2027 KOICA Scholarship Program
Application Guideline

For Master's & Doctoral Degree Program

June. 2026

KOICA
Korea International
Cooperation Agency

Table of Contents

1. OVERVIEW 1

2. PROGRAMS AND UNIVERSITIES 2

3. ELIGIBILITY 4

4. SELECTION PROCEDURE AND SCHEDULE 7

5. DOCUMENTS TO SUBMIT 9

6. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS 13

7. APPLICATION PROCESS COST 14

8. VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL 14

9. IMPORTANT NOTICE 14

10. CONTACTS 14

1. OVERVIEW

A. About KOICA

The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), established in 1991, is a governmental agency dedicated to providing Korea's grant aid programs. KOICA aims to foster friendly, cooperative relationships, and mutual exchanges with partner countries by offering support for their socioeconomic development. KOICA is involved in a diverse range of initiatives, including the Fellowship Program, Korea Volunteer Dispatching Program, Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief, Public-Private Partnership, and Bilateral and Multilateral Projects, among others.

B. KOICA Fellowship Program, CIAT

Just like its acronym that sounds like "seed" in Korean, CIAT (Capacity Improvement and Advancement for Tomorrow) aims to sow seeds of hope across KOICA's partner countries. CIAT is a cooperation program that invites policy-makers, public servants, and experts from KOICA's partner countries to Korea for technical training and knowledge sharing. It has established partnerships with numerous public organizations, research institutes, universities, and other institutions in Korea to provide high-quality training programs. In particular, CIAT Scholarship Programs offer various supports to talented government officials from partner countries who wish to study and obtain a graduate degree in Korea. These efforts have resulted in a high level of satisfaction among participants. Upon returning to their home countries, CIAT participants contribute not only to their own societies but also strengthen the bilateral partnership between Korea and their respective partner countries.

C. Summary of Program Admission Procedure

Step1. Submission of Application Documents and Government Nomination
↓
Step2. KOICA Country Office (Korean Embassy) On-site Interview in your home country
↓ If pass
Step3. Document Screening by the University
↓ If pass
Step4. Local Medical Check-up and Interview (and/or Test) conducted by the University
↓ If pass
Step5. Arrival in Korea, Orientation and Medical Check-up in Korea
↓ If pass
Step6. Commencement of the Degree Program
↓
Step7. Return to the Home Country

2. PROGRAMS AND UNIVERSITIES

A. Duration

Program	Master's Degree Program	Doctoral Degree Program
Duration	17 months	36 months

※ The detailed program duration for each university is specified in the PI.

B. List of Institutes and Fields of Study

- Please refer to the CIAT website for detailed information on the institute.

No	University(Institute)	Program	Quota
	↓ APPLY NOW ↓		
1	HANDONG GLOBAL UNIVERSITY	Master's Degree Program in e-Government and Public Management (1)	15
2	INCHEON NATIONAL UNIVERSITY	Master's Degree Program in Capacity Building for Manage to Climate Change and Environment	15
3	KDI SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT	Master's Degree Program in Economic Development Policy for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth	15
4	SUNGKYUNKWAN UNIVERSITY	Master's Degree Program in e-Government and Public Management (2)	15
5	YONSEI UNIVERSITY	Master's Degree Program in Health Policy and Financing Capacity Building	15
6	KYONGPOOK NATIONAL UNIVERSITY	Master's Degree Program in Capacity Building on High Value-added Agriculture	20
7	KYONGPOOK NATIONAL UNIVERSITY	Doctoral Degree Program in Capacity Building on High Value-added Agriculture	3
8	PUKYONG NATIONAL UNIVERSITY	Master's Degree Program in Global Fisheries Development	20
9	PUKYONG NATIONAL UNIVERSITY	Doctoral Degree Program in Global Fisheries Development	3
10	UNIVERSITY OF SEOUL	Master's Degree Program in AI Digital Innovation	20
11	UNIVERSITY OF SEOUL	Doctoral Degree Program in AI Digital Innovation	3
12	YONSEI UNIVERSITY	Master's Degree Program in Control of Infectious Disease	20

13	YONSEI UNIVERSITY	Doctoral Degree Program in Control of Infectious Disease	3
14	YONSEI UNIVERSITY (MIRAE CAMPUS)	Master's Degree Program in Digital Health	20
15	YONSEI UNIVERSITY (MIRAE CAMPUS)	Master's Degree Program in Social Economy	20

※ Applicants must apply to only one program among the course above.
※ The above list is arranged in alphabetical order by university name.
※ The quota for each course is subject to change depending on the circumstances of KOICA and partner countries.

C. Where to find **KOICA application forms** and each **University Program Information**

Please visit **KOICA's CIAT website** below.

