

Inviting Global STEM Talents to Lead the Future of Seoul ***- Seoul Tech Scholarship Applications Now Open -***

(Jan. 2025)

- ★ Scholarships for master's students in STEM(Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) fields to contribute to Seoul's industry and economy
 - ★ Expanded options with additional participating universities and home countries since its launch in 2024
 - ★ Applications through the embassies of the applicants' home country in Korea by Mar. 7, 2025, with results announced in early July
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"After completing my studies in my home country of Pakistan, I was searching for opportunities for future growth and I learned about the 'Seoul Tech Scholarship,' a program newly implemented by Seoul City. The prospect of not only academic and research opportunities but also diverse networking possibilities greatly appealed to me, leading me to apply. Currently majoring in Biomedical Engineering, I am able to focus more intensely on my ongoing research thanks to Seoul City's support and the university's attentive care. My dream is to serve as a bridge promoting technological cooperation between Korea and Pakistan, facilitating mutual development between the two countries."

This statement was made on January 9, 2025, by Mahmood Muhammad Rafay (male, 23 years old), who is studying at Kyunghee University through the Seoul Tech Scholarship, a program introduced by Seoul City to attract outstanding international talent in science and engineering fields.

The Seoul Tech Scholarship, aimed at attracting outstanding international master's students in STEM fields to Seoul, has officially commenced recruitment for its 2025 cohort. This exceptional scholarship program, which first selected recipients in 2024, provides approximately KRW 20 million per person annually. It covers full tuition for master's programs, airfare, living expenses, and health insurance for around 30 recipients in total.

As of April 2024, the total number of international students in South Korea was 208,969, with 38.8% (81,199 students) enrolled in 54 universities in Seoul, turning their dreams into reality.

- The Seoul Metropolitan Government announced the “Foreign Residents Master Plan” on May 20 last year, outlining measures to enhance the living environment for international students and enable outstanding foreign talent to grow within Korean society.
- The full-scale launch of the Seoul Tech Scholarship aims to address the current concentration of 68.8% of international students in humanities and social sciences while securing outstanding talent that can contribute to Seoul’s industry and economy.

Since its introduction in 2024, the Seoul Tech Scholarship has implemented demand-oriented improvements starting this year. These efforts include expanding participating universities, establishing a preference system, refining the selection process, and increasing the number of eligible countries for applicants, to enhance the program's purpose and effectiveness.

* Number of beneficiaries in 2024: 9 students (5 male, 4 female)

No.	School	Nationality	Specialized Field
1	Kyunghee University Graduate School (3 students)	Pakistan	Department of Computer Engineering, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Department of Chemistry
2	University of Seoul Graduate School (2 students)	Kazakhstan	School of Electrical and Computer Engineering (2 students)
3	Sungkyunkwan University Graduate School (3 students)	Iran	Department of Global Biomedical Engineering
		Vietnam	Global Smart City Convergence Major, Department of Materials Science and Engineering
4	Hanyang University Graduate School (1 student)	Pakistan	Department of Resources and Environmental Engineering



- Photo of scholarship beneficiaries at the scholarship award ceremony on Oct. 7, 2024 -

When outstanding international talents in STEM fields are selected for the Seoul Tech Scholarship, they will receive **comprehensive support not only for their academic pursuits but also through extensive services** provided by the Seoul Metropolitan Government and participating universities. Notably, in 2025, a support facility for the “Talent Settlement Service” will open on May 1, offering various programs to help international talents adapt to their new environment, including the “Around Seoul in 30 Days” program. Scholarship beneficiaries will be surveyed to identify their interests in participation, with priority given to the most requested services.

A notable change this year is the substantial increase in participating universities in Seoul, as well as the expanded eligibility for applicants from various countries.

