

# Application Guidelines for International Students

## - 2026 Fall Semester -



## 1. About the Graduate School of Korean Studies

The Graduate School of Korean Studies is an affiliated institution of the Academy of Korean Studies(AKS), which is funded and administered by the Korean government. It was established in 1980 to nurture scholars contributing to the development and globalization of Korean studies, through a liaison between the AKS' research capacity and graduate education.

As a research-oriented institution in the fields of humanities and social sciences pertinent to Korea, the Graduate School of Korean Studies has maintained its commitment to the highest quality teaching and research through eminent professors' close mentoring of students for the past 45 years. Our graduates are playing pivotal role in the various educational and research organizations of Korean studies around the world with their academic excellence.

Currently, approximately 200 students are enrolled in the Master's and doctoral degree programs at the institution, including about 110 international students from 38 countries.

Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ All international students are granted a <b>full tuition waiver</b>.</li> <li>○ <b>POSCO Global Scholarships</b> and <b>Government Grant</b> are available.</li> <li>○ Additional financial support includes research assistant stipends and various work-study opportunities.</li> </ul>
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Certified by the Ministry of Education for Excellence in Internationalization</li> <li>○ Small-group, high-quality education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Student-to-faculty ratio of 5:1</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Extensive opportunities to participate in research projects</b></li> <li>○ <b>Free Korean language education for academic purposes</b></li> <li>○ Comprehensive academic support services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Writing clinics for papers and assignments</li> <li>- Group tutoring to enhance understanding of Korean culture and support academic success</li> <li>- Cultural immersion activities such as temple stays and museum visits</li> <li>- Financial support for participation in international academic conferences</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## 2. Programs and Majors Offered

Programs	Divisions	Majors	Volume of Recruitment
Master's or Doctoral Degree Program	Humanities	Korean History, Diplomats and Bibliography, Philosophy, Korean Linguistics-Korean Literature	About 40 students
	Culture and Arts	Anthropology-Folklore, Religious Studies, Musicology, Art History, Cultural Informatics-Human Geography	
	Social Sciences	Political Science, Sociology, Education	
	Global Korean Studies	Korean Cultural Studies (Only available for a Master's degree program)	
	4 Divisions	MA : 13 Majors / PhD : 12 Majors	
Research (Non-degree) Program	4 Divisions	MA : 13 Majors / PhD : 12 Majors (Same as those provided for Degree Program)	A couple of students

- For information of each major, please visit [grad.aks.ac.kr](http://grad.aks.ac.kr), click *ENG* at the top and *Major Information*, and select a division and a major of interest.
- Courses
  - Coursework period is 2 years for a Master's degree program and 3 years for a doctoral degree program.
  - An academic year consists of two semesters and courses are provided for 15 weeks per semester. A spring semester begins in March, a fall semester in September.
  - Most courses are taught in Korean, while courses in Korean Cultural Studies major are provided in English.

### 3. Programs and Majors Offered

#### A. Tuition-fee Exemption Scholarship

Category	Details
Scholarship Provider	The Graduate School of Korean Studies, AKS
Number of Recipients	<b>All admitted international students</b>
Coverage	<b>Full tuition for each semester</b>
Duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Master's degree program: 2 years</b></li> <li>- <b>Doctoral degree program: 3 years</b></li> </ul>

#### B. POSCO Global Scholarship

Category	Details										
Scholarship Provider	POSCO TJ Park Foundation										
Number of Recipients	<b>Approximately 3 students admitted in spring semester</b>										
Coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Monthly living allowance of 1,000,000 KRW</b></li> <li>- <b>Initial settlement grant of 1,000,000 KRW</b></li> <li>- <b>Monthly health insurance subsidy of 100,000 KRW</b></li> <li>- <b>Korean language learning opportunities</b></li> </ul>										
Duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Master's degree program: 2 years</b></li> <li>- <b>Doctoral degree program: 3 years</b></li> </ul>										
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Candidates recommended by the Graduate School of Korean Studies who are nationals of designated countries below:</b></li> </ul> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Region</th><th>Country</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Asia</td><td>Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam</td></tr> <tr> <td>America</td><td>Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, United States</td></tr> <tr> <td>Europe</td><td>Germany, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Türkiye, United Kingdom</td></tr> <tr> <td>Africa</td><td>Egypt, Morocco, South Africa</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Korean nationals, including dual citizenship holders, are not eligible for recommendation.</li> </ul>	Region	Country	Asia	Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam	America	Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, United States	Europe	Germany, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Türkiye, United Kingdom	Africa	Egypt, Morocco, South Africa
Region	Country										
Asia	Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam										
America	Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, United States										
Europe	Germany, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Türkiye, United Kingdom										
Africa	Egypt, Morocco, South Africa										
Selection Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Scholarship Selection Committee of the Graduate School of Korean Studies will recommend outstanding students who show excellent admission scores* among the final successful applicants to POSCO TJ Park Foundation.</li> </ul>										

