an interview is deemed necessary, applicants will be individually contacted and provided with further instructions.</li> </ul>
Step 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- You can check the final results of your admission application by accessing the following link:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🔗 <a href="https://univapply.kaist.ac.kr/interapply/">https://univapply.kaist.ac.kr/interapply/</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

※ **NOTE !** - Application Procedures

**1) Overall**

Step 1. Complete Online Application (including SOP)

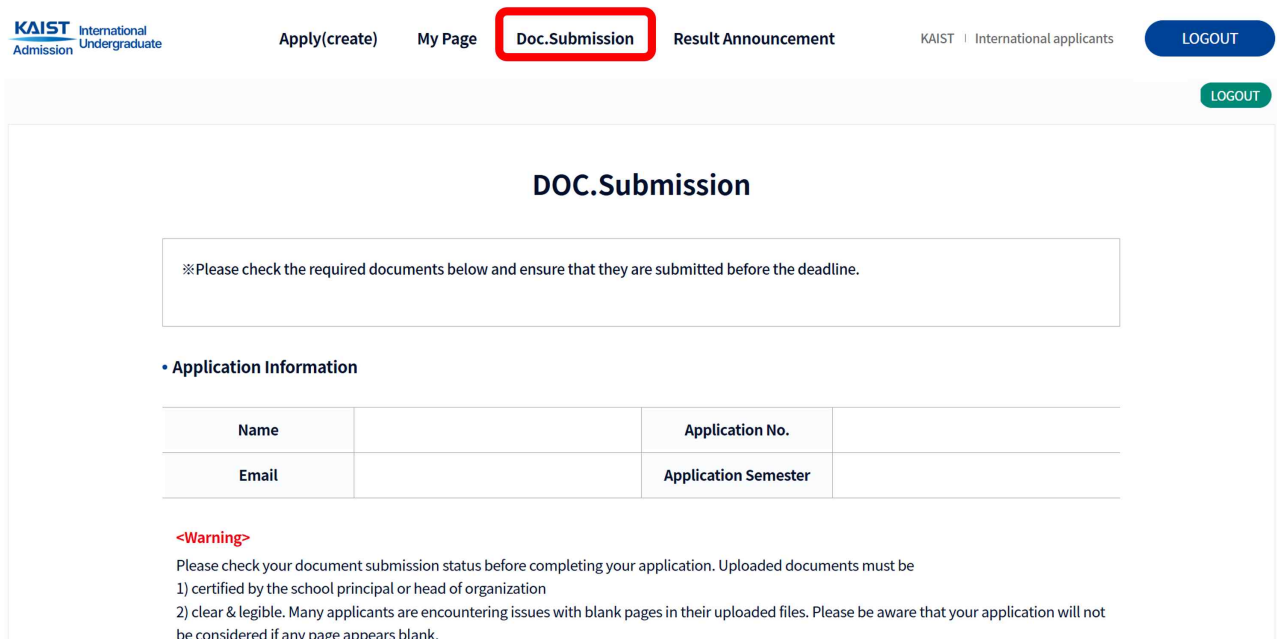
Step 2. Application Fee Payment

Step 3. Upload Documents (My page → Document Submission)

Step 4. Ensure that your designated recommender has submitted the recommendation letter through the email they received from KAIST.

⇒ Application Completed! Your application will be automatically submitted after the deadline.

**2) Details**



**KAIST International Admission Undergraduate**    Apply(create)    My Page    **Doc.Submission**    Result Announcement    KAIST | International applicants    LOGOUT

LOGOUT

## DOC.Submission

※Please check the required documents below and ensure that they are submitted before the deadline.

• Application Information

Name		Application No.	
Email		Application Semester	

**<Warning>**  
 Please check your document submission status before completing your application. Uploaded documents must be  
 1) certified by the school principal or head of organization  
 2) clear & legible. Many applicants are encountering issues with blank pages in their uploaded files. Please be aware that your application will not be considered if any page appears blank.

※ **To finalize your application, you must access the Doc.Submission page and upload all the necessary documents.**

## 4

# Eligibility & Requirements

**Please read the admission guidelines carefully!**

It is the applicant's sole responsibility ① to familiarize themselves with the requirements, ② to ensure the timely submission of all essential materials, ③ and to check the status of their application on the website.

