KOREA UNIVERSITY

2027 Spring Exchange Program

If you are applying as a visiting student (fee-paying student),
please refer to the factsheet for the Visiting Program.

▶Contacts for Office of International Affairs

General Inquiries for Exchange Students (from your university to KU)

Global Services Center (GSC), KOREA UNIVERSITY
Room 202, Dongwon Global Leadership Hall
145 Anam-ro, Seongbuk-gu, Seoul
02841 REP OF KOREA
Tel: +82-(0)2-3290-5118, 5119
E-mail: studyabroad@korea.ac.kr

▶Applying to KU

Academic Term	Online Nomination/Application Period
2027 Spring (First Semester) *** March – June**	**October 1 - 31, 2026**
2027 Fall (Second Semester) *** September - December**	**April 1 - 30, 2027**

* KU only accepts nominations/applications submitted online, without exception.

KOREA UNIVERSITY

Steps to NOMINATE students for the Exchange Program

- For Coordinators of Exchange Programs Sending Students to KU

Step 1. Discuss the exchange quota with the Outbound Exchange & Balance Coordinator.

- All exchange program coordinators are required to consult with KU Outbound Team regarding the exchange quota in advance. A survey will be distributed by the KU Outbound Exchange & Balance Coordinator during a specified period.

Step 2. Check the student entry requirements.

<Entry Requirements>

- Must be a currently enrolled student
- Minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale (U.S. Standard)
- Undergraduates: At least 2 full semesters completed before nomination/application period
  - Transcripts including the second semester issued during or after the nomination/application period will not be accepted.
  - Graduates/Transfer Undergraduates: 1 semester
- Fluency in Korean or English **(No Certificate Required)**

Step 3. Nominate students via the online nomination system.

- An automated email with application instructions will be sent only to partner universities that have confirmed their exchange quota in advance.
- **Please select one of the following: a Gmail address (***@gmail.com), an iCloud address (***@icloud.com), or a 163 address (***@163.com). If a student does not have any of these email addresses, we recommend creating a new one.**
- **Please do not reply to the auto-generated email, as responses will NOT be forwarded to us.**
  For any inquiries regarding nominations, contact the respective KU coordinators directly.
- **Make sure that emails from @korea.ac.kr are not marked as spam and are added to your safe senders list, as all important announcements are sent from this domain.**

Step 4. Inform the nominated students to check their inbox including the spam folder and complete the online application by the deadline.

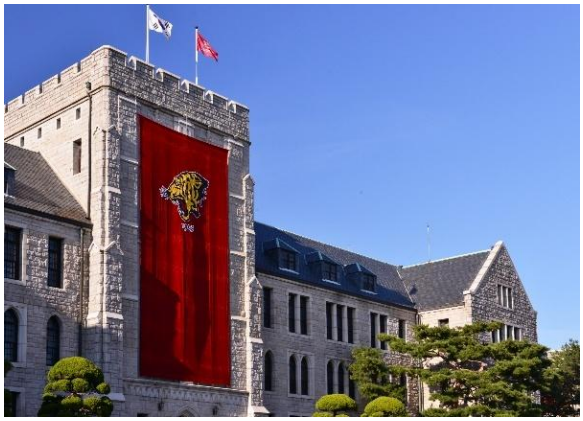
- Once the coordinator completes the online nomination, an email including the application link will be sent to the nominated students.
- **Kindly remind the students to check both their inbox and spam folder and complete the online application by the deadline.**

Step 5. Communicate with Global Services Center coordinators.

- Coordinators at Global Services Center will contact partner universities if they have any inquiries regarding the nomination.

Step 6. Check the acceptance package (files)

- Once accepted, nominated students can print out their COA (Certificate of Acceptance) and other essential documents via the application link.



KOREA UNIVERSITY

Steps to APPLY for the Exchange Program

- For Nominated Students to KU

Step 1. Students must be nominated by their home university to apply.