Category	Details
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Foundation will then conduct interviews and other evaluations to make the final selection.</li> <li>* The decision will be based on a comprehensive assessment of application documents, document review scores, and interview performance. The Graduate School of Korean Studies conducts evaluations for all final successful applicants, so <b>there is no separate application process specifically for the POSCO Global Scholarship</b>. Selected candidates will be notified individually.</li> </ul>

### C. Government Grant

Category	Details
Scholarship Provider	The Graduate School of Korean Studies, AKS
Number of Recipients	<b>Up to 15 students per semester</b>
Coverage	<b>Monthly living allowance of 800,000 KRW</b>
Duration	<b>1 year (renewable annually upon evaluation)</b>
Eligibility and Selection Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Scholarship Selection Committee of the Graduate School of Korean Studies selects outstanding students who show excellent admission scores* among the final successful applicants.</li> <li>* Final decisions are based on a comprehensive evaluation of application documents, document review scores, and interview performance.</li> <li>- There are no nationality restrictions.</li> <li>- All final successful applicants are considered; therefore, <b>there is no separate application process specifically for this Government Scholarship</b>.</li> </ul>
Additional Notes	Students who are not selected can reapply each semester.

#### 4. Admission Timeline

Steps	Schedule (KST)	
	Admission for 2026 Fall Semester	Admission for 2027 Spring Semester
Online Application and Application Fee Payment	10:00 March 9 ~ 17:00 March 20, 2026	10:00 August 31 ~ 17:00 September 11, 2026
Letter of Recommendation Submission Deadline	17:00 March 25	17:00 September 16
Announcement of the Interviewees List	17:00 April 28	17:00 October 28
Interview Period	May 6~8	November 4~6
Announcement of the Final Selection Result	17:00 May 29	17:00 November 27
Original Documents Submission Deadline	17:00 July 3	17:00 January 4, 2027
Beginning of the Semester	September 1, 2026	March 1, 2027

※ The above schedule is subject to change under the unforeseen circumstances.

#### 5. Eligibility

Classifications	Qualifications
Nationality	<p>Applicants must meet one of the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>① Both the applicant and his/her parents are foreign nationals.</li> <li>② The applicant, either a foreign national or a Korean national residing overseas, has completed education outside of Korea which is compatible with Korea's elementary, middle, high school and college education.</li> </ul>
Educational Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In order to be qualified for a <b>Master's degree program</b>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Applicants who satisfy the above qualification ① in relation to their nationality must hold a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) conferred by a Korean or an overseas university at the start of the desired semester.</li> <li>- Applicants who satisfy the above qualification ② in relation to their nationality must hold a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) conferred by an overseas university at the start of the desired semester.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Classifications	Qualifications
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is acceptable that applicants apply for a major which is not directly related to their undergraduate major.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In order to be qualified for a <b>doctoral degree program</b>, applicants must hold a Master's degree (or equivalent) at the start of the desired semester.</li> <li>○ In principle, applicants are requested to apply for a major which is the same as or closely related to their Master's degree major. However, any graduate majors are acceptable for some doctoral degree program majors. For more details, please see Attachment 1.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In order to be qualified for a <b>research(non-degree) program</b>:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Applicants who satisfy the above qualification ① in relation to their nationality must hold a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) conferred by Korean or an overseas universities at the start of the desired semester.</li> <li>- Applicants who satisfy the above qualification ② in relation to their nationality must hold a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) conferred by an overseas university at the start of the desired semester.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Language Proficiency	<p>1. Applicants for <b>Korean Cultural Studies</b> must meet one of the following conditions:</p> <p>A. Applicants must have obtained, within two years of the application deadline, an English language proficiency score equivalent to or higher than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>TOEFL iBT 80 (for tests taken before 21 January 2026) or 4.5 (for tests taken on or after 21 January 2026)*,</b></li> <li>- <b>IELTS Academic or IELTS Online Academic Module 6.5, or</b></li> <li>- <b>TEPS 301</b></li> </ul> <p>* MyBest Scores or TOEFL iBT Home Edition is acceptable; however, TOEFL ITP(Institutional Testing Program) is not.</p> <p>B. Applicants are nationals of a country where English is an official language and can provide proof of such nationality.</p> <p>C. Applicants have obtained a degree from a university or graduate school where English was the medium of instruction.</p> <p>※ Applicants for Korean Cultural Studies do not need to submit a TOPIK certificate. However, those who hold a TOPIK or TOPIK IBT certificate may be given preference.</p>

Classifications	Qualifications
	<p>2. Applicants <b>for programs other than Korean Cultural Studies</b> must submit a valid <b>TOPIK or TOPIK IBT certificate of level 4 or higher</b> as of the application deadline.</p> <p>※ Applicants with a TOPIK certificate of level 5 or 6 will be given preference in the selection process.</p>

## 6. Selection Process

### A. 1<sup>st</sup> Process : Document Screening

- Document screening is held for applicants who meet all the application requirements.
- Overall evaluation of applicants' research plan, academic ability, language proficiency, and academic background (shown in personal statement and a recommendation letter) takes place.