**A. Eligibility** : International applicants MUST meet all of the following requirements.

1.	<p>▶ <b>Spring 2026 (EARLY only)</b> Applicants who have graduated or will graduate from high school by <u>February 28th, 2026</u>.</p> <p>▶ <b>Fall 2026 (EARLY/REGULAR)</b> Applicants who have graduated or will graduate from high school by <u>August 31st, 2026</u>.</p>
2.	<p>▶ Applicants with <u>foreign citizenship</u></p> <div style="background-color: #e6f2ff; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid #add8e6;"> <p>※ <b>International applicants MUST ADDITIONALLY satisfy one of the following two requirements:</b></p> <p>1) Neither of the applicant's parents is a Korean citizen; <b>or</b></p> <p>2) <b>Applicants of Korean origin</b> must have received their entire elementary, junior high, and high school education outside of Korea. The education received must be at a level that is comparable and equivalent to the education provided in Korea.                      ※ Note that international schools located in Korea are <b>NOT</b> acknowledged as foreign schools.</p> </div> <p>※ <b>Applicants who hold Korean Citizenship</b> (including dual citizenship) are <u>NOT eligible</u> to apply as international students.</p>

**B. Requirements** : List of Required Documents at a Glance


Item	Documents	Remarks	
Submit Online	① Application Form	Mandatory	
	② One Recommendation Letter * Upon successful payment of the application fee, an email will be sent to your recommender providing instructions on how to submit their recommendation.		
Upload Online	③ High School or University Transcript		
	④ Passport or National ID Copy		
	⑤ Standardized Official Test Score*		
	⑥ English Proficiency Test Score Report*		
	⑦ Report Certificate of Facts Concerning Entry & Exit issued by the Korean Immigration Office		Mandatory for Korean Origin Only
	⑧ Loss of Korean Nationality		
	⑨ Honors and Awards		Optional (Recommended)
	⑩ High School Profile		

☞ The previously optional submission of the 「English Proficiency Test Score Report」 and 「Standardized Official Test Score Report」, which was implemented during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, has now been reinstated as a mandatory requirement.

## C. Application Documents in Details

### 「MANDATORY」

#### ① Application Form

- Complete application online  
 <https://univapply.kaist.ac.kr/interapply/>

#### ② Recommendation Letter

- Only ONE recommendation letter from a teacher will be taken into consideration.
- The recommendation letter is highly encouraged to be written by an academic advisor, homeroom teacher, or a math/science teacher.
- The letter must be written in English.
- Recommenders must submit their recommendation electronically through the online application platform, using the link that KAIST has provided them directly.
  - ※ Please ensure that the recommender's email address is accurately entered on the online application form. Also, we strongly suggest using Gmail or Yahoo accounts to avoid any filtering issues that may arise from local email accounts.
- Please note that the submission of the recommendation letter by your designated recommender is a mandatory requirement for the completion of your application.
- Recommendation letters CANNOT be submitted in hard copies.

#### ③ High School & University Transcript

- Submission of official transcripts from all high schools (and universities) attended is mandatory.
- Transcripts must include year-by-year records of all coursework taken during the last three years of high school, including any coursework currently in progress.
- If available, the transcripts may also include a statement of personal rank in class/grade.

#### ④ Passport or National ID Copy

- Submit a copy of your international passport or national ID card, along with an official document that indicates your nationality (such as a passport, national ID card, alien registration card, etc)
- Make sure to include a copy of the page that shows your passport number, date of issue and expiration, photo and name.