Click http://www.koica.go.kr/sites/ciat/index.do → Menu (Stay connected → Notice)

3. ELIGIBILITY

A. Nationality

- All applicants must be citizens of the designated countries listed below. These countries are selected by the Korean government (KOICA) from the OECD DAC List of ODA Recipients.
- The list of designated countries is subject to annual changes based on the policies of the Korean government (KOICA).

REGION(96)	List of Designated Countries (2027)
Africa(41)	Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, DR Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Central & South America(18)	Belize, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname
Asia(14)	Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri-Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam
Pacific(12)	Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuat
Middle East & CIS & Eastern Europe(11)	Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Palestine, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

※The above list is arranged in alphabetical order by country name

B. Employee Status and Government Nomination

- All applicants must be government officials and receive official nominations from their respective governments for the KOICA Scholarship program.

C. Age

- (Preferably) Under the age of 40

D. Health

- All applicants must be in good health, both mentally and physically, to study in Korea for the full duration of the program.
- Applicants with disabilities, but in good mental and physical health, are eligible to apply.
- Applicants with severe illness are NOT ELIGIBLE to apply.

E. Minimum Level of Education and Field experience

Program	Minimum Level of Education	Minimum Experience in the Field of Study
Master's	Bachelor's Degree (as of July 31, 2026)	(Preferably) 2 years
Doctoral	Master's Degree (as of July 31, 2026)	(Preferably) 3 years after completing Master's degree program

- Some programs may have specific educational qualifications, which can be found in the Program Information provided by each university.

F. English Proficiency

- Applicants must have a strong command of English, both in speaking and writing.
- Proficiency in English is required to attend classes conducted entirely in English and to be able to write academic reports and theses in English.
- An official English proficiency test score is not required at the KOICA Round. However, it may be required by certain universities at the University Round.

G. Restrictions

- Individuals who have previously received a scholarship for a degree program from the Korean government are NOT eligible to apply.
- Individuals who have previously enrolled in a degree program through a Korean government-sponsored scholarship program, other than the KOICA-administered scholarship program, are NOT eligible to apply for a Doctoral course.
- However, individuals who have received a bachelor's degree scholarship from the Korean government are eligible to apply for a master's course.
- Individuals who were previously KOICA scholars and had their scholarship cancelled* after enrollment are NOT eligible to apply.

*Cancellation of Scholarship means that a KOICA scholarship participant either withdrew from the program or had their scholarship forfeited due to cumulative warnings, etc., during their scholarship period.

◆ An applicant who has successfully completed a Master's Degree program funded by KOICA or any other Korean government scholarship is NOT eligible to apply for the KOICA Master's Degree Program.

◆ An applicant who has cancelled their KOICA Master's Degree program is NOT eligible to apply for the KOICA Master's Degree Program or the Doctoral Degree program.

H. Preferable

- Employed by their government during and after the program, engaging in the specialized area of their study as an official servant of their government.

I. University Eligibility

- Applicants must meet the criteria set by the university they are applying to and must submit all the required documents as listed in the Program Information provided by the university.
- It is essential for all applicants to carefully read and understand the application guidelines and Program Information in its entirety.

4. SELECTION PROCEDURE AND SCHEDULE

	Period	Procedures	Details
KOICA Round	~2026. Jul.	Application	**[Application package submission]** The Application deadline (to KOICA country offices or Korean Embassy): July, 2026 * **The specific application deadline and procedures** may differ for each KOICA country office and Korean embassy, please verify the details through the respective office. Prepare all the necessary documents for your admission package and complete the 'Document Checklist.' Submit the KOICA application package to the KOICA country office or Korean Embassy by the specified submission date. **Submit the KOICA application package via email to the relevant KOICA country office and the Korean Embassy.** The submission email address varies for each KOICA country office and the Korean Embassy, so please follow the instructions provided by each office. Contact the KOICA country office or the Korean Embassy for more information.
		On-site Interview conducted by KOICA country office or Korean embassy	Applicants are required to participate in an on-site interview conducted by the KOICA country office or Korean Embassy. However, if an applicant resides in a country where the KOICA country office or Embassy is not present, or lives far from the capital city, they may arrange for a phone interview after consulting with the KOICA country office or Korean Embassy.
		On-site Interview result	The KOICA country office or the Korean Embassy will send the results of the interview and related documents to KOICA HQ. *Passing the KOICA country office /Korea embassy interview does not guarantee final acceptance. ** The university will provide admission schedule guidance to applicants who successfully passed KOICA Round, including document submission methods, deadlines, and other requirements)
University Round		Document Screening (University)	**[1st round: Document Screening]** Applicants who pass the interview with KOICA country office /Korea embassy interview will be required to submit the necessary documents for admission through the admission websites or via email of university. The University will provide individual guidance to the respective applicants. (The method for submitting documents varies by university) The university will conduct the document screening process.

