

GKS –U FAQs

QUALIFICATIONS	
Q1	My country is not included in the list of eligible countries with reserved quota. Can I still apply?
A1	No, you cannot. Only those who hold citizenship of the listed countries are eligible to apply for the Korean Government Scholarship Program.
Q2	I have studied in Korea as an exchange student. Am I eligible for application to this program?
A2	Yes, you are eligible to apply. However, those with a high school diploma issued by a Korean high school are NOT ELIGIBLE to apply.
Q3	I have studied at an international school in Korea. Since my school's system was different from normal Korean school system and all of my courses were taught in a different language, aren't I eligible to apply?
Q3	Sadly, no. As mentioned in the application guidelines, those who have graduated or expected to graduate from a high school based in KOREA are NOT ELIGIBLE to apply.
Q4	I have obtained a Bachelor's degree in my country. May I apply for the program?

A4	Unfortunately, you are NOT ELIGIBLE to apply. However, in case you are interested in pursuing higher degrees, e.g. Master's or Doctoral, please refer to the application guidelines for the graduate-degree programs.
Q5	I am going to graduate from a high school in <u>LATE March 2020</u> . May I apply for the <u>2020 program</u> ?
A5	No, you are NOT ELIGIBLE to apply. Only those who have already graduated or are expected to graduate from a high school before <u>March 1, 2020</u> , are eligible to apply for the program. You may, however, apply for the <u>2021 program</u> .
APPLICATION	
Q6	May I apply for the program through the NIIED directly?
A6	No, you may not. APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE KOREAN EMBASSY in your home country. Scholars from Bhutan must submit their application to the Korean Embassy in Bangladesh.
Q7	When is the deadline for application? And where can I submit my application?
A7	The application deadline and further instructions on document submission will be decided by the Korean Embassy in your country. Please refer to the announcement from the embassy. Although deadlines vary depending on the embassy, the application is usually open throughout <u>September</u> , or even until <u>early October</u> .
Q8	I am Malaysian but I am attending a high school in the U.K. May I apply for the program through the Korean Embassy in the U.K.?

A8	No, you may not. You must apply for the program through the Korean Embassy in Malaysia, your home country. The embassies in any other countries are not able to receive your application.
APPLICATION DOCUMENTS	
Q9	Should I submit the certificate of language proficiency (English or Korean) when I apply for the GKS?
A9	It is not mandatory to submit the language proficiency test results. Those scores are optional. However, the applicants with a valid TOPIK level will be considered more favorably.
Q10	As for recommendation letters, may I submit two letters written by one recommender?
A10	No, you may not. The recommendation letters must be written by two different recommenders such as your high school teacher, the school principal, or the chair of your department.
Q11	If my documents are not written in English or in Korean, how should I submit them?
A11	Please have the documents translated either into Korean or English. All translated documents must be authenticated by the issuing institution or by a notary's office. If your country is a member of the Apostille Convention, you may submit the apostilled documents.
Q12	According to the Application Guidelines, I have to submit one set of original application documents and three sets of photocopied ones. How can I prepare the photocopies of the recommendation letters, which must be sealed?
A12	Please ask your recommender to give you four identical letters, each sealed in separate envelopes. For all other documents that are sealed by the issuing institution, such as the degree certificate or the transcript, please get four identical ones from the issuing institution, each sealed in a separate envelope.

STUDIES UNDER SCHOLARSHIP

Q13

Can I be exempt from the Korean Language Program?

A13

If you submit a valid advanced level – 5 or 6 – on TOPIK (Test of Proficiency in Korean), you are exempt from the language program and must start your degree program in the first semester under GKS. Another benefit of having an advanced TOPIK level is the Korean Proficiency Grants, which gives additional 100,000 won each month to a scholar throughout the degree program.

Q14

Application guidelines say that applicants should choose up to 3 preferred universities and departments (or majors) in the application forms; FORM 1, FORM 4 and FORM5. However, I have no idea how to choose them. Could you give me any good tips for choosing my 3 universities?

A14

For information on the universities available for 2020 GKS scholars, please refer to the “University Information” which is available on the announcement made by NIIED. It is available in the GKS Notice board at www.studyinkorea.go.kr. For further inquiries on the degree program, the applicants are encouraged to contact each university.

Q15

How does the university admission procedure work?

A15

Application for university admissions will be proceeded as shown below for those who pass the 2nd round of selection:

1. After announcing the successful candidates of the 2nd round, NIIED will forward the application documents to all universities that applicants have chosen in their application forms.
2. Each university will begin its own reviews on the applications forwarded by NIIED. Please note that some universities might conduct interviews with prospective candidates, or request the submission of supplementary documents.
3. The universities will notify the admissions review results to each candidate and to NIIED. All GKS applicants must make their final choice of university and notify NIIED about the final decision.

Attention!! If you are not admitted to any of the three universities you chose, you will not be selected in the final round.

Q15	May I change my final choice of a university for an undergraduate degree during the preliminary Korean language course?
A15	Never. After the final result announcement by NIIED, changing universities is NOT ALLOWED at all circumstances. Please give yourself enough time to consider your choice before notifying NIIED about your final choice of university.
Q16	May I choose any field of study in my desired program?
A16	You are free to choose and apply for any major listed in the “University Information” However, please note that you cannot apply for a major which takes more than 4 years to complete.
Q17	May I choose more than one department or major for a university?
A17	No, you may not. You must choose one department or major. In other words, it is not allowed to put three different majors from a single university as your university choice in the application form.
Q18	According to application guidelines, the possible period of temporary departure during the Korean language program is maximum 4 weeks within the vacation period. Does it mean that if we have a 3 week vacation, the allowed period of leave is 3 weeks?
A18	Yes, you are right. Temporary departure during the Korean language training can be allowed within the period of vacation set by each Korean language institute. Please note that scholarship for the period of temporary departure during the language training is not to be paid regardless of the reasons of leaving. Also, all departure must be approved by the language institution in advance.