

**2021 GKS (Global Korea Scholarship)**  
**Application Guidelines for Graduate Degrees**  
**- The Graduate School of Korean Studies,**  
**The Academy of Korean Studies -**



## 1. About the Graduate School of Korean Studies

The Graduate School of Korean Studies is an affiliated institution of the Academy of Korean Studies(AKS), which operates under the Korean Ministry of Education. It was established in 1980 to nurture scholars contributing to the development and globalization of Korean studies, through a liaison between the AKS' research capacity and graduate education.

As a research-oriented institution in the fields of humanities and social sciences pertinent to Korea, the Graduate School of Korean Studies has maintained its commitment to the highest quality teaching and research through eminent professors' close mentoring of students for the past 40 years. Our graduates are playing pivotal role in the various educational and research organizations of Korean studies around the world with their academic excellence.

Currently, approximately 270 students, including about 120 international students from 31 different countries, are enrolled in the Master's and doctoral degree programs at the Graduate School of Korean Studies.

- A research-oriented, **government-funded** graduate school in the fields of humanities and social sciences pertinent to Korea
- A **5:1 student-faculty ratio**, enabling professors' close one-on-one guidance of students
- **Korean language courses** as well as various **cultural activities** available **free of charge**
- Various programs such as tutoring or writing clinic, supporting student's academic performance
- On-campus dormitory accommodations available at the reasonable rate of KRW543,000 per semester, double occupancy

## 2. 2021 Global Korea Scholarship

The Global Korea Scholarship(GKS) is a scholarship program supported by the Korean government and implemented by the National Institute for International Education(NIIED), an organization directly responsible to the Ministry of Education. By

providing international students with opportunities to study at higher educational institutions in Korea for graduate-level degrees, GKS aims to enhance international education exchange and deepen mutual friendship between Korea and participating countries.

This year, the Graduate School of Korean Studies, the Academy of Korean Studies, was selected as one of the designated Korean universities which applicants can choose to study for their Master's or doctoral degree program with the support of GKS.

### 3. Programs Offered and Period of Scholarship

Program	Period of Scholarship	Remarks
<b>Master's Degree</b>	3 years (2021. 9. 1. ~ 2024. 8. 31.)	1 year of Korean language program + 2 years of degree program
<b>Doctoral Degree</b>	4 years (2021. 9. 1. ~ 2025. 8. 31.)	1 year of Korean language program + 3 years of degree program

- **Research program is not available.**
- The scholarship period for degree program(2 years for a Master's degree, 3 years for a doctoral degree) cannot be extended.
- The length of Korean language program does not affect the scholarship period for degree program. In other words, even if a scholar's language program shortens to 6 months instead of a year, the scholarship period that GKS supports for his or her degree program will remain the same (2 years for a Master's degree, 3 years for a doctoral degree).

#### 4. Available Fields of Study

Divisions	Majors
Humanities	Korean History, Diplomats and Bibliography, Philosophy, Korean Linguistics·Korean Literature
Culture and Arts	Anthropology·Folklore, Religious Studies, Musicology, Art History, Cultural Informatics·Human Geography
Social Sciences	Political Science, Sociology, Education
Global Korean Studies	Korean Culture and Society (Only available for a Master's degree program)
4 Divisions	13 Majors for Master's Degree / 12 Majors for Doctoral Degree

- For detailed information on the curriculum of each major, please visit [grad.aks.ac.kr](http://grad.aks.ac.kr), click *대학원 소개(Introduction to the Graduate School of Korean Studies)*, *전공 안내(Majors)*, and select a division and a major of interest.
- An academic year consists of two semesters and courses are provided for 15 weeks per semester. A spring semester begins in March, a fall semester in September.
- Most courses are taught in Korean, while courses in Korean Culture & Society major are provided in English.
- Depending on the field of study in which a doctoral degree program applicant majored for his/her Master's degree, admissions can be restricted. Please refer to the [Attachment] for the recognized similar fields of study for the applicants of doctoral degree program.

#### 5. Number of Candidates to Be Recommended to NIIED

- Maximum 25 candidates in total can be selected by the Graduate School of Korean Studies and recommended to the NIIED as GKS grantees.
- Number of recommended candidates from one country cannot exceed 4.
- Up to 1 previous GKS grantee can be selected and recommended to the NIIED.