### B. 2<sup>nd</sup> Process : A Video or In-person Interview

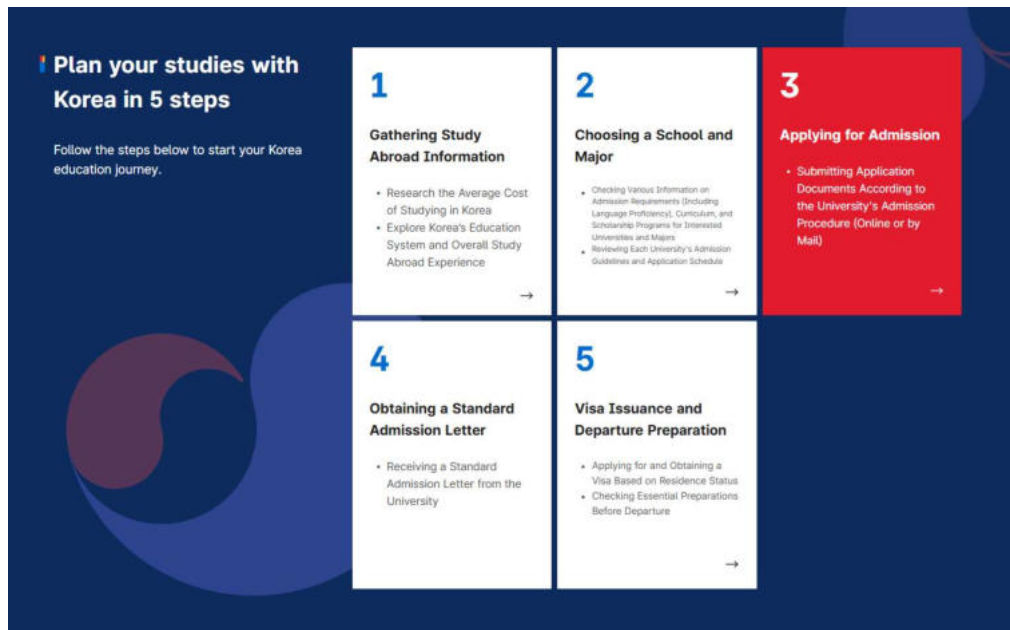
- An interview is held to those who passed the document screening.
- Interview schedule will be informed individually on the day of announcement of successful candidates. Applicants who do not participate in the interview are automatically disqualified.

## 7. Application Details

### A. Online Application

- Application Period :  
**10:00 Mon 9 March ~ 17:00 Fri 20 March 2026** (Korean Standard Time)
- Application website : [www.studyinkorea.go.kr](http://www.studyinkorea.go.kr)
  - The language of the web page can be changed by selecting a desired language under [Language] menu on the right top of the page.
  - Please click [**Applying for Admission**], select [The Graduate School of Korean Studies, The Academy of Korean Studies], and save information and upload required files.
- An applicant's English name provided in the online application should be the full name shown in the passport.





## B. Successful Applicants' Documents Submission

- Successful applicants should submit an original copy (as opposed to a xeroxed or a scanned copy) of some of the required documents including a certificate of graduation and official transcripts by post **after the selection result is announced, NOT at the time of application.**
- At the time of application, applicants are required to upload scanned copy of certificates instead of sending the original copy by post.
- Successful applicants must provide original copy of certificates by submission deadline. **Inadequate submission may lead to cancellation of admission.** If certificates can't be re-issued, a translated and notarized duplicate is acceptable.
- It is highly recommended that **applicants begin to prepare for original copy of required documents early in advance** as it may take longer than expected to get some official documents.

○ Submission Details for Selected Applicants

- Submission Deadline : **17:00 Friday 3 July 2026** (Korean Standard Time)

※ Only documents received by the above deadline will be accepted. However, applicants who are expected to graduate at the time of application may submit an apostilled or consular-confirmed certificate of graduation and official transcripts issued after graduation by 31 August 2026.

- Documents should be sent by post to the following address:

(In English) International Student Advisor

The Graduate School of Korean Studies

The Academy of Korean Studies

Haogae-ro 323, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do

Republic of Korea (Postcode: 13455)

(In Korean) 경기도 성남시 분당구 하오개로 323

한국학중앙연구원 한국학대학원 교학실 (우편번호 : 13455)