<Entry Requirements>

- Must be a currently enrolled student
- Minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale (U.S. Standard)
- Undergraduates: At least 2 full semesters completed before nomination/application period
  - Transcripts including the second semester issued during or after the nomination/application period will not be accepted.
  - Graduates/Transfer Undergraduates: 1 semester
- Fluency in Korean or English **(No Certificate Required)**

Step 2. Students will receive the application link by email.

- After nomination, students get an automatic email with the application link. **Please select one of the following: a Gmail address (***@gmail.com), an iCloud address (***@icloud.com), or a 163 address (***@163.com). If you do not have any of these email addresses, we recommend creating a new one.**
- **Please do not reply to the auto-generated nomination email, as responses will NOT be forwarded to us.**
- **For any inquiries or concerns, send an email to studyabroad@korea.ac.kr.**
- **Make sure that emails from @korea.ac.kr are not marked as spam and are added to your safe senders list, as almost all important announcements are sent from this domain.**

Step 3. Students will complete the online application by the deadline.

<Required Documents> * Designated forms available at gsc.korea.ac.kr >Exchange/Visiting Program > Notice.

- **Transcript (Issued within the recent 1 month/Certified Copy Stamp required)**
  - A current transcript in English demonstrating a minimum GPA of 2.5 on the U.S. 4.0 scale and including grades for at least 2 full semesters. Transcripts including the second semester issued during or after the application period will not be accepted. * In case of graduates/transfer undergraduates: 1 semester
- **GPA Conversion Certificate (Designated Form)**
  - **The GPA Conversion Certificate must be signed by the home university.**
  - If the grades cannot be converted based on numeric values, submit a certification letter issued by the coordinator at the home university verifying the student's academic performance, in lieu of the GPA Conversion Certificate.
- **Statement of Purpose (SOP)**
  - Students should explain why they chose KU as their study abroad destination and what they hope to achieve during their time at KU, within one page.
- **Copy of Passport (For Visa Process)**
  - **Must be valid for at least a year; dual citizens with Korean nationality must submit their Korean passport.**
  - **If the student needs to apply for a new passport, advance notice is required so we can ensure timely visa processing, so please let us know as soon as possible.**
- **Certificate of Health (Designated Form)**
  - **Only examinations taken between August and October for the Spring semester and between February and April for the Fall semester are acceptable.**
- **Code of Conduct and Dismissal (Designated Form)**
- **One Passport-sized Photo**
  - **The photo for the KU student ID card must be in JPG format. (NOT ANY OTHER FORMAT)**
- **Application Fee: USD 50**
  - **THE APPLICATION FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.**
  - **Use the 10-digit Registration No. (excluding 'GSC') as the sender's name, not the applicant's name. It will be displayed after the online application is submitted. Please send the receipt to studyabroad@korea.ac.kr.**
  - **For International Wire Transfers:** Send USD 50 to KEB Hana Bank (SWIFT Code: KOEXKRSE) 391-910030-74204.
  - **For Domestic Wire Transfers:** Send KRW 50,000 to KEB Hana Bank 391-910030-74204, instead of USD 50.
- **Travel Insurance Certificate**
  - Travel Insurance Certificate should clearly state the student's full name, cover Korea as the destination and include health coverage. The coverage period must span the entire semester (or both semesters, if applicable) and be clearly indicated. The certificate must be written in English.
  - Please note that students will be automatically enrolled in Korea's National Health Insurance (NHI) upon registering at the immigration office after arrival. However, all international students are still required as NHI may not cover all medical expenses, especially for serious illness or injury, which could lead to significant financial hardship.
  - Korean students should submit a Health Insurance Qualification Certificate issued by NHIS or Government 24.
  - Final Submission Deadline: July 31 (for Fall) / January 31 (for Spring)
- **Accommodation Letter** *(if applicable)*
  - Students needing disability support at KU must submit an accommodation letter from their home university.

