

2022 GKS-U FAQ

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 Global Korea Scholarship Program.

Q2

I have studied in Korea as an exchange student. Am I eligible to apply for 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. My school's educational system is different from normal Korean school system and all my courses were taught in a different language. Am I not eligible to apply?

Q3

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

No, you are NOT ELIGIBLE to apply for the GKS-U program. However, in case you are interested in pursuing a higher degree, e.g., Master's or Doctoral, please refer to the application guidelines for the GKS Graduate-degree programs.

Q5

I am going to graduate from a high school in LATE March 2022. May I apply for the 2022 GKS-U program?

A5

No, you are NOT ELIGIBLE to apply. Only those who have already graduated or are expected to graduate by February 28, 2022, are eligible to apply for the program. You may, however, apply for the 2023 GKS-U program.

APPLICATION

Q6

May I apply for the program through NIIED directly?

A6

No, you may not. Applicants must apply and submit their application documents to a Korean Embassy where they hold citizenship or directly to one of the universities listed in the application guidelines. For any inquiries regarding submission, please check with the embassies and universities where the first round of selection is conducted since each institute may have different application submission guidelines.

[Embassy Track] Even if you are currently residing in Korea or in a different country, you must submit your application documents to the Korean embassy in the country where you hold citizenship.

Q7

When is the deadline for the application?

A7

Each institute (Korean embassy or university) where first round of selection is conducted decides its own deadline. You must check with the Korean embassy in your home country or with your desired university regarding exact application deadline and submission guidelines.

Q8

I am Malaysian but I am attending a high school in U.K. May I apply for the program through the Korean Embassy in U.K.?

A8

[Embassy Track] No, you may not. You must apply for the program through the Korean Embassy in Malaysia, where you hold citizenship. The embassies in any other countries are not able to receive your application.

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Q9

Must I submit the certificate of language proficiency (English or Korean) when I apply for GKS?

A9

It is not mandatory to submit a language proficiency test result. However, if you are an applicant of highly competitive country, Korean embassy may require a certain level of language proficiency. Some universities or departments may also require certain level of language proficiency for their admission, so please check with the university before you apply.

Applicants with a valid TOPIK level 3 or above will be given additional points (10% of the total allocated points) at their 1st and 2nd round of selection.

Q10

Who should I get my recommendation letter from?

A10

We recommend you receive your recommendation letter from someone who can provide thorough assessment on your academic abilities such as high school teacher, the school principal, or the chair of your department.

The recommendation letter should be dated within a year from the very last date of the application deadline.

Q11

If my documents are not written in English or Korean, how should I submit them?

A11

Please have the documents officially translated (certified translation) either into Korean or English. Original or a certified true copy of the documents written in their original language must be submitted together with their certified translation. All certificates must be authenticated by a consulate or apostilled before submission.

Q12

[Embassy Track] 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 my recommendation letter, which must be sealed?

A12

[Embassy Track] Please ask your recommender to first write one original recommendation letter, and then, make three identical copies (simple photocopies or printouts) of the original recommendation letter. The recommender should date and sign all four letters and seal them in an envelope. They can be either sealed separately or be sealed altogether in an envelope.

[University Track] Please submit one original recommendation letter from a single recommender.

STUDIES UNDER SCHOLARSHIP

Q13

Can I be exempt from the Korean Language Program?

A13

If you submit a valid level 5 or 6 on TOPIK (Test of Proficiency in Korean), you will be exempt from the language program and must start your degree program in the first semester in March 2022. Another benefit of having an advanced TOPIK level is the Korean Proficiency Grants, which gives additional 100,000 won each month to a scholar on their degree program during the period of exam validity.

Q14

How many universities and departments can I apply for admission?

A14

[University Track] You must choose only ONE university and ONE department.

[Embassy Track] You must choose THREE universities under Type A or B. At least one of your three choices must be chosen from Type B universities (If not, the application will be excluded from an evaluation).

Note that you may choose the same department for all three universities. However, you should NOT choose three different departments from a single university.

Q15

May I change my final choice of a university for an undergraduate degree during the preliminary Korean language course?

A15

No, you may NOT. After the final announcement of 2022 GKS-U Scholars, changing the university or transferring to another university is NOT PERMITTED under any circumstances. Changing department is also not allowed. Please give yourself enough time to consider your choice before notifying NIIED about your final choice of university. We ask all applicants to obtain sufficient information about your desired university and department before applying.

Q16

Is it mandatory for all GKS scholars to pass at least level 3 on TOPIK after one year of Korean language training?

A16

Yes, it is. Every GKS scholar must get at least level 3 on TOPIK (Test of Proficiency in Korean) within a yearlong Korean language program in order to proceed to his or her degree program. Please note that NIIED assigns Korean language institution for each GKS scholar with various factors in consideration. Once a scholar is assigned to a Korean language institution, it is not allowed to change the assigned language institution. Usually, Korean language institutions are assigned in a different city/region from the universities of degree program. During the language program, scholars are required to live on-campus and accompanying family members during Korean language program is not allowed.

Q17

What if I do not attain degree within the scholarship period? Can I extend my scholarship period until I graduate?

A17

Even if you do not attain degree within the scholarship period NIIED has designated, once your initial scholarship period is over, your scholarship benefits will come to an end. The extension of scholarship period is strictly forbidden.

THANK YOU

for your interest in

Global Korea Scholarship

for Undergraduate Degree Program

GKS CENTER, NIIED