특별전형 담당자

## 8. Required Documents

### ○ Checklist

No.	Required Documents	Online Submission (studyinkorea.go.kr) During Application Period	Email Submission Deadline	Submission of Original Copies by Post after Announcement of Selection Result	Remarks
1	Application Form	○			
2	Personal Statement	○			In a prescribed form (Attachment 2)
3	Research Plan	○			In a prescribed form (Attachment 3)
4	Certificate(s) of Graduation for All the Previous Degree(s)	○		○	Selected applicants should submit <b>original copies</b> <b>with apostille (or consular verification)</b> by post.
5	Official Transcripts for All the Previous Degree(s)	○		○	
6	An Official Score Report of Language Proficiency	○			TOPIK, TOEFL, IELTS, or TEPS
7	Proof of Applicant's Nationality	○			
8	Application Fee	Online Payment			Credit card payment or virtual account transfer available.
9	A Letter of Recommendation		25 Mar		In a prescribed form (Attachment 4)
10	An Abstract of a Master's Degree Thesis	○			If applicable
11	A Soft Copy of Master's Degree Thesis		4 May		If applicable
12	Certificate of Family Relations or Birth Certificate			○	① Relationship between an applicant and parents, and ② parents' citizenship should be verified.
13	Verification of Deposit			○	
14	Letter of Sponsorship			○	If applicable, in a prescribed form (Attachment 5)
15	Certificate Showing the Relationship between the Applicant and the Sponsor			○	If applicable
16	Health Check Results Issued by a Public Health Center or Hospital/Clinic			○	Dormitory residents must additionally submit tuberculosis (chest X-ray) test results.

※ Please note that failure to submit the above documents #1~#9 leads to disqualification.

○ Guidelines for Submission

**A. Online Application Form**

- Applicants are required to save information at **studyinkorea.go.kr**.
- An ID photo and required documents should be uploaded.
- Accurate information (a full English name as shown in the passport, a contact number, an email address, etc.) should be provided.

**B. Personal Statement**

- A prescribed form (Attachment 2) should be completed in Korean and the file should be uploaded on the application website.
  - Applicants for Korean Cultural Studies are allowed to write it in English.
- A personal statement should include self-introduction(applicants' backgrounds, academic life, social activities, view of life, strengths and weaknesses, etc.) and study plan(reasons of application, academic goals, areas of academic interest, future plan after obtaining a degree, etc.).

**C. Research Plan**

- A prescribed form (Attachment 3) should be completed in Korean and the file should be uploaded on the application website.
  - Applicants for Korean Cultural Studies are allowed to write it in English.
- A research plan should include a research topic, reasons of choosing the topic, review of the previous research, research details (research method, distinct feature of the research, etc.) and bibliography.

**D. A Graduation (or an Expected Graduation) Certificate(s) for All Previous Degree(s)**

- A scanned copy of the certificate(s) should be uploaded on the application website.
- Certificates must be written in Korean or in English. If not, they must be translated into either in Korean or in English and notarized.
- Applicants for a doctoral degree program should submit graduation certificates of both bachelor's degree and Master's degree.

- If applicants who expect graduation cannot submit such a certificate due to the schools' timeline, certificate of enrollment and official transcripts which show their latest grades should be submitted. The apostilled or consular-confirmed graduation certificate and final transcripts should be submitted before the semester begins on 1 September 2026, failure of which may lead to cancellation of admission.
- **Successful applicants who are finally selected** are required to submit an **original copy with an apostille** by post.

#### E. Official Transcript(s) for All the Previous Degree(s)

- A scanned copy of the official transcript(s) should be uploaded on the application website.
- Documents must be written in Korean or in English. If not, they must be translated into either in Korean or in English and notarized.
- Applicants for a doctoral degree program should submit official transcripts of both bachelor's degree and Master's degree.
- If an applicant has transferred from one university to another, official transcripts should be submitted from both universities.
- The official transcript must show not only grades of each subject but also one of the following information for the **whole period** of study:
  - ① CGPA(Cumulative Grade Point Average) and a scale (e.g. 3.7/4.0)
  - ② Score percentile (e.g. 83/100)
  - ③ A rank at the school (e.g. 5<sup>th</sup> among 50 students)
- If a transcript does not include the above information, applicants should submit an official document issued by the university describing the university's grading system.
- **Successful applicants who are finally selected** are required to submit an **original copy with an apostille** by post.

#### F. An Official Score Report of a Language Proficiency Test

##### 1) TOPIK (or TOPIK IBT)

- **Applicants except for Korean Cultural Studies** should upload a scanned copy of a score certificate of TOPIK level 4 or above which is valid as of the application deadline.

- Applicants for Korean Cultural Studies do not need to submit a TOPIK certificate, but those with a TOPIK certificate can be given preference.

## 2) TOEFL, IELTS, or TEPS

- **Applicants for Korean Cultural Studies** should upload a scanned copy of one of the following score reports obtained within 2 years as of the application deadline.

Type of Test	Minimum Score Required	Remarks
TOEFL iBT	<b>80 (for tests taken before 21 Jan 2026)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Both MyBest Scores<sup>1)</sup> and Test Date Scores are acceptable.</li> <li>- Home Edition<sup>2)</sup> is acceptable.</li> </ul>
	<b>4.5 (for tests taken on or after 21 Jan 2026)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- TOEFL ITP(Institutional Testing Program) is not acceptable.</li> <li>- The TOEFL Destination Code (Institution Code) for the AKS is 2067.</li> </ul>
<b>IELTS Academic Module</b>	<b>Band Score 6.5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IELTS Online is acceptable.</li> <li>- The AKS accepts the electronic score report.</li> </ul>
<b>TEPS</b>	<b>301</b>	

- In the following cases, applicants are exempt from providing a score report.
  - Applicants are from a country where English is an official language.
  - Applicants obtained a degree at a university or a graduate school whose medium of instruction was English and submit an official letter from the school proving such.