## ⑤ Standardized Official Test Score Report

- At least one of the Official Test Score Reports such as SAT, AP, IB, GCE A-Level, ACT, high school leaving exam, and university entrance exam results should be submitted.
  - ※ **Important Note** : Official test scores for SAT, AP, and ACT must be sent to us by the testing agency through online reporting.
    - Institution Code of KAIST for **SAT, and AP** score report: 4433
    - Institution Code of KAIST for ACT score report: 7778
    - Institution Code of KAIST for IB score report: 000559
  - ☞ It typically takes 1~2 weeks for KAIST to receive official SAT, AP, and ACT test results when they are reported online by the testing agency. Therefore, applicants are advised to take the document submission deadline into consideration when reporting online to ensure that their scores can be received by KAIST before the deadline.
  - ☞ You can check the status of your online reporting after the deadline has passed at the following link: <https://apply.kaist.ac.kr/OnlineReportingForeign>
- It is highly recommend that applicants submit test scores that demonstrate high proficiency in math and science, particularly in physics, chemistry, or biology.
- If the highest scores for each category are obtained from multiple examination dates, applicants may submit scores from multiple exams. The highest scores in each category will be taken into consideration.
  - ※ **Predicted Scores:**
    - For IB or GCE A-level test takers**, we accept predicted score reports that are written and verified by a counselor or teacher at the school. However, admitted applicants must submit their official IB diploma/GCE Certificate as soon as it is received.
    - ※ IB or GCE A-Level Final Score:  
If you have already received your final IB or GCE A-level score, please submit it with your application.
- Applicants who have submitted their High School Leaving Exam or University Entrance Exam results are requested to provide a one-page summary of the exam. This should cover the exam procedure, competition rate, results, and any other relevant information.

### ※ Note to applicants with predicted scores:

Applicants who provide predicted IB or GCE A-level scores may be granted conditional admission. You must report your final IB or GCE A-level scores as soon as it is received. if you are granted conditional admission.

**If there are significant discrepancies between your predicted scores and final scores, the conditional admission can be rescinded or chances of receiving the KAIST Scholarship may be at risk.**

Be sure to check the firm offer announcement date to see your final admission result if you have received conditional admission.

### ⑥ Official English Proficiency Test (EPT) Score (TOEFL, TEPS, IELTS TOEIC only)

- It is strongly recommended that applicants obtain a score of above **TOEFL iBT 83, TEPS (NEW) 326, IELTS 6.5, or TOEIC Listening & Reading 720.**
  - The EPT must be taken within two years prior to the deadline of the online application.
  - Upload a copy of your EPT score as a PDF file in the document submission section. If you encounter an error code-99 while uploading, it may mean the original file is encrypted. In that case, print out your score, scan it, and upload the scanned file to resolve the issue.
- ※ **EPT Exemption** : Applicants may request an exemption from the EPT if they meet one of the following criteria. KAIST will review their documents and verify the submission of a letter of understanding issued by their high school, which should be uploaded to the document submission section of the online application system in order to confirm the exemption.
- 1) Applicants who are nationals of English native-speaking countries (automatically exempted);  
Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Ireland, Jamaica, Malta, New Zealand, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, the U.K., and the U.S.A.
  - 2) Applicants who completed high school in which classes were taught in English, with English as the language of instruction and the language of the textbooks.

### 「OPTIONAL」

#### ⑦ Certificate of Facts Concerning Entry & Exit (Korean origins only)

- A certificate issued by the Korean Immigration Office within two months of the application deadline is required. This certificate must show all entry and exit records from the applicant's date of birth up to the date of submission.
- Please be aware that admission may be negatively affected or rescinded if false information is found in the submitted materials, or if entry/exit records cannot be verified due to the use of dual passports.
- If obtaining the Certificate of Entry and Exit Records directly proves difficult, applicants may request a third party residing in Korea to obtain the certificate on their behalf. To do so, they will need to provide a copy of their passport, a power of attorney, and an application form. The Korea Immigration Service can be reached at +82-1345.

#### ⑧ Loss of Korean Nationality (Korean origins only)

- Submit Family Relation Certificate, Proof of Loss of Korean Nationality, Family Census Register, etc.

### ⑨ Honors and Awards

- Applicants may submit up to five honors or awards obtained during their high school years.
- The list of honor and awards will only be considered valid if testimonials or evidence are submitted along with it. (Ex. International/National Olympiad, etc.)

### ⑩ High School Profile

- Submit official high school profiles, introductions, or brochures that have been published by the applicant's high school or the Ministry of Education.
- Additionally, you may submit your school's website, GPA rating system, college acceptance statistics, or any other relevant information that would help us understand your school better.
- The submitted school profile should be no more than five pages in length.