<Important Notes>

- All supporting documents must be submitted online in English or with an English translation.
- If the students are unable to upload the required document by the deadline by inevitable circumstances, please upload a blank PDF stating the following message:
  "I will prepare and email the document to studyabroad@korea.ac.kr by DD-MM-YYYY."
  - **Please note that this may cause delays in subsequent procedures including the preparation of visa-related documents and may result in rejection in the worst case.**

- **Additional documents required for NON-OECD country nationals**
  - NON-OECD country nationals (based on citizenship, not university location) must submit an official Certificate of Enrollment from their home university to the Global Services Center **by POST**—by May 15 for Fall or November 15 for Spring. **This document must include an Apostille issued by the country where the university is located (if the university is in an Apostille member state) or a Korean consular confirmation from a Korean diplomatic mission located in that country (if non-member).**

- **Additional documents required for students from a university in China**
  - Submit an official Certificate of Enrollment (English) of the current home university **issued from CHSI (学信网) by POST** before May 15 (for Fall) and November 15 (for Spring) to complete the application.

<Postal Address> Exchange Program Coordinator
Global Services Center, KOREA UNIVERSITY
Room 202, Dongwon Global Leadership Hall
145 Anam-ro, Seongbuk-gu, Seoul (+82-2-3290-5118~9)
02841 REP OF KOREA

Step 4. Prepare a bank statement only AFTER receiving an acceptance email from KU.

- The application review process may take up to 6-8 weeks from the application deadline.
- Students will be requested to submit a bank statement via email once Global Services Center has completed the application review. Upon receiving a valid bank statement, Global Services Center will proceed with preparing the admission package as the final step. It may take an additional 1-2 weeks.
- **NON-OECD country nationals (based on citizenship, not university location) are required to send the original bank statement to Global Services Center by POST only. Details will be sent by email.**

Step 5. Download the admission package from the application link.

- Students will be able to print out their COA (Certificate of Acceptance) and other essential documents via the application link in December-January (for Fall) and June-July (for Spring).
- **Students are responsible for applying for their own visas.**

▶Academics

▪ Course Information

- **Undergraduate Course List** http://sugang.korea.ac.kr → English → Search Course (more+)
  * Refer to Major and General Studies courses.
  * Courses listed under the X) column are open to exchange students.
- **Graduate Course List** http://sugang.korea.ac.kr/graduate → English → Graduate Course

* All courses taught in English are indicated in brackets. e.g. Marketing Management (English)
* The Course List for the upcoming semester is released in mid-July (for Fall) and mid-January (for Spring).
* Students may refer to the previous year's course list for the same semester, as it is usually similar. However, course offerings are subject to change, so students are advised to prepare a backup plan.

▪ Grade Requirements

Undergraduate	Graduate
Max. 19 credits per semester ***Undergraduates are NOT ALLOWED to take graduate courses.**	**Max. 12 credits** per semester *Graduates can take undergraduate courses.

▪ Academic Workload

Major	Elective	Workload
2-3 credits	**1-3 credits**	**1 credit = 1 teaching hour** *Each semester is 16 weeks long.

- **Course Restrictions** * Please note that there may be additional restricted courses.

<Course Restrictions (Undergraduate)>

Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Law, Teacher Education, Cyber Defense, Art & Design, Smart Mobility, Communications Engineering, Semiconductor Engineering, and all courses at Sejong Campus are **NOT AVAILABLE** to exchange students.

<Course Restrictions (Graduate)>

Only the departments under the <Graduate School> category and courses under the <International Studies> are available to exchange students ***except for*** Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Law, Teacher Education, School of Cybersecurity (Department of Cyber Defense), Art & Design, Independent Study, Thesis Research, Tutorial Research After Completion of Course Work and also graduate level Business courses (graduate courses that start with INT) and all courses at Sejong Campus.