## G. Proof of Applicant's Nationality

- One of the following documents should be submitted :
  - The first two pages of a valid passport
  - An original copy of the (notarized) certificate of nationality

1) MyBest Scores are the highest scores on each section (Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing) from all of the test taker's valid TOEFL iBT test scores from tests taken in the last two years, and a total score that is the sum of the MyBest section scores.

2) The TOEFL iBT Home Edition is the same TOEFL iBT test an applicant would take at a test center, just taken from the privacy of his/her own home and monitored online by a human proctor.

#### H. Application Fee

- Amount : 50,000 KRW (or 50 USD)
- Applicants must pay the fee online after completing the application form.
- The application fee must be paid at the time of submitting the online application form.
  - ※ The payment method and payment period follow the policies of the designated application portal (www.studyinkorea.go.kr, National Institute for International Education).
- Once the application fee is paid, the application can't be cancelled and the fee can't be returned. However, under the circumstances where applicants inevitably had to withdraw the application due to natural disaster, negligence of the university or a fault which is not attributed to the applicant, the fee can be returned.

#### I. A Letter of Recommendation

- **A recommender** should complete a prescribed form (Attachment 4) either in Korean or in English, and send it by email to [admission\\_intl@aks.ac.kr](mailto:admission_intl@aks.ac.kr) **from his/her own email account**. A letter of recommendation sent from an applicant's email account is not acceptable.
- A recommender should be **a professor of the university where the applicant studied** who is in the position of evaluating applicant's academic competence.
  - ※ If the above is not feasible, it is acceptable that a person in the academia such as a professor of other universities or an instructor from a language school, or an expert in the relevant field writes a recommendation letter.
  - ※ A letter of recommendation written by **a supervisor at work** who is neither an academic personnel nor an expert in the relevant field is **NOT acceptable**.
- In a letter of recommendation, the name / position / organisation / address / phone number / email address of the recommender should be included.
- A letter of recommendation is acceptable only if it is sent directly from a recommender by submission deadline. Late submission is not acceptable.
- Once a letter of recommendation is received, an acknowledgement is sent to the recommender.

#### J. An Abstract of a Master's Degree Thesis

- Only applicable to a doctoral degree program applicants who obtained a Master's degree by writing a thesis

- A one-page summary of a Master's degree thesis should be submitted either in Korean or in English.
- Applicants who are expected to graduate and haven't completed their thesis yet are also required to submit a summary of their thesis.
- If the abstract is written in a language other than Korean or English, it should be translated into either language, in which case notarization is not needed.
- If applicants obtained a Master's degree without writing a thesis, a note explaining such should be uploaded instead of an abstract.

#### **K. A Master's Degree Thesis**

- Only applicable to interviewees for a doctoral degree program who wrote a Master's degree thesis as part of graduation requirement
- A soft copy of a Master's degree thesis should be sent by email ([admission\\_intl@aks.ac.kr](mailto:admission_intl@aks.ac.kr)) before the day of interview. A thesis written in a language other than Korean or English doesn't need a translation.

#### **L. Parent(s)' Proof of Citizenship and Family Relationship Document**

- Official certificates such as **birth certificate** or **family register** issued by a government that proves family relationship between an applicant and his/her parents and their citizenship
- If one cannot submit necessary documents due to an absence of their parent(s), e.g. deceased or divorced, he/she can provide additional documents (e.g. death certificate, divorce certificate/agreement, or the court's written judgment that confirms parental rights) that explains the reason for not submitting their proof of citizenship.
- If applicants' or their parents' citizenship information is not indicated in the above documents, valid passport copies (do not need to be apostilled or consular confirmed) should be submitted as supplementary documents.
  - Ethnic group, birth place, or current residency in the submitted documents are NOT accepted as a citizenship information.
  - If passport is not available, another government issued document that clearly indicates citizenship information should be submitted as a supplementary document.



### M. Verification of Deposit

- 1) To apply for a student(D-2) visa at a Korean consulate after admission, students must obtain a Certificate of Admission issued by the Graduate School of Korean Studies.
- 2) Requirements for issuing the Certificate of Admission, specifically regarding financial documentation, are as follows:
  - Applicants must submit **an original copy of the bank balance certificate by postal mail** to the Graduate School of Korean Studies. The certificate must be issued under the name of the applicant or an immediate family member.
  - Minimum required bank balance:
    - For recipients of the Government Grant provided by the Graduate School of Korean Studies : **5,280,000 KRW**
    - For all other applicants : **14,880,000 KRW**
  - A bank statement should be current, i.e. produced within 30 days as of documents submission.
  - For bank balance certificates issued by banks located in China, the validity period (deposit freeze period) must be at least 30 days from the date of document submission.
  - If a bank statement is issued under the name of a student's family member, a letter of sponsorship [Attachment 5] and a certificate of family relations should be submitted.
  - Students who receive scholarships (tuition fees and living expenses) from other institutions and organizations outside of the Graduate School of Korean Studies can substitute financial proof documents with a scholarship confirmation issued by the respective institution or organization.
- 3) Please note that the financial requirements for obtaining a student (D-2) visa from a Korean consulate may differ from those for the issuance of the Certificate of Admission. Therefore, **applicants must verify the exact amount and conditions with the relevant Korean consulate in advance and prepare accordingly.**

#### **N. Health Check Results**

- Health check results issued by a public health center or hospital/clinic
- Dormitory residents must additionally submit tuberculosis (chest X-ray) test results.

