

Notice for the 2025 Global Korea Scholarship

GKS-IRTS Scholars

Dear 2025 GKS-IRTS Scholars!

Congratulations! We are happy to inform you that you have been selected as a 2025 GKS International Reconstruction Talent Scholarship(GKS-IRTS) Scholar. What follows below is important information you should know before entering Korea. **Please read ALL the information thoroughly** and take the necessary actions accordingly.

A. KOREAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Period: September 1, 2025 ~ August 31, 2026 (1 year)

All GKS Scholars will take the Korean language program for a year at the university assigned based on their choices (✕ **The assigned university cannot be changed**).

After completing the year-long Korean language program, scholars may choose to return to their home country or apply for the GKS degree program (GKS-U/GKS-G). TO apply for GKS degree programs, scholars must obtain a TOPIK level3 certificate.

Accommodation

GKS scholars are required to live on-campus in the dormitory, usually with roommates, during their Korean language program. To live off-campus, scholars must obtain approval from the Korean language institution and possess a valid TOPIK level 3 certificate.

Scholarship does not cover the dormitory fee, so scholars are responsible for paying for their accommodation. Most scholars pay for their accommodation using the stipend they receive each month. Please note that scholarship funds, including monthly stipend, will only be provided after a scholar opens a bank account in Korea. One can open a bank account after an issuance of ID card (Residence Card). This procedure may take 1 to 3 months depending on the individual's circumstances. Therefore, **it is recommended that scholars bring additional funds to cover their living expenses for the first or two months in Korea.**

✕ Documents, such as proof of measles vaccination, may be required for dormitory admission. Please prepare them accordingly to the instructions provided by the university and the embassy.

B. INVITATION LETTER

We will send you an official NIIED invitation letter, with which you can apply for a student visa to enter Korea. The invitation letter will be sent to you individually via email as a PDF file. Hard copies will not be provided. Please make sure to check your email inbox daily. If you do not receive the invitation letter by

July 11th, 2025 (Korea Standard Time), please email us at gksniied@korea.kr with your **GKS Scholar Number*** in a subject title. (e.g., [CS01241234]-invitation letter not received)

* **Your GKS Scholar Number** (also known as **CS Number**) is written before your name in the **final successful candidates list**. From now on, you will be using your **GKS Scholar Number** whenever you need to communicate with us.

C. VISA APPLICATION

Apply for a visa at the nearest Korean Embassy or Consulate in your country with the invitation letter. Even if your country has signed a visa agreement with the Korean government, you will still need to apply for a visa. Please ensure you apply for the correct type of visa.

- **D-4 visa** is for those who will start a **Korean language program**.

*(All scholars will be initially issued with a **6 months** D-4 visa, and scholars are responsible to renew their visa during their Korean language program. NIIED does not support visa renewal fee.)*

The documents required for visa application may vary by each embassy, and it is strongly recommended that you contact the Korean embassy to confirm the required documents before applying for a visa. You can also visit “Korea Visa Portal” at www.visa.go.kr for more information. In general, you will need the following documents:

- ✓ Visa Application Fee is generally exempt for GKS scholars.
- ✓ Valid Passport
- ✓ A Photo in a standard format
- ✓ Visa Application Form (available at the Korean Embassy/Consulate)
- ✓ An Invitation Letter issued by NIIED
- ✓ Document indicating the final level of education

NIIED sent an official letter to Korean embassy in Ukraine, asking for their cooperation in visa processing for this year’s GKS scholars. However, embassy may request additional documents if it is deemed necessary for visa evaluation.

With the NIIED’s invitation letter, you can apply for a visa without a proof of your financial ability to support yourself.

Visa application processing times can vary depending on the scholar’s personal or country circumstances, so scholars should obtain necessary documents and apply for a visa as early as possible.

It is each scholar’s responsibility to verify if the name of university is indicated correctly in the visa.

If, by any chance, you are issued a wrong type of visa or if any error is found, contact the Korean embassy or consulate immediately to make necessary correction. It is difficult to change the information in your visa once you enter Korea with the incorrect information.

Please ensure you are attentive to the type of visa issued to you, and the accuracy of the personal information printed on it.

(Attention!!!) Scholars who are currently residing in Korea with D-2, D-4, or other visa types may need to return to their home country to obtain a new visa for the GKS program. In this case, the round-trip airfare will not be provided to scholars. These scholars must contact the Immigration Office that has jurisdiction over their university to determine if they can obtain their visa without leaving the country.

※ For example, scholars who are currently residing in Korea with a D-4 visa may have to get a new D-4 visa from their home country.