- The courses in Business, Media & Communications, International Studies and Psychology (courses with BUSS, JMCO, DISS, PSYC) are not restricted but are in high demand.
- **It is highly recommended to confirm graduation requirements at the home university, as KU's course registration operates on a first-come, first-served basis and is not guaranteed.**
- **KU does not guarantee any courses for exchange/visiting students. Please stay flexible and have a backup plan.**
- Some lab/practice courses may have TAs who teach in Korean. Contact the professor of the course in advance to confirm details.

- **Course Registration**

- **Students will be notified via email about the instructions for course registration in mid-July (for Fall) and mid-January (for Spring). Students should follow these steps after receiving the email.**

Step 1. Read the course registration instructions very carefully.
Step 2. Make a preferred course listing during the 'Preferred Course Listing' period.
Step 3. Check the results.
Step 4. Apply for courses during the 'Course Registration' period.
Step 5. Try to add courses during the 'Course Add/Drop' period.
Step 6. Drop the courses during the 'Course Withdrawal' period.

*No changes can be made after the Course Withdrawal Period.
*'Preferred Course Listing (Step 2&3)' and 'Course Withdrawal (Step 6)' are not available to graduate level courses.

- At KU, all courses have limited seats not only for exchange/visiting students but also for degree-seeking KU students. The number of available spots for degree-seeking students varies depending on their year of study (e.g. freshman, sophomore, etc.), while exchange/visiting students are counted separately under the "Exchange Student" category.
- If the number of exchange/visiting students who have selected a specific course (e.g. WORLD ECONOMY AND BUSINESS) during the 'Preferred Course Listing' period is equal to or below the number of quota available to exchange/visiting students, the course will be automatically registered (The quota for exchange/visiting students is usually 25% of total enrollment in each class).
- **Students may refer to the course list from the corresponding semester of the previous year as it is likely to remain similar. However, courses are subject to change every semester and we cannot guarantee their availability. Students are responsible for making a backup plan for their course plan.**
- KU cannot recommend or find a course for individual students in principle of fairness. It is student's responsibility to make a backup plan when they make their course plan.

- **Grading and Transcripts**

- KU uses a 4.5 GPA scale. The grading scale and credit hour value can be found here.
- **For credit transfer or recognition, students must contact their home university directly.**
- Grades will be finalized in early January (Fall) and early July (Spring). If students have any questions or concerns about their grades, they are responsible for contacting the professor of the course directly only by the Grade Revision Period.
- Official transcripts will be sent only in English to the home university between January 15-31 (Fall) and July 15-31 (Spring).

- **Support for Students with Disabilities**
  - KU may provide accommodation including extended test time (1.5x), separate testing locations and extended assignment deadlines. Please upload the accommodation letter to the online application. Further guidelines will be provided once the semester begins.
  - **Early course registration and on-campus housing are not guaranteed.**

▶VISA

- **VISA Requirements**
  - **A D-2-6 visa (exchange student visa) must be obtained PRIOR to arriving in Korea. Certificate of Admission (COA) issued by KU is required when applying for the visa. COA is issued starting in June (Fall) and December (Spring). If applying for a new passport, inform KU in advance, as the passport number on the COA must match the passport used to enter Korea.**
  - **Students of Korean heritage must check dual citizenship status before or during the application process. If Korean nationality is valid, application must be made using a Korean passport.**
  - **Entry to Korea with K-ETA (without a D-2-6 visa) for studying at KU is not allowed. Entering Korea with K-ETA while the student visa is being processed is also prohibited. The visa process must be completed and the D-2-6 VISA OBTAINED BEFORE ENTRY.**
  - **After arrival, apply for an Alien Registration Card (ARC) within 90 days. Leaving Korea before the card is issued will result in automatic cancellation of the D-2-6 visa and re-entry will require obtaining a new student visa from the Korean embassy.**
  - **Students must leave Korea by the end of January (Fall) or July (Spring).**

- **Important Notes** *** Please note that failure to comply may result in program cancellation.**

[1. PASSPORT VALIDITY CHECK]
└─ ▶ Must be valid for at least 1 year.
└─ ▶ Guarantee: All passport info & nationality status must remain valid until the end of the exchange semester.
  └─ ⚠ Need a new passport?
    └─ ▶ Advance notice required ASAP (COA number MUST match).