#### **O. Apostille**

- Apostille is a way of legalization of a document according to the Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents (“Apostille Convention”). It ensures that public documents issued in one signatory country will be considered as valid in another signatory country. For the list of signatory countries, please refer to <https://www.hcch.net> - Members & Parties – HCCH Members.
- Successful applicants are required to submit apostilles or other verifying documents for their final degree and official transcript by post during the designated period.
- Apostilles or verifying documents must be written in English, otherwise a notarized translation should be submitted.

**1) Students who graduated from institutions in signatory countries of the Apostille Convention**  
- Apostilles of the diploma and official transcript should be submitted.

**2) Students who graduated from institutions in China**

- Verification of degree\* and official transcripts available at [www.chsi.com.cn](http://www.chsi.com.cn) of China Higher Education Student Information (CHSI, 学信网) should be submitted.
- \* Only verification of degree, NOT verification of graduation, is acceptable.

**3) Students who graduated from institutions in non-signatory countries of the Apostille Convention**

- Verification of the diploma and official transcript by a Korean consulate in a country where the university an applicant was graduated from is located or by a consulate of a country where the university an applicant was graduated from is located in Korea should be submitted.

**4) Students who graduated from institutions in Korea**

- Additional verification is not required. An original copy of the certificate of graduation and official transcript suffices.

- Academic verification documents issued upon individual application are **acceptable within the validity period (usually 6 months)**. However, if it is not feasible to have additional copy in addition to the original one, it is fine to submit a certificate that was issued more than 6 months ago.

## 9. Important Notes for Applicants

- A. Applicant's information provided in the application form must be authentic and truthful. If provided information turns out to be false or untruthful, the applicant's admission can be revoked.
- B. When writing a personal statement or research plan, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) should be avoided to ensure that the applicant's original and individual experiences and thoughts are clearly reflected.
- C. If AI tools are utilized during the preparation process, it is encouraged that applicants disclose this transparently. Please note that excessive dependence on AI or any form of plagiarism may result in disadvantages during the evaluation or possible disqualification. Ethical use of AI - such as for grammar or typographical corrections - is acceptable. However, using AI for tasks such as drafting essays or translating entire sentences is considered inappropriate.
- D. Additional documents might be requested, if they are considered necessary for the admission process.
- E. The scores/grades of the admission are not open to the public including applicants themselves.
- F. Documents submitted will not be returned.
- G. All of the certificates should be written in Korean or in English, otherwise they need to be translated and notarized.
- H. A certificate of admission which is required to apply for student(D-2) visa is offered to successful applicants only after an original copy of verified academic certificates and a bank statement is received.

## 10. Other Information

- A. Tuition-Exemption Scholarship is offered to all international students during their coursework period unless they are placed under academic probation or disciplinary actions are taken against them.
- B. Selective international students who showed excellence in admission scores are provided with the Government Grant.
- C. Students should pay their boarding fees and other living expenses at their own expense.
- D. For admitted Korean nationals residing abroad, graduation requirement in terms of curriculum to follow is the same with the one for international students.
- E. **Obligation to Achieve TOPIK Level 6 (or TOPIK Level 4) for Graduation**
  - International students must achieve TOPIK level 6 (or level 4 for Korean Cultural Studies major) to be eligible to submit their thesis for graduation.
- F. Health Insurance
  - 1) Foreigners with student(D-2) visa are compulsorily subscribed to the local subscriber scheme of the National Health Insurance from the day of foreigner registration and should pay about 75,000KRW of monthly premium (50% of the average rate of all foreign subscribers). This allows international students to receive the same insurance benefits and health checkups as Korean citizens do. However, failure to pay the premium in time may lead to limited insurance benefits and unfavorable measures in relation to visa extension.
  - 2) Students with overseas Korean(F-4) visa are also compulsorily subscribed to the local subscriber scheme of the National Health Insurance and should pay approximately 150,000KRW of monthly premium (the average rate of all foreign subscribers).
  - 3) For more information, please visit the National Health Insurance Service at <https://www.nhis.or.kr>.