(Only for those who passed the KOICA Round)	~2026. Oct.	Document Screening Result	**[Preparation for the 2nd round]** The result of the 1st round selection will be announced to the applicants by the University.
		Local Medical Check up	**[Medical Check-up]** The applicants who passed the 1st round, must take a medical check-up. The medical examination result will be checked for reference. Some universities may require extra examination. The medical check-up costs are the responsibility of the applicants. The University will provide individual guidance to the respective applicants. * The list of local hospitals shared with applicants is for recommendation purposes only. Applicants are not required to undergo medical examinations at these hospitals.
		Interview conducted by the University	**[2nd round: Interview]** The university will provide the applicant with details of the interview, including the interview method and the schedule and make the necessary arrangements for the interview. Applicants must follow the instructions from the university. If an individual fails to follow the instructions, it may result in withdrawal from the process. The University will provide individual guidance to the respective applicants. * Essay tests are mandatory for some universities.
		Interview Result	KOICA HQ will collect the result from each university and finalize the successful applicants.
Final Acceptance round	~2026. Nov.	Submission of Original Documents	**[Final round]** The original documents required for admission to the university must be sent to the KOICA country office/Korean Embassy.
		Admission Notification	**University will announce the result of the interview**. (It will also be officially reported to the partner country's government) KOICA country office or Korean embassy will inform the visa* procedure and required documents. * The participant is responsible for the issuance of an appropriate visa (which must be the 'Study Abroad Visa [D-2]).
		Prepare Visas and Vaccination	Successful applicants are required to prepare their visas, and must receive additional vaccinations as directed by the university. Some universities may require extra vaccinations.
	2027. Feb.	Arrival to Korea, Medical check-up in Korea.	
		***Applicants who pass the Medical check-up in Korea can start the degree course.**	

*The written schedule is subject to change based on circumstances etc.

5. DOCUMENTS TO SUBMIT

A. List of KOICA Application Documents

[Applicant of KOICA/Korean Embassy Round]

1) KOICA Application Forms (Part1~Part4)

PART 1. APPLICANT INFORMATION
PART 2. TERMS & CONDITIONS
PART 3. MEDICAL HISTORY QUESTIONNAIRE
PART 4. NOMINATION **Different from the document No. 2 below.*

※ Applicant's English name MUST match the name on their passport.

※ Any discrepancy in the applicant's name (family, given, middle name) will cause a delay in visa processing.

※ All documents required for KOICA Round should be submitted via email at KOICA country office and Korean embassy. As the procedures may differ for each KOICA country office and Korean embassy, please verify the details through the respective office.

2) The letter of Recommendation from the applicant's government. (in charge of ODA or Abroad scholarship program)

※ An official recommendation letter from the applicant's government or affiliated institution is required. While no specific format is mandated, it must bear the institution's official seal.

※ As the procedures may differ for each KOICA country office and Korean embassy, please verify the details through the respective office.

3) A scanned copy of an applicant's valid passport.

※ Please DO NOT send an original passport.

- The passport should be valid until at least 6 months after the expected date of return.
- Applicants with a passport that will not be valid until the end of the Program are recommended to renew it before departing their home country.
- Indonesian applicants who are finally nominated as scholarship program participants need to obtain an official passport following the guidelines of the Indonesian government. Indonesian applicants are kindly advised to resubmit a copy of the newly issued passport to the KOICA country office and the University once it is issued.

B. Online System or Email Submission of UNIVERSITY Application Documents

[Applicant of University Round those who passed the KOICA Round]

※ University Application document submission is required only for those who have been selected as successful applicants for KOICA country office and Korean Embassy.

※ Detailed information will be provided to each individual by the university, so please refer to the university's guidance for specific details. The Application procedures (Online System or Email) vary by each university, so please refer to the CIAT website and Email of University for details.

1) University Application Form

2) Others

* Please Refer to Program Information on KOICA CIAT Website.

C. Submission of University Application & Original Documents

[Applicant of University Round those who passed the University Round]

- Applicants will receive detailed information regarding the submission via email from the university.
- Original Documents of University Application must be submitted to different locations depending on the specific program. Please refer to the details provided below for the correct submission point.

