

Study in Korea Scholarship: The Ultimate Application Resource Kit

A Companion Guide to the Blog Post: "Study in Korea: Your Ultimate Guide to Winning a Scholarship"

Introduction

Hello!

Welcome to your personal resource kit for the Global Korea Scholarship (GKS) application. The blog post gave you the map; this document gives you the tools and the compass to navigate your journey.

I created this kit to help you move from feeling overwhelmed to feeling organized and confident. Inside, you'll find checklists, writing guides, and templates that I wish I had when I was starting my own journey. Use these tools to build an application that truly reflects your passion and potential.

You can do this. Let's get to work.

Section 1: The Ultimate GKS Document Checklist

Use this checklist to track every required document. Remember to check the official guidelines for your country and application year, as requirements can vary slightly.

Document Category	Specific Item	Status (<input type="checkbox"/> Not Started / <input type="checkbox"/> In	Notes (e.g., "Apostille needed," "Sent to
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		Progress / <input type="checkbox"/> Completed)	translator")
Application Forms	GKS Application Form	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Fill out digitally, then print and sign.
Personal Statements	Personal Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	See writing guide in Section 2. Proofread 3+ times.
	Study Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Be specific about your academic goals. See Section 2.
Recommendation	1 Letter of Recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Use the email template in Section 3. Request 4-6 weeks in advance.
Academic Proof	High School Transcript	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Must be an official copy.
	High School Diploma/Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Must be an official copy.
	(For Graduate) Bachelor's Transcript	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Check apostille/consular confirmation requirements.
	(For Graduate) Bachelor's Diploma	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	The apostille process can take weeks—start early!

Proof of Citizenship	Applicant's Proof of Citizenship (Birth Cert./Passport)	□ □ □	A clear copy is usually sufficient.
	Parents' Proof of Citizenship (Birth Cert./Passport)	□ □ □	Must show the relationship to the applicant.
Optional Documents	TOPIK or English Proficiency Score (TOEFL/IELTS)	□ □ □	Highly recommended if you have one.
	Awards and Certifications	□ □ □	Include copies of up to 5 relevant awards.
	Published Papers or Portfolio	□ □ □	Only if relevant to your field of study.

Section 2: Personal Statement & Study Plan Writing Guide

Part A: The Personal Statement - Telling Your Story

Your personal statement should be a compelling narrative, not just a list of accomplishments. Use this structure to guide your writing.

1. The Hook (1 Paragraph):

- *Goal:* Grab the reader's attention immediately.
- *Ask Yourself:* What is the single most powerful moment or experience that connected me to Korea? Start there. Don't say "I have been interested in Korea since..."

2. Your Journey (1-2 Paragraphs):

- *Goal:* Show, don't just tell, your growing interest.
- *Ask Yourself:* How did my initial interest evolve? Did I start learning the language? Did I join a club? How did it connect to my academic or personal life?

3. The Academic Connection (2 Paragraphs):

- *Goal:* Connect your passion to your chosen major. This is the most critical part.
- *Ask Yourself:* Why must I study *this specific major* in Korea? What unique academic opportunities does Korea offer? How have my past studies prepared me for this? Mention specific aspects of the Korean approach to your field.

4. Future Goals & Contribution (1 Paragraph):

- *Goal:* Explain your long-term vision.
- *Ask Yourself:* How will studying in Korea help me achieve my future career goals? How do I plan to contribute to the relationship between Korea and my home country?

5. Conclusion (1 Short Paragraph):

- *Goal:* End with a strong, confident statement.
- *Ask Yourself:* Why am I the ideal candidate for the GKS program? Summarize your core message.

Part B: The Study Plan - Your Academic Roadmap

This is a technical document, not a story. Be clear, organized, and specific.

1. Pre-Degree Language Study Plan (1-2 Paragraphs):

- *Goal:* Show you are serious about learning Korean.
- *Content:* How will you prepare for and excel during the one-year language program? Mention your current study methods (if any) and your goals (e.g., "My goal is to achieve TOPIK 4 within the year by...").