## 11. Research (Non-Degree) Program

- A. Applicants for the research program must be either foreign nationals or overseas Koreans who have obtained a bachelor's degree or possess an equivalent or higher level of education.
  - B. Research students must pay the designated tuition fee within the specified deadline.
  - C. Research students are required to register for at least one course during the course registration period; however, academic credits for the courses taken will not be granted.
  - D. The academic advisor for the research student's thesis will be appointed by the Dean of the Graduate School within one month of the first semester.
  - E. Research students may use university facilities such as the library and dormitory.
  - F. The research period shall not exceed one year. A certificate of completion may be issued to students who demonstrate satisfactory research performance.
  - G. If a research student engages in conduct that violates the terms of their status during the research period, their qualification will be revoked. In such cases, the tuition fee already paid will not be refunded.
- ※ The application procedures, schedule, and required documents for the research program (non-degree) are the same as those for the degree program.

## 12. Contact Information

- Email: [admission\\_intl@aks.ac.kr](mailto:admission_intl@aks.ac.kr)                      ○ Tel: +82-31-730-8183, 8187
- Website
  - <http://grad.aks.ac.kr>
  - [instagram.com/grad\\_aks](https://www.instagram.com/grad_aks)
  - [facebook.com/aks.news](https://www.facebook.com/aks.news)
- Mailing Address:
 

[In English]    International Student Advisor  
 The Graduate School of Korean Studies  
 The Academy of Korean Studies  
 Haogae-ro 323, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do  
 Republic of Korea (Postcode: 13455)

[In Korean]    경기도 성남시 분당구 하오개로 323  
 한국학중앙연구원 한국학대학원 교학실  
 특별전형 담당자  
 (우편번호 13455)

### [Attachments]

1. Recognized Similar Fields of Study for the Applicants of Doctoral Degree Program
2. Personal Statement (Form)
3. Research Plan (Form)
4. Letter of Recommendation (Form)
5. Letter of Sponsorship (Form)

[Attachment 1]

Recognized Similar Fields of Study  
for the Applicants of Doctoral Degree Program

Division	Major	Recognized Master's Degree Majors Which Each Major Accepts for its Doctoral Degree Program Applicants
Humanities	Korean History	Any majors are acceptable.
	Diplomatics and Bibliography	Paleography, Library Science, Bibliography, Library and Information Science, Records Management, Cultural Properties Studies(Ancient Writings), Korean Studies(Classical Literature, History, Bibliography, or Translation)
	Philosophy	Any majors are acceptable.
	Korean Linguistics· Korean Literature (Korean Linguistics)	Korean Linguistics, Korean Language and Literature, Korean Language Education, Linguistics, Korean Studies(Korean Linguistics or Korean Literature), Korean Language Education (as a Foreign Language)
	Korean Linguistics· Korean Literature (Korean Literature)	Korean Language and Literature, Korean Language Education, Chinese Literature, Classical Chinese Education, Creative Writing, Korean Studies(Korean Linguistics or Korean Literature), Korean Language Education (as a Foreign Language)
Culture and Arts	Anthropology ·Folklore	Any majors are acceptable.
	Religious Studies	Any majors are acceptable.
	Musicology	Musicology, Korean Classical Music, Music Education, Korean Studies(Musicology), Korean Music
	Art History	Archaeology and Art History, Korean Art History, Oriental Art History, Science of Arts, Arts Education
	Cultural Informatics· Human Geography	Any majors are acceptable.
Social Sciences	Political Science	Any majors are acceptable.
	Sociology	Any majors are acceptable.
	Education	Any majors are acceptable.

- ※ Depending on the field of study in which a doctoral degree program applicant majored for his/her Master's degree, admissions can be restricted. The final decision on the acceptability of the applicant's Master's degree major will be made on the basis of the courses taken for the Master's degree program as well as the Master's degree thesis topic. The acceptability of applicants who majored in Korean Culture and Society at the GSKS for their Master's degree will be also decided according to the topic of their Master's degree thesis.



[Attachment 2]

## Personal Statement

Name		Desired Program	Desired Major
		<input type="checkbox"/> Master's Degree	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral Degree	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Research (Non-Degree)	

- ▶ Please complete the form below with a font sized 11 point and a length of about 2 pages including this page.
- ▶ **The use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools is not recommended, and applicants are kindly advised to ensure that their submissions reflect their own unique experiences and perspectives.**
- ▶ If AI tools are utilized during the preparation process, it is encouraged that applicants disclose this transparently. Please note that excessive dependence on AI or any form of plagiarism may result in disadvantages during the evaluation or possible disqualification. Ethical use of AI - such as for grammar or typographical corrections - is acceptable. However, using AI for tasks such as drafting essays or translating entire sentences is considered inappropriate.

Self-introduction	※ Write personal backgrounds, academic life, social activities, outlook on life, strengths and weaknesses, etc.
Study Plan	※ Write application motivation and goals, subjects you are interested in, future plans (post degree plans), etc.