No.	Program Title	Submission Point
1	Master's Degree Program in e-Government and Public Management (1)	**KOICA country office/Korean Embassy**
2	Master's Degree Program in Capacity Building for Manage to Climate Change and Environment	
3	Master's Degree Program in Economic Development Policy for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth	
4	Master's Degree Program in e-Government and Public Management (2)	
5	Master's Degree Program in Health Policy and Financing Capacity Building	
★ The domestic shipping costs for sending the original documents of University Application to the KOICA country office and the Korean Embassy are not supported. ★ KOICA country office and the Korean Embassy will send the original documents of your University Application to the university in Korea. (If the Applicant fails to submit documents, they must send them to the University at their Own expense.)		
6	Master's Degree Program in Capacity Building on High Value-added Agriculture	**University**
7	Doctoral Degree Program in Capacity Building on High Value-added Agriculture	
8	Master's Degree Program in Global Fisheries Development	
9	Doctoral Degree Program in Global Fisheries Development	
10	Master's Degree Program in AI Digital Innovation	
11	Doctoral Degree Program in AI Digital Innovation	
12	Master's Degree Program in Control of Infectious Disease	

13	Doctoral Degree Program in Control of Infectious Disease	
14	Master's Degree Program in Digital Health	
15	Master's Degree Program in Social Economy	

★ Those who have been finally accepted at the university round are required to submit original documents to the university directly by international courier(e.g., DHL, EMS). Shipping costs will be reimbursed by the university upon submission of the original receipt after arrival in Korea.

★ If there are issues with the original documents, the final candidates may be placed on hold or disqualified.

- Application documents must be submitted in the order of the “Application Checklist provided by the university” which itself should be the front cover of a set of application documents. Please number and label each document in the top right corner.
- Submitted documents are non-returnable.

<IMPORTANT NOTE OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS>

◆ Required certificates such as degree certificates or diploma.

- Documents written in English: must be apostilled or consular confirmed.
- Documents written in other languages: ①documents written in a language other than English or Korean must be submitted together with a certified translation. ②obtain an apostille or consular confirmation on the original document and certified translation.
- If your document is unable to be re-issued, please keep the original and obtain an apostille (or consular confirmation) on a notarized document.
- Please note that applicants who successfully pass the admission process will need to submit an apostilled or consular confirmed diploma and academic transcript in order to obtain a visa and alien registration card. Therefore, applicants are advised to prepare additional documents for the subsequent procedures.

◆ Documents to complete such as the Application form

- All forms must be typed in English with the applicant's original handwritten signature.

※ DO NOT WRITE IN CURSIVE.

※ No need to be apostilled or consular confirmed.

◆ Applicants must check the completeness and authenticity of all application documents.

※ If your country belongs to one of the member countries for the apostille Convention, submit your required certificates with apostille.

◆ For applicants who submit false documents, the Institution where the applicant belongs will be restricted from recommending new applicants for three years as penalties.

◆ Detailed information will be provided to each individual by the university, so please refer to the university's guidance for specific details.

6. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

Categories	Benefits	Note
Air Fare	Economy class flight ticket (Based on actual expense) *At the time of initial entry/final departure	During the program, expenses caused by the participant's fault will not be covered. If a participant wants to change the flight itinerary, they should pay the additional airfare.
Settlement Allowance	(Master) KRW 600,000 (Doctoral) KRW 1,200,000 /ONCE	KOICA→University→Participant
Monthly Allowance	KRW 1,200,000 Per month	KOICA→University→Participant
Tuition Fee	Full amount	KOICA→University
Extracurricular Activities*	*Part of the expenses needed for study visits, workshops, Korean language classes and others, except for regular classes	KOICA→University
Accommodation	Universities Dormitory	KOICA→University Condition varies depending on Universities
Scholarship Completion Grants	(Master) KRW 300,000 (Doctoral) KRW 600,000 /ONCE	KOICA→University→ Participant Before Departure
National Health Insurance	Actual expense *Approx. KRW 81,000 Per month	KOICA→University→Participant
Private Medical Insurance	Unexpected accidents or illnesses (benefit may differ to each case)	KOICA→Insurance company (Claim paid) Insurance company→Participant

◆ KOICA only provides the expenses above. Visa expenses, stopover expenses, local transportation, and other miscellaneous expenses will not be covered.

◆ Scholarship benefits may change under KOICA Scholarship rules and regulations without notice.

◆ For more Information, please refer to the fellows' guidebook on the CIAT Website.

7. APPLICATION PROCESS COST

KOICA does not provide compensation for all the costs incurred by the selection process (such as document authentication, local medical check-up, express mail service, university application fee and visa fee, etc.) regardless of the outcome. (Pass or Fail)

8. VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL

Applicants who wish to voluntarily withdraw during or after the admission process are kindly requested to inform the KOICA country office or the Korean Embassy in their respective countries. Please note that the decision is irreversible.

9. IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to the nature of the admission process, adjustments related to personal circumstances, such as changes in the examination schedule, deferral of entry, or taking a leave of absence, are not permitted. Therefore, we kindly request that you carefully consider your personal schedule and circumstances before submitting your application.

10. CONTACTS

General inquiries: koica.sp@koworks.org

KOICA Application Submission: KOICA country offices or Korean Embassy

/END/

KOICA
Korea International
Cooperation Agency