[2. NATIONALITY & DUAL CITIZENSHIP CHECK]
├─ Q. Do you hold Korean nationality (including dual citizenship)?
│ ├─ [YES] ──▶ You MUST apply submit your KOREAN PASSPORT.
│ │ └─ ▶ Guarantee: Korean nationality status should remain valid until the end of the exchange program.
│ │ * Please check if Korean nationality might be lost if planning to acquire a new nationality.
│ └─ [NO] ──▶ Proceed with your foreign passport.
│ (Please submit information for the passport you are planning to use WHEN ENTERING KOREA).

[3. VISA & ENTRY RULES (Non-Korean Nationals)]
├─ Q. Are you a non-Korean national?
│ └─ [YES] ──▶ 🛑 CRITICAL ENTRY RULE:
│ └─ ✔ MUST enter Korea with an official D-2 VISA from Embassy/Consulate.
│ * Entering while D-2 visa is "IN PROCESS" or PENDING or with Short-term visas (B-1, B-2) is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.
└─ [NO] ──▶ Enter with Korean passport.

▶Accommodations

- **On-Campus Housing**
  - **On-campus housing is not guaranteed for exchange/visiting students. If it is a top priority, careful consideration is advised before applying.**

- Exchange students may apply for on-campus housing (Frontier, CJ/Anam International House) via http://dorm.korea.ac.kr. Applications are processed online on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to availability.
- Application periods are June-July (for Fall) and December-January (for Spring). Late applications will not be accepted. Dormitory acceptance may be canceled if fees are not paid by the deadline. Additional offers may be made if cancellations occur.
- Accepted students must take a tuberculosis test (X-ray, blood or skin test) after July 1 (for Fall) or January 1 (for Spring). The test certificate, in Korean or English, must be submitted directly to the dormitory at check-in. Also, bedding is not provided, so students must bring their own.

▪ Off-Campus Housing

- Those who were not accepted for on-campus housing may refer to the GSC website or contact studyabroad@korea.ac.kr for information on additional options. For general information, please visit https://gsc.korea.ac.kr/gsc/Life/Housing/Housing.do.

▶ Academic Calendar

▪ 2027 Spring Academic Calendar * This schedule is currently tentative. Please refer to future updates for the confirmed details.

February	Week 1	**[UNDERGRADUATE] Preferred Course Registration (Pre-registration)**
	Week 2	**[UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE] Course Registration**
	6-9	Korean New Year's Day (National Holiday)
	26	**Orientation for Exchange/Visiting Students**
March	1	Independence Movement Day (National Holiday)
	2	First Day of Classes
	Week 1	[UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE] Course Add/Drop & Course Registration Confirmation
	Week 4	[UNDERGRADUATE] Course Withdrawal
April	Week 4-5	**Midterm Exam**
May	1	Labor Day (Statutory Holiday)
	3	Substitute Holiday for Labor Day (Statutory Holiday)
	5	KU Foundation Day / Children's Day (National Holiday)
	13	Buddha's Birthday (National Holiday)
	Week 3-4	**Final Exam**
	22	Last Day of Classes
July	Week 2	Grade Confirmation
	15-31	Transcript Delivery
	31	**Last Day to Depart Korea** *for D-2 VISA Holders*

- KU follows a semester system, with each semester lasting 16 weeks
  : **Spring** (March-June) & **Fall** (September-December).
- The Academic Calendar may change, check email regularly for updates.
- Final grades are confirmed in early January (Fall) and early July (Spring). Accordingly, the official transcripts will be sent to partner universities in January 15-31 (Fall) and July 15-31 (Spring).
- **D-2 VISA holders must leave Korea by January 31 (Fall) and July 31 (Spring) depending on their study period in accordance with the Immigration Act.**

<End>