## D. Applicants who completed (or will have completed) high school education in Korea

International students who have completed or will have completed their high school education in Korea (국내에 거주하는 국내 고교 출신 외국인 학생) are also welcome to apply for the KAIST Undergraduate program. Please check the eligibility and requirements below.

① Eligibility: Applicants must meet all of the following requirements.

- Both the applicant and his/her parents are not citizen of Korea.
- Applicants with foreign citizenship.

※ Applicants who hold dual citizenship (Korean & Foreign) are **NOT eligible** to apply as international students.

② List of Required Documents at a Glance

Criteria	Documents		Remarks	
Document Review	Apply Online	① Application Form	Mandatory	
		② One Recommendation Letter		
	Upload Online	③ High School / University Transcript ☞ Please submit official transcripts (생활기록부, Transcript of Academic Record) from the high school you attended.		
		④ Official documents indicating both applicant & parents' nationality (passport copy)		
		⑤ Standardized Official Test Score Report ☞ Please submit official test score reports such as SAT/AP/IB/GCE-A/Korean Scholastic Ability Test (수학능력시험), if available.		
		⑥ English Proficiency Test Score Report ☞ It is strongly recommended that applicants obtain a score of above TOEFL iBT 83, TEPS (NEW) 326, IELTS 6.5, or TOEIC Listening & Reading 720. ※ Exemption requirement: Please refer to page 11.		
		⑦ Honors and Awards		Optional (Recommended)
		⑧ High School Profile		
Interview	Interview is not a mandatory admission process. If an interview is deemed necessary, applicants will be individually contacted via email and provided with further instructions.			

**<Application fee: 80 USD> ※ The fee in KRW will be announced separately based on exchange rate fluctuations.**

We offer three payment options: 1) Payment by domestic or foreign credit card, 2) Domestic Bank Transfer, or 3) International Bank Transfer.

- ※ **NOTE :** ① The application fee is non-refundable and cannot be waived. Eligible applicants can request an application fee waiver. Please read page 18 to learn about the KAIST Application Fee Waiver Program.
- ② Any additional charges, such as bank charges, should be covered by the applicants. Additionally, once you pay the application fee, you cannot change your admission track.

**1) By Foreign or Domestic Credit Card Payment by the “Toss” Payment page**

If you choose to pay using a credit or domestic card, an application number will be automatically generated upon payment. In this case, you are not required to submit a remittance receipt, as your application number will be generated immediately after payment confirmation.

**2) By Domestic Bank Transfer (Korean Bank)**

※ **The fee in KRW will be announced separately based on exchange rate fluctuations.**

In the event that you wish to have someone else in Korea pay the application fee on your behalf, you are required to send us the remittance receipt via email (creative.adm@kaist.ac.kr). Once we have received and confirmed the payment, we will then issue your application number.

**[ Bank Transfer Information ]**

- Bank Name: Woori Bank (우리은행)
- Account Number: 025-310617-01-036 **(KRW Only)**
- Message: Applicant’s full name

**3) By International Bank Transfer (80 USD) (Local Bank)**

If you choose to pay via bank transfer, you are required to send us the remittance receipt via email (creative.adm@kaist.ac.kr). Once we have confirmed receipt of the payment, we will then issue your application number.

- ※ Please note that bank transfers may take several weeks to process. If you choose to pay the fee via bank transfer, we strongly recommend that you initiate the transaction at least three weeks prior to the application deadline.

**[ Bank Transfer Information ]**

- Bank Name: Woori Bank
- Branch Name: KAIST Branch
- Bank Address: 291 Daehak-ro, Yuseong-gu, Daejeon, Korea (34141)
- Account Number: 270-003359-41185 **(USD Only)**
- Beneficiary: KAIST
- Swift Code: HVBKRRSExx
- Message: Applicant’s full name

- KAIST takes into consideration a number of factors when determining admission, including the applicants' academic achievements (especially in math and science), potential, interpersonal skills, personal accomplishments, integrity, and leadership.
- For academic achievements, applicants are reviewed in terms of the level of studies completed in math and science classes, quality of achievements, and characteristics of institutions attended.