## 6. Selection Timeline

Selection Procedure	Institution in Charge	Steps	Dates	Remarks
<b>University Track</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> Round of Selection)	<b>The Graduate School of Korean Studies</b>	<b>Application Submission</b>	<b>(Mon) 8 Mar ~ (Wed) 31 Mar 17:00</b>	- Application documents should be sent by <b>registered mail only</b> . - Submission in person or by email is not acceptable.
		Announcement of the Interviewees List	(Tue) 13 Apr 18:00	intl.aks.ac.kr/english - Notice
		<b>Interview</b>	<b>(Fri) 16 Apr</b>	Via zoom or by phone
		Notification of Selection Result to NIIED	(Fri) 30 Apr	
University Track (2 <sup>nd</sup> Round of Selection)	NIIED	Evaluation by the Selection Committee	Mid-May	
		Announcement of Selection Result	Late May	<a href="http://www.studyinkorea.go.kr">www.studyinkorea.go.kr</a>
-	Candidates who pass the 2 <sup>nd</sup> round	Submission of Medical Examination Result to NIIED	~ (Fri) 11 Jun	
<b>Embassy Track</b> (3 <sup>rd</sup> Round of Selection)	The Graduate School of Korean Studies	Evaluation of Successful Candidates of 2 <sup>nd</sup> round of Embassy Track	Mid-May	
		Announcement of Selection Result	(Fri) 28 May	To the NIIED and individual applicants
	Candidates who pass the 3 <sup>rd</sup> round	Final Selection of the University of Their Choice	~ (Wed) 2 Jun	
-	NIIED	Announcement of 2021 GKS Graduate Degrees Scholars	Mid-Jun	<a href="http://www.studyinkorea.go.kr">www.studyinkorea.go.kr</a>

※ The above schedule may change under the unforeseen circumstances.

## 7. Important Notes for Applicants

A. For general application guidelines, please see [Appendix 1] ‘Application Guidelines for Graduate Degrees’ offered by the NIIED. It is also essential that applicants additionally meet the **language requirements** as follows:

Time	Language Requirement Depending on Majors		Remarks
	Korean Language and Society	All Majors <u>Except</u> Korean Culture and Society	
When applying	TOEFL 80, IELTS 6.5, or TEPS 301	-	Regardless of majors applied for, applicants with valid TOPIK level 5 or 6 are exempt from Korean language program, beginning a degree program from Sep 2021.
Before GKS grantees complete the Korean language program	TOPIK level 3	TOPIK level 4	
If GKS grantees fail to meet the above requirement	Those who have scored 70%(84 points) or higher of the requirement to attain TOPIK level 3 can be given one-time-only six-month extension of Korean language course, provided that they have been granted admission from their Korean language institute and obtained approval from the NIIED.	Their admission to the Graduate School of Korean Studies as well as the scholarship is revoked.	
Before graduating	TOPIK level 4	TOPIK level 6	In order to graduate, students are required to reach a certain level of Korean language proficiency.

- 1) **Applicants for Korean Culture and Society major** must have English language proficiency equivalent to or higher than **TOEFL 80, IELTS 6.5 or TEPS 301** which should have obtained within 2 years as of the application deadline.

Type of Test	Minimum Score Required	Remarks
<b>TOEFL iBT</b>	<b>80</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Both MyBest Scores<sup>1)</sup> and Test Date Scores are acceptable.</li> <li>- TOEFL ITP(Institutional Testing Program) is not acceptable.</li> <li>- To apply for the score report, please visit <a href="https://www.ets.org/ko/toefl/test-takers/ibt/scores/sending">https://www.ets.org/ko/toefl/test-takers/ibt/scores/sending</a></li> <li>※ The TOEFL Destination Code (Institution Code) for the AKS is 2067.</li> </ul>
<b>IELTS Academic Module</b>	<b>Band Score 6.5</b>	To apply for the score report, please visit <a href="https://ieltskorea.org:12791/grade_confirm/reissue1.asp">https://ieltskorea.org:12791/grade_confirm/reissue1.asp</a>
<b>TEPS</b>	<b>301</b>	To apply for the score report, please visit <a href="https://www.teps.or.kr/Score/ScoreCard">https://www.teps.or.kr/Score/ScoreCard</a>

- In the following cases, applicants for Korean Culture and Society are exempt from providing the above score report.
  - Applicants are from a country where English is an official language.
  - Applicants obtained a degree at a university or a graduate school whose medium of instruction was English and submit an official letter from the school.
- The above English requirement is only applicable to applicants for Korean Culture and Society major.

- 2) Applicants are allowed to apply for any major without Korean language proficiency. However, once selected as GKS grantees, they should reach TOPIK level 3(students of Korean Culture and Society major) or **TOPIK level 4(all students other than those majoring in Korean Culture and Society) during the Korean language program** in order to begin their degree program at the Graduate School of Korean Studies.

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1) MyBest Scores are the highest scores on each section (Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing) from all of the test taker's valid TOEFL iBT test scores from tests taken in the last two years, and a total score that is the sum of the MyBest section scores.

