



ICYE



National Profile

SOUTH KOREA

2026-2027



Contents

Information on the host country	3
History	3
Geography, Climate and Biodiversity	5
Political System.....	7
Economy	9
Culture and Identity	10
Information on the National Committee (NC)	11
About the NC	13
Who is Who.....	14
Our support for your well-being and safety	14
○ Pocket money and travel reimbursement	14
○ Language course	14
○ Trainings and additional activities	14
Volunteering placements	14
What you need to know before arriving	15
Medical system	15
Accommodation.....	15
Transportation and travel	15
Monetary system	16
Plug type and electricity	