- **Nine institutions participate in 2025, including Kyunghee University, Korea University, Kwangwoon University, Seokyeong University, Seoul National University of Science and Technology, Sungkyunkwan University, Sookmyung Women’s University, Soongsil University, and the University of Seoul.**
- Applicants must meet one of the following criteria: ① Be a national of one of the seven Korean War ally countries eligible for ODA, having graduated (or expected to

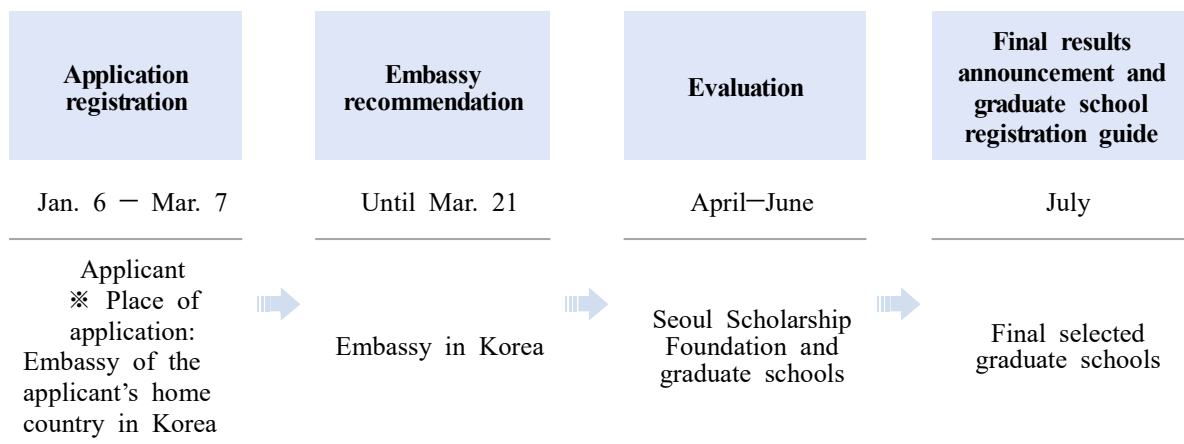
graduate) from a university in their home country. ② Be a national of one of Seoul’s friendly or sister cities (20 cities) and a graduate (or expected graduate) of a university in the respective city. The specific countries and cities can be found in the chart below.

Eligible Countries and Cities in 2025	
▶ ① <i>Korean War Allies Eligible for ODA</i> : 7 Countries	South Africa, Ethiopia, India, Colombia, Thailand, Türkiye, Philippines
▶ ② <i>Seoul’s Friendly or Sister Cities</i> : 20 Countries	Nepal (Kathmandu), Laos (Vientiane), Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur), Mozambique (Maputo), Mongolia (Ulaanbaatar), Mexico (Mexico City), Vietnam (Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh), Brazil (São Paulo), Sri Lanka (Colombo), Argentina (Buenos Aires), Uganda (Kampala), Uzbekistan (Tashkent), Ukraine (Kyiv), Iran (Tehran), Egypt (Cairo), Indonesia (Bandung, Jakarta), Kazakhstan (Astana), Panama (Panama City)

Outstanding international STEM talents interested in applying for the 2025 Seoul Tech Scholarship must **submit their application documents to their home countries’ embassies in South Korea by Mar. 7, 2025.**

- Detailed information on the program, including eligibility criteria and application procedures, can be found on the Seoul Scholarship Foundation website (<https://www.hissf.or.kr> → **Announcements** → **Scholarship News**).

< Selection Process >



- Meanwhile, the Seoul Metropolitan Government plans to provide detailed information to encourage applications from talented students of various nationalities through its networks such as CityNet, the Sejong Institute, and international sister universities, in collaboration with participating universities.



- On-site photo from the 2025 Seoul Tech Scholarship project briefing held on Nov. 8, 2024 -

Lee Hae-sun, Director-general of Global City Policy Bureau, stated, “Securing exceptional talent will be essential for strengthening Seoul’s future growth and competitiveness. The global trend highlights the importance of attracting talent regardless of nationality. The Seoul Tech Scholarship, launched in 2024, will significantly contribute to shaping Seoul’s future by enabling domestic and international talents to study together, conduct research, and engage in interdisciplinary studies.”