1. Document Review      The applicants will be initially screened based on the application documents.



2. Interview (optional)      - Applicants who have been selected from the document review will proceed to an interview.  
  
- The applicants will be notified by email whether he or she will be called for an interview. The applicants must reply to the email promptly to confirm the interview. The interview date and time will be announced in the invitation for the interview.

## Important Notes!

<b>Note 1</b>	KAIST has a zero-tolerance policy for falsified or counterfeit documents. Thus, we reserve the right to revoke an offer of admission, even after an applicant has been admitted or graduated, if any of the materials submitted are found to be false or counterfeit. In the event of discovery of fraudulent activities, future applications may be rejected for up to five years from the date of discovery.
<b>Note 2</b>	We strongly advise applicants to double-check their contact information for correctness before submitting the application. KAIST is not responsible for any missed communication with the applicant or consequences resulting from incorrect contact information provided by the applicant.
<b>Note 3</b>	Once the application fee payment has been completed, applicants will not be able to change their admission track or receive a refund.
<b>Note 4</b>	Applicants who fail to comply with KAIST's prescribed process and rules or do not submit all required documents will be disqualified.
<b>Note 5</b>	Details of the evaluation process and scores shall not be disclosed.
<b>Note 6</b>	Applicants with incomplete or improper application forms and supporting documents will be disqualified from the admissions process.
<b>Note 7</b>	If you receive any financial support from external organizations in the form of scholarships for college, please specify them in the application and submit the relevant Scholarship Certificate(s).
<b>Note 8</b>	We highly recommend that applicants type all required documents instead of handwriting them. Typed documents are easier to read and less prone to errors, which can help ensure that your application is processed promptly and accurately.
<b>Note 9</b>	All documents must be uploaded in PDF format, A4-sized, and clear and legible.
<b>Note 10</b>	Applicants are required to submit original documents when requested to do so. KAIST may request additional documents from individual applicants if necessary.
<b>Note 11</b>	All documents created in languages other than English must be translated and included along with the original copies. The translated copy should bear a seal from a recognized translation institution or notary office.
<b>Note 12</b>	Please remember to keep your application number for further procedures, such as checking the final decision on your application. Your application number is a unique identifier that will help you track the progress of your application and stay informed of any updates.
<b>Note 13</b>	We strongly advise applicants to regularly check the Admissions Office website to confirm the status of their application submission. Please note that we will not contact applicants individually regarding their application status.
<b>Note 14</b>	Admitted students are not allowed to defer their enrollment to a later semester. If a student wishes to defer enrollment, they must reapply for admission.
<b>Note 15</b>	It is mandatory for admitted students to submit Apostille Certificates within 15 days of enrollment. This documentation is required to complete the enrollment process, and failure to provide the necessary certificates may result in delays or cancellation of admission.
<b>Note 16</b>	In the event that the name on the applicant's documents does not match the name provided on the application, the applicant is required to submit appropriate certification to verify their identity.
<b>Note 17</b>	Admitted applicants who have chosen not to register for KAIST are kindly requested to inform the Office of Admissions of their decision prior to the designated reply date.
<b>Note 18</b>	Admitted applicants cannot enroll in another university. According to KAIST regulations, dual enrollment is grounds for dismissal.

Newly admitted students at KAIST are required to submit their Apostille certificates within 15 days after their enrollment in the university. It is important that students carefully read the instructions and prepare the necessary certificates before leaving their home country.

Public documents issued by public schools or institutions **outside of Korea** such as,

- 1) High school graduation diplomas,
- 2) High school transcripts, and
- 3) Standardized official test reports (high school leaving exam, university entrance exam or other nationally/internationally recognized exam results – only for those who have submitted these documents) should have an attached Apostille certificate.

※ Public documents from private schools or institutions should have notarial attestations before applying for Apostille certificates. These documents must be written in either English or Korean. If written in another language, they should be translated into English or Korean and notarized by a notary office before applying for an Apostille certificate.