- 3) GKS grantees (**except those of Korean Culture and Society major**) who **fail to attain TOPIK level 4** during Korean language program are **not allowed to proceed to the degree program and their scholarship is revoked**.
- B. All of the certificates should be written in Korean or in English, otherwise they need to be translated and notarized.
- C. Letters of recommendation and application documents are acceptable **as long as they are received by the submission deadline**.
- D. The scores/grades of the admission are not open to the public including applicants themselves.
- E. Documents submitted are not returned to the applicants.
- F. Applicant's information provided in the application form must be authentic and truthful. If provided information turns out to be false or untruthful, the applicant's admission can be revoked.
- G. This NIIED's GKS(Global Korea Scholarship) recruitment is held separately from the graduate recruitment of the Graduate School of Korean Studies itself for 2021 fall semester. Hence **GKS applicants are allowed to apply for the graduate recruitment of the Graduate School of Korean Studies for 2021 fall semester**. In this case, applicants are required to **apply online at [gradaks.recruiter.co.kr](https://gradaks.recruiter.co.kr)** by the application deadline (2 April 2021).

## 8. Important Notes for GKS Grantees

- A. Successful applicants are required to **submit apostilles<sup>2)</sup> or verifying documents for their final degree and official transcript by post within a month** of the announcement of final selection result.

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2) Apostille is a way of legalization of a document according to the Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents ("Apostille Convention"). It ensures that public documents issued in one signatory country will be considered as valid in another signatory country. For more information about apostille, please refer to <https://www.hcch.net> - Members & Parties – HCCH Members.



**1) Students who graduated from institutions in signatory countries of the Apostille Convention**

- Apostilles of graduation certificate and official transcript should be submitted.

**2) Students who graduated from institutions in China**

- Verification of degree and academic records issued by China Academic Degrees & Graduate Education Development Center (CDGDC) or China Higher Education Student Information and Career Center (CHESICC/CHSI) should be submitted.
- Credentials Report should be issued in English, otherwise a notarized translation should be provided.
- Online application for the above verification is also possible at Confucius Institute in Seoul ([www.cis.or.kr](http://www.cis.or.kr), ✉[cis88@cis.or.kr](mailto:cis88@cis.or.kr), ☎02-554-2688).

**3) Students who graduated from institutions in non-signatory countries of the Apostille Convention**

- Verification of a certificate of graduation and official transcript by a Korean consulate in a country where the university an applicant was graduated from is located or by a consulate of a country where the university an applicant was graduated from is located in Korea should be submitted.

**B. Obligation to Acquire TOPIK Level 6 (or Level 4, depending on major) Before Graduation**

- International students except in the Korean Culture & Society major must acquire TOPIK level 6 in order to graduate.
- International students in Korean Culture & Society major must acquire TOPIK level 4 in order to graduate.

## 9. Documents Submission

- Completed application form and other required documents should be sent **by registered mail** no later than **17:00 Wed 31 March** to the following address:

323 Haorae-ro Bundang-gu Seongnam-si Gyeonggi-do  
Republic of Korea (Postcode 13455)  
The Graduate School of Korean Studies  
The Academy of Korean Studies

## 10. Contact Information : The Graduate Office

☎ +82-31-730-8183

✉ admission\_intl@aks.ac.kr

[Attachment] Recognized Similar Fields of Study for the Applicants for Doctoral Degree Program

[Appendixes]

1. GKS Application Guidelines by NIIED
2. GKS Application Form
3. FAQs

[Attachment]

Recognized Similar Fields of Study  
for the Applicants of Doctoral Degree Program

Division	Major	Recognized Master's Degree Majors Which Each Major Accepts for its Doctoral Degree Programs Applicants
Humanities	Korean History	History, Korean History, History Education, Korean History Education, Archaeology, Archaeological Anthropology, Archaeology and Art History, Oriental History, Western History, Korean Studies(History, North Korean Studies)
	Diplomatics and Bibliography	Paleography, Library Science, Bibliography, Library and Information Science, Records Management, Korean History
	Philosophy	Any majors are acceptable.
	Korean Linguistics·Korean Literature	Korean Language and Literature, Korean Language Education, Linguistics, Chinese Literature, Chinese Classics Education, Creative Writing, Korean Studies(Korean Linguistics and Korean Literature), Korean Language Education (as a Foreign Language)
Culture and Arts	Anthropology ·Folklore	Any majors are acceptable.
	Religious Studies	Any majors are acceptable.
	Musicology	Musicology, Korean Classical Music, Music Education, Korean Studies(Musicology), Korean Music
	Art History	Archaeology and Art History, Korean Art History, Oriental Art History, Science of Arts, Arts Education
	Cultural Informatics·Human Geography	Any majors are acceptable.
Social Sciences	Political Science	Any majors are acceptable.
	Sociology	Any majors are acceptable.
	Education	Any majors are acceptable.

※ Depending on the field of study in which a doctoral degree program applicant majored for his/her Master's degree, admissions can be restricted. The final decision on the acceptability of the applicant's Master's degree major will be made on the basis of the courses taken for the Master's degree program as well as the Master's degree thesis topic.