



STUDENT GUIDE TO **SOUTH KOREA**

STUDY ABROAD REFERENCE · 2026/27 INTAKE

ABOUT SOUTH KOREA

- South Korea is a **high-tech powerhouse** blending tradition and innovation, with **Seoul** as the capital.
- Home to around **52 million people** and global leaders like Samsung, LG and Hyundai.
- A **growing range of English-taught** degrees, especially in STEM and business.
- Famous for **cutting-edge technology** and a vibrant culture.
- The **Korean Won (₩)** is the official currency.
- Some of the most popular student cities:



INDIA TO SOUTH KOREA

CURRENCY

Korean Won (₩ / KRW) · 1 KRW ≈ ₹0.06 (indicative)

Delhi	≈ 7h 00m	South Korea
Mumbai	≈ 8h 00m	South Korea
Bengaluru	≈ 8h 30m	South Korea
Chennai	≈ 8h 00m	South Korea
Hyderabad	≈ 8h 00m	South Korea

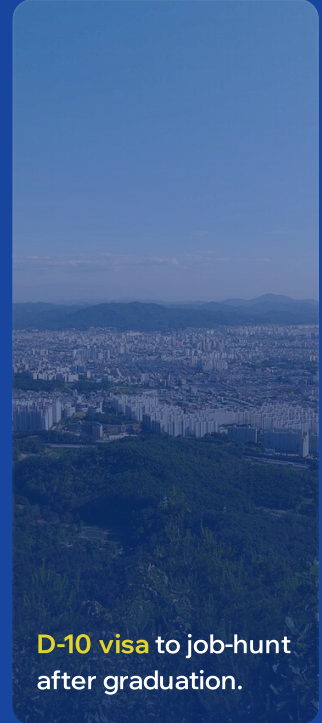
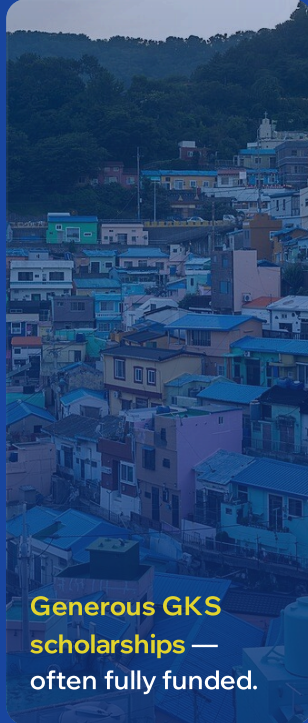


FACTS

- Capital: **Seoul**
- Flight distance: ~5,000 km
- Time zone: **KST (UTC+9)**
- Tuition: ₩4M–12M / yr
- Proof of funds: ~₩20,000,000
- Main intakes: **Mar · Sep**

Full tuition; strong scholarship coverage. Figures indicative; verify per intake.

WHY STUDY IN SOUTH KOREA?



TYPES OF INSTITUTIONS

- South Korea has elite national, private and STEM-focused universities.
- They fall into three broad groups:



NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES

State-funded, research-led (e.g., SNU).



PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

Leading private institutions (Yonsei, Korea).



SCIENCE & TECH INSTITUTES

Elite STEM (KAIST, POSTECH).



Seoul
Modern campuses across and beyond.

TOP UNIVERSITIES

- South Korea hosts several **globally recognised** universities.
- Admission is **merit-based** and competitive.

Seoul National University**SEOUL**

Korea's top national university.

KAIST**DAEJEON**

Elite science and technology institute.

Yonsei University**SEOUL**

Leading private research university.

Korea University**SEOUL**

Top private university, strong in business.

Sungkyunkwan University**SEOUL**

Research-intensive, Samsung-linked.

Hanyang University**SEOUL**

Renowned for engineering.

Indicative selection — confirm each programme's entry requirements and intake before applying.

POPULAR FIELDS OF STUDY

- South Korea is renowned for **engineering, technology and business**.



ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS

World leaders in tech and robotics.



COMPUTER SCIENCE & AI

Software, data and AI.



BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT

International business and MBA.



KOREAN STUDIES

Language and cultural studies.



DESIGN & MEDIA

K-content, design and media.



LIFE SCIENCES

Biotech and medical research.

TUITION & COSTS

- Tuition is **moderate**, and most universities offer **30–100% scholarships** on top of GKS.

Undergraduate
per year

₩4M–8M

Postgraduate / Master's
per year

₩5M–12M

STEM / specialist
per year

higher, varies

GKS Scholarship
fully funded

tuition + stipend

Proof of funds

~₩20,000,000



GKS (Global Korea Scholarship) covers full tuition, a monthly stipend, flights and insurance.

COST OF LIVING

- Seoul is the priciest; regional cities are **much cheaper** to live in.

Accommodation
dormitory / goshiwon

₩300,000–600,000

Food & groceries

₩400,000–500,000

Transport
student card

₩60,000–80,000

Health insurance
mandatory

~₩50,000

Phone, internet & leisure

₩150,000–250,000

Estimated monthly total

~₩1,000,000–1,500,000

Figures indicative for 2026 — costs vary between the capital and smaller cities.

SCHOLARSHIPS & FUNDING

- GKS and university scholarships make Korea very affordable for strong students.

Global Korea Scholarship (GKS)

GOVT

Fully funded tuition, stipend and flights.

University Scholarships

INSTITUTIONAL

30–100% tuition awards by merit.

Departmental Assistantships

DEPARTMENTAL

Research/teaching support (PG).

Foundation Awards

FOUNDATIONS

Additional scholarships and grants.

Eligibility, deadlines and amounts change each cycle — confirm on the official scholarship pages.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

BACHELOR'S

- **12 years** of schooling with a strong Class 12 record.
- **IELTS 5.5–6.5 / TOEFL** for English-taught, or **TOPIK** for Korean.
- Statement of purpose and references.
- Apply directly to each university.

MASTER'S

- A recognised **bachelor's degree** in a relevant field.
- **IELTS 6.0+ / TOEFL** or TOPIK.
- Study plan and recommendation letters.
- A prospective supervisor for research programmes.

INTAKES

- **March** — spring — the main intake
- **September** — fall — strong second intake
- **Rolling** — language programmes start quarterly

STUDENT VISA & FUNDS

1

ADMISSION & COA

Receive admission and a Certificate of Admission.

2

VISA APPLICATION

Apply for the D-2 student visa.

3

PROOF OF FUNDS

Show ~₩20,000,000 in funds.

4

DOCUMENTS & BIOMETRICS

Submit documents and give biometrics.

5

APPROVAL & TRAVEL

Receive approval and travel to Korea.

6

ARC

Apply for an Alien Registration Card on arrival.

WORK & POST-STUDY

- Students may work part-time with permission, then use the **D-10 visa** to job-hunt for up to a year.

Part-Time Work

~20 HRS/WEEK

With permission and adequate grades.

Job-Seeking Visa

D-10, UP TO 1 YEAR

Stay to find work after graduation.

Work Visa

E-7

Professional employment visa.

In-Demand Sectors

GROWTH AREAS

Tech, engineering, R&D and business.

HOW TO APPLY

1

SHORTLIST

Choose universities and English-taught programmes.

2

PREPARE DOCUMENTS

Transcripts, IELTS/TOPIK, SOP and study plan.

3

APPLY

Apply directly or via GKS.

4

ADMISSION & COA

Accept your offer and receive the CoA.

5

VISA

Apply for the D-2 student visa.

6

DEPARTURE

Arrange housing and register for an ARC.



Your South Korea study journey — one step at a time.