- **What is an Apostille?** (☞ Please refer to: <https://www.hcch.net>)

Public documents, such as birth certificates, judgments, patents or notarial attestations of signatures, frequently need to be used abroad. However, before a public document can be used in a country other than the one that issued it, its origin often must be authenticated. The traditional method for authenticating public documents to be used abroad is called legalization. Because this legalization process is frequently, slow, cumbersome and costly, a large number of countries all over the world have signed a treaty that greatly simplifies the authentication of public documents to be used abroad. This treaty is called the Hague Convention of 5 October 1961 Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents. It is commonly known as the Apostille Convention. The treaty reduces the authentication process to a single formality: the issuance of an authentication certificate by an authority designated by the country where the public document was issued. This certificate is called an Apostille.

- **In which countries does the Apostille Convention apply?**

☞ Please refer to: List of Hague Apostille Convention Member Countries  
<http://www.internationalapostille.com/hague-apostille-member-countries/>

※ If your public document was issued in a country where the Apostille Convention does not apply, you should submit a Certificate of Authentication issued by the Korean Embassy or Consulate in your country.

- **Where do I get an Apostille?**

Each country that is a party to the Convention must designate one or more authority that is entitled to issue Apostilles. These authorities are called Competent Authorities – only they are permitted to issue Apostilles.

☞ Please refer to: List of Competent Authorities of each member country  
<https://www.hcch.net/en/instruments/conventions/authorities1/?cid=41>

- **How much does an Apostille cost?**

Many Competent Authorities do charge for Apostilles. The price among Competent Authorities varies greatly. For practical information on the prices that individual countries charge, please refer to the details provide on <http://www.internationalapostille.com/rates/>.



## KAIST Application Fee Waiver Program

The KAIST Application Fee Waiver Program is designed to enable exceptional individuals from one of the Least Developed Countries (according to the UN list of LDCs in 2024) to pursue their academic dreams at KAIST. This unique program is tailored for applicants seeking admission to our undergraduate programs, ensuring that financial constraints do not stand in the way of deserving candidates.

**Who is eligible to request an application fee waiver?**

- ✓ Applicants for KAIST International Undergraduate Admissions
- ✓ Applicants who are nationals of one of the countries listed below and have lived there since birth
- ✓ Applicants with an exceptional academic standing within their high school, ranking in the top 5% or higher of their grade level

**How to request an application fee waiver**

- 1) Application Fee Waiver Request Form: Eligible applicants must submit the form via email to [creative.adm@kaist.ac.kr](mailto:creative.adm@kaist.ac.kr) with the subject line "Application Fee Waiver Request for 2026 Early Or Regular Track"
  - 2) Letter of Recommendation from the Principal: This letter should be written by the Principal from the applicant's high school. It should be submitted directly to [creative.adm@kaist.ac.kr](mailto:creative.adm@kaist.ac.kr) with the subject line "Letter of Recommendation for Applicant's Name" by the Principal or teachers from the school.
- ※ Important
- It should provide insight into the applicant's character and highlight their academic excellence.
  - A Letter of Recommendation submitted directly by the applicant will not be accepted.
- ✓ Please ensure that all required documents are submitted in full. Incomplete submissions will result in the denial of your fee waiver request.
  - ✓ Please note that any documents that do not meet the eligibility requirements and document submission criteria will be excluded from the review process.

**When to request a fee waiver**

You can submit the application fee waiver request form within a specific time frame. Please note that only applications submitted within the designated time period will be considered valid.

**(2026 Early Track)** August 25th, 2025 ~ September 4th, 2025

**(2026 Regular Track)** October 14th, 2025 ~ October 24th, 2025

We will notify you of the result via email 2-3 days before the application period starts. If your fee waiver request is not approved, payment will be necessary.

**<UN List of Least Developed Countries (2024)>**

<b>Africa (32)</b>	Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia
<b>Asia (8)</b>	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nepal, Timor-Leste and Yemen
<b>Caribbean (1)</b>	Haiti
<b>Pacific (3)</b>	Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu_ 18 -



## Application Fee Waiver Request Form

### 1. Applicant's Information

Name in Full:

Date of Birth:

Place of Birth (Country):

Nationality:

Postal Address (including country):

Name of High School (including country):

Admission Year:

Grade:  10<sup>th</sup>  11<sup>th</sup>  12<sup>th</sup>  Graduated (Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_ )

Email:

※Please provide the email address that you intend to use for your KAIST application.