[Attachment 3]

## Research Plan

Name		Desired Program	Desired Major
		<input type="checkbox"/> Master's Degree	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral Degree	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Research (Non-Degree)	

- ▶ Please complete the form below with a font sized 11 point and a length of about 5 pages including this page.
- ▶ **The use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools is not recommended, and applicants are kindly advised to ensure that their submissions reflect their own unique experiences and perspectives.**
- ▶ If AI tools are utilized during the preparation process, it is encouraged that applicants disclose this transparently. Please note that excessive dependence on AI or any form of plagiarism may result in disadvantages during the evaluation or possible disqualification. Ethical use of AI - such as for grammar or typographical corrections - is acceptable. However, using AI for tasks such as drafting essays or translating entire sentences is considered inappropriate.

Research Topic	
Reasons of Choosing the Topic	※ Write including the research background and purpose.
Review of the Previous Research	
Research Details	※ Write including the research method and significance.
Bibliography	

[Attachment 4-1]

### Letter of Recommendation

Name of Applicant			
Date of Birth	(Year/Month/Date)	Nationality	
Desired Program		Desired Major	
<input type="checkbox"/> Master's Degree			
<input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral Degree			
<input type="checkbox"/> Research (Non-degree)			

The person named above has applied for the graduate program of the Graduate School of Korean Studies, the Academy of Korean Studies. It would be greatly appreciated if you could provide a candid appraisal of the applicant's achievement by answering the following questions.

1. How long have you been known the applicant? In what relation?
2. What do you consider to be the applicant's strengths?
3. What do you consider to be the applicant's weaknesses?
4. How well do you think the applicant has thought out plans for his/her graduate study?

5. Please comment on the applicant's academic performance, potential, or personal qualities which you believe would be helpful in considering the applicant's application for the proposed degree program.

6. Please assess the applicant's qualities in the evaluation table given below. Rate the applicant compared to other classmates who are/were in the same school year with him/her.

Classification	Truly Exceptional	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Below Average	N/A
	Top 2%	Top 10%	Top 25%	Middle 50%	Lower 25%	
Academic Achievement						
Future Academic Potential						
Integrity						
Responsibility/Independence						
Creativity/Originality						
Communication Skills						
Interpersonal Skills						
Leadership						

Please provide your personal and institutional information below.

Name		Position	
Department			
Inst itut ion	Name		
	Address		
	Postal Code		
Telephone		Fax	
Work Email		Signature	

Date(YYYY/MM/DD) : \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Once completing the form, please send it to [admission\\_intl@aks.ac.kr](mailto:admission_intl@aks.ac.kr) by email. Thank you for your cooperation.

[Attachment 4-2]

## 추천서

지원자 성명			
생년월일(년/월/일)		국적	
지원과정	지원전공		
<input type="checkbox"/> 석사 학위			
<input type="checkbox"/> 박사 학위			
<input type="checkbox"/> 연구(비학위)			

한국학중앙연구원 한국학대학원에 지원한 위 지원자의 업적과 관련하여 다음 질문에 솔직하게  
 답하여 주시면 감사하겠습니다.

1. 지원자와 어떤 관계이며 얼마나 오랫동안 알고 지내셨습니까?
2. 지원자의 장점은 무엇이라고 생각하십니까?
3. 지원자의 단점은 무엇이라고 생각하십니까?
4. 지원자가 본 대학원에서의 수학에 대해 얼마나 숙고 · 계획하였다고 생각하십니까?

5. 지원자의 학업성취도, 발전가능성 및 자질과 관련하여 본 대학원 입학 전형에 도움이 될만한 사항을 기재해주시기 바랍니다.

6. 지원자의 자질을 동급생과 비교 · 평가하여 다음 표에 항목별로 체크(✓)하여 주시기 바랍니다.

구분	매우 우수	우수	양호	보통	평균 이하	해당사항 없음
	상위 2%	상위 10%	상위 25%	상위 50%	하위 25%	
학업성취도						
발전가능성						
성실성						
책임감/독립심						
창의성						
의사소통능력						
대인관계						
리더십						

귀하의 인적사항, 소속 및 연락처를 기재하신 후 서명하여 주십시오.

성명			직위	
부서				
소속기관	이름			
	주소			
	우편번호			
전화번호			팩스번호	
이메일			서명	

202    년       월       일

본 추천서를 작성하신 후 [admission\\_intl@aks.ac.kr](mailto:admission_intl@aks.ac.kr)로 제출하여 주시기 바랍니다. 감사합니다.

[Attachment 5]

## Letter of Sponsorship

Office of Academic & Student Affairs  
The Graduate School of Korean Studies  
The Academy of Korean Studies  
323 Haogae-ro Seongnam-si Bundang-gu  
Gyeonggi-do 13455 Republic of Korea

To whom it may concern:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to pay all expenses for \_\_\_\_\_ at the Graduate  
(Sponsor's Name) (Applicant's Name)  
School of Korean Studies in the Academy of Korean Studies. I am his/her  
\_\_\_\_\_.  
(Family Relation)

This sponsorship includes, but is not limited to, housing, food, health insurance, books, and other costs that may arise.

I have attached my bank statement or verification of deposit to demonstrate that I have sufficient financial resources to cover expenses for the duration of the program.

Should you have any inquiries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the contact information provided below.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Sponsor's Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Sponsor's Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Phone Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Email Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Mailing Address)