2. Detailed Plan of Study for Degree (Bulleted or Table Format is excellent):

- *Goal:* Prove you have thoroughly researched your program.
- *Content:* Go to your target university's website and look up the curriculum for your major. List specific courses you plan to take each semester. Mention any professors whose research interests you or labs you hope to join. This shows incredible initiative.

3. Post-Graduation Plan (1-2 Paragraphs):

- *Goal:* Connect your degree to your future.
 - *Content:* Reiterate your career goals from the Personal Statement. Explain how the specific knowledge and experiences gained from your study plan in Korea will directly prepare you for this path. Be concrete.
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Section 3: Sample Letter of Recommendation Request Email

Use this template when asking a professor or mentor to write a letter for you.

Subject: Recommendation Letter Request for [Your Name] - Global Korea Scholarship

Dear Professor [Professor's Last Name],

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to you today to respectfully request if you would be willing to write a strong letter of recommendation for my application to the Global Korea Scholarship (GKS) program. I am applying for the [MA/BA/PhD] program in [Your Major] at [List of 1-2 Top Choice Universities, e.g., Seoul National University].

As my professor in [Course Name(s)] and my [Advisor/Mentor] for [Project/Thesis Name], I believe you can speak to my academic abilities, dedication, and potential for success in a rigorous graduate program abroad. I especially valued my work on [mention a specific project or paper] in your class, which solidified my interest in this field.

To make the process as easy as possible, I have attached my personal statement, my study plan, and a copy of my CV. I have also included a link to the GKS program for your reference.

The deadline for submission is **[Date - give them at least 3-4 weeks' notice]**. The letter needs to be [Explain the submission method - e.g., "sealed in an official envelope with your signature across the seal," or "submitted online via a link that will be sent to you"].

Thank you so much for considering my request and for all your guidance throughout my studies. Your support would be a great asset to my application.

Best regards,

[Your Name]

[Your Student ID Number]

[Your Phone Number]

Section 4: University Research & Comparison Worksheet

Use this table to compare your top 3 university choices for the GKS Embassy Track.

Factor	University Choice 1	University Choice 2	University Choice 3
University Name			
Location (City)			
Program Name (Exact)			
Key Courses in Curriculum	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.
Professors of Interest			
Lab / Research Centers			
English Course %			
Pros			
Cons			
My Rank (1, 2, 3)			

Section 5: Monthly Student Budget Planner (Seoul)

The GKS stipend is generous, but budgeting is essential. Use this worksheet to plan your finances. (Estimates are approximate and can vary).

Income	Amount (KRW)
GKS Monthly Stipend	₩1,000,000
Total Monthly Income	₩1,000,000

Expense Category	Estimated Cost (KRW)	My Budget (KRW)	Notes
Housing			
Dormitory / Goshiwon	₩350,000 - ₩600,000		
Utilities			
Gas / Electricity / Water	₩40,000 - ₩70,000		Often included in dorm fees.
Communications			
Phone & Data Plan	₩30,000 - ₩60,000		Budget-friendly plans are available.
Food			

Groceries (if cooking)	₩200,000 - ₩300,000		
Eating Out / Cafeteria	₩150,000 - ₩250,000		University cafeterias are cheap.
Transportation			
Public Transit (Subway/Bus)	₩50,000 - ₩70,000		
Academic			
Books / Supplies	₩20,000 - ₩50,000		
Personal			
Health Insurance (Included)	₩0		Covered by GKS.
Entertainment / Social	₩50,000 - ₩100,000		
Total Monthly Expenses		₩	
Remaining Balance		₩	(Income - Expenses)

Final Words of Encouragement

This process is a test of determination. Every form you fill out, every draft you write, and every document you get certified is a step closer to your goal.

When you feel tired or discouraged, revisit your personal statement. Remind yourself *why* you started this journey. Picture yourself on campus, learning and growing in the country that has captured your imagination.

That vision is worth the effort. You have the tools, you have the passion, and you have the plan.

Good luck. 화이팅!