D. ENTRY AIR TICKET

1. Entry Period

Scholars must arrange their entry schedule with their university. All scholars should enter Korea **before the semester begins on September 1, 2025, mostly between August 23 and August 31, 2025.**

2. Purchase of Flight Ticket

- NIIED will provide funds for a **one-way economy class flight ticket** which must be purchased through the university.
- The itinerary must be a **direct flight** or a flight with the shortest route to Korea.
 - ※ If there is no direct flight available, the layover should be limited to 30 hours.
- Each university will ask you to submit a flight entry information form. You must complete the form and **submit it back to the relevant institution.**
- Your ticket must be arranged through the university. NIIED does not book tickets for scholars.
- Those who have flight connections in another country are responsible for checking the transit visa requirements in that country and preparing in advance. For instance, if you need to transfer flights within the Schengen Area or in the United States, you must get a Schengen visa or a U.S. transit visa before departure. **All fees incurred in the process of getting the transit visa are not covered by NIIED.**
- NIIED does not cover the cost of domestic travels within a scholar's own country.
- NIIED does not cover the cost of travel insurance. It is up to each individual to decide whether to purchase travel insurance or not.
 - ※ Scholarship will cover the medical insurance from the beginning of a semester in early **September**. Therefore, we recommend scholars to subscribe to a travel insurance until the end of **August 2025**.
- NIIED does not cover any additional fees incurred prior to your departure. (e.g., baggage fees, etc.)
- Any ticket change fee (change of schedule, cancelation of flight, etc.) is responsible to whom generated such situation.

E. ARRIVAL

- **Upon arriving in Korea, scholars must contact the person in charge of GKS (GKS representatives) at their university immediately.** All scholars must have the contact information of the representatives who are responsible for GKS students at their university before arriving in Korea. All scholars must follow the instructions and regulations given by the representatives.
- All scholars are advised to travel with a valid Korean visa and the invitation letter issued by NIIED.

F. LEARN ABOUT KOREA BEFORE YOU COME TO KOREA

Prior to arrival, scholars are strongly recommended to find sufficient information about Korean life, culture, language, climate, etc. Please click on the link below and download the e-guidebook for international students living in Korea.

- ✓ Study in Korea Guidebook (available in Korean, English, and Chinese)

https://cdn.studyinkorea.go.kr/public/res/guide/guideBook_ko.pdf (KOREAN)

https://cdn.studyinkorea.go.kr/public/res/guide/guideBook_en.pdf (ENGLISH)

** The above guidebooks are released in 2023. For the updated procedures of visa issuance, please check with the embassy.*

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| ✓ Korean Language Study | https://www.sejonghakdang.org |
| ✓ Korean Universities | http://www.studyinkorea.go.kr |
| ✓ Korean Culture | http://korea.net |
| ✓ Korean Embassies | http://www.mofa.go.kr |
| ✓ Visa & Immigration | http://immigration.go.kr http://hikorea.go.kr |

G. OTHER INFORMATION

- If a GKS scholar decides to withdraw from their scholarship program before entering Korea or before enrolling in the respective Korean language institution/university, they must contact the embassy with a letter stating the reason for their withdrawal. The scholarship will be canceled only when NIIED receives an official letter from the embassy regarding the matter.

Scholars who withdraw from the scholarship program within the first three months must immediately refund the full amount of scholarship received during their stay. This includes airfare, settlement allowance, monthly allowance, Korean language training expenses, tuition, insurance, Korean proficiency grants, etc.

Scholars who withdraw from the GKS program after they are listed on the final successful candidates list will not be eligible to re-apply for the program in the future.

- Even after a candidate has been selected as a final successful candidate, if a scholar is found to be disqualified or an application document of a scholar is discovered to be a fraud, the scholarship will be canceled.
- **(Attention!!)** GKS scholars are advised to bring the documents listed below *(in original or in authenticated version.)* for future purposes. (e.g., visa renewal, change of visa type, etc.) The list is not all inclusive, and scholars are encouraged to bring any documents that are considered important to them during their studies in Korea.
 - ✓ **Graduation certificate or Diploma (It is strongly recommended to have your certificates apostilled or consular-confirmed)**
 - ✓ **Academic transcript**
 - ✓ **Proof of citizenship (e.g., birth certificate, family registration, passport copy)**
 - ✓ **Medical examination results**
(OPTIONAL: the form would be provided by other institutions if it is required.)
 - ✓ **Printed copy of NIIED invitation letter**

*** You don't have to submit noted items to NIIED. However, they would be asked by the visa center or your school depending on your statement. Please follow instructions by respective institutions for your needs.*
- **(Only for those who applied with provisional academic documents)** Scholars who are expected to graduate by July 31st, 2025 must submit their official graduation certificate (or diploma) and final academic transcript in hard copies with apostilles/consular confirmation to **GKS Center, NIIED by July 31st, 2025**. Failure to do so will result in the cancellation of your acceptance. Any kinds of provisional/temporary certificates are not acceptable.

GKS Center (Selection Dept. of 2025 GKS-IRTS), NIIED

191, Jeongjail-ro, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do, 13557, Rep. of Korea
TEL. +82-2-3668-1415

H. FURTHER QUESTIONS

Should you have any further questions, please contact us at gksniied@korea.kr with your GKS Scholar Number(CS Number) in the subject line. We greatly look forward to seeing you here in August!

Sincerely,
GKS Center, NIIED

June 30th, 2025