### 2. Application Track (Please choose one of the three options below.)

- Undergraduate Program for 2026 Spring (Early)  
 Undergraduate Program for 2026 Fall (Early)  
 Undergraduate Program for 2026 Fall (Regular)

### Declaration of Consent:

(For each consent item below, please review and check the box to indicate your consent.)

- I confirm that I was born and have lived in the country listed in the UN list of LDCs.
- I request an application fee waiver and confirm that the information and documents provided are true and correct.
- I fully agree that if any information is found to be false or counterfeit, KAIST (Office of Admissions) reserves the right to cancel my request for an application fee waiver and to revoke my admission or withdraw an offer of admission.
- I consent for my data to be shared for the purpose of assessing my application fee waiver request and for compiling anonymized data for monitoring purposes.
- I understand that KAIST has the sole and absolute discretion in determining my eligibility for an application fee waiver and their decision shall be final and conclusive.
- I pledge to accept any decision made and agree not to contest or appeal it.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to all the declaration statements above.

Signature:

Date(DD/MM/YY)



## Letter of Recommendation for Application Fee Waiver

### 1. Recommender's Information (*Principal*)

Name in Full:  
 Position:  
 Name of High School (including country):  
 Email:  
 Phone:

### 2. Applicant's Information

Name in Full:  
 Date of Birth:  
 Place of Birth (Country):  
 Nationality:  
 Name of High School (including country):  
 Admission Year:  
 Grade: 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> Graduated (Year of Graduation:            )

### Evaluation

- 1) Please rate the applicant in overall academic competence.  
 Exceptional  Outstanding  Good  Average  N/A
- 2) How does the applicant compare to other students in their grade level at your high school?  
 Top 1%  Top 2~3%  Top 4~5%  Below 5%
- 3) Place a check to indicate your comprehensive evaluation of the applicant and give your opinions.  
 Strongly Recommended  Recommend  Neutral  Not recommend

<Opinion> (200 words or less)

### Declaration of Consent:

(For each consent item below, please review and check the box to indicate your consent.)

- I fully agree that if any information is found to be false or counterfeit, KAIST (Office of Admissions) reserves the right to revoke the application fee waiver.
- I have carefully filled out this letter of recommendation myself and understand that the opinions expressed herein may continue to serve as a reference in the subsequent admission process within KAIST.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to all the declaration statements above.

Signature:  
- 20 -

Date(DD/MM/YY)

**Attachment 3**

Essay (included in the Application Form)

KAIST seeks to foster talent who possess a love of challenges, creativity, and a caring spirit.  
Please complete the Personal Statement with consideration of the above qualities.

Q 1. KAIST seeks to foster individuals with a questioning spirit. Write about a question you have in the field of STEM\* that sets you apart from others, and describe the reason that inspired you to ask this question. (Required) \*STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, etc.

(Note: This is not about evaluating the question itself but rather about assessing your attitude, curiosity, and challenging spirit toward the field of STEM. It is recommended to avoid content related to R&E activities and instead focus on sharing your personal story.)

Write a question (within 300 bytes)
Describe the reason (within 1,600 bytes)

Q 2. Please write the personal statement with a focus on what you learned from and felt during curricular and/or extracurricular activities (up to three) to which you attached meaning and devoted yourself in high school. (within 1,500 bytes) (Required)

Q 3. Please cite any cases in which you thought and/or made attempts in ways different from those of others and describe how such ideas and/or attempts affected you and people around you.

(within 1,500 bytes) (Required)

Q 4. Please cite any cases in which you practiced consideration, sharing, cooperation, and/or conflict management and describe what you learned from and felt during the process(es).

(within 1,500 bytes) (Required)

Q 5. Please write if there is any other information you would like to tell us regarding your family/social background or difficulties you had to overcome in the past.

(within 1,000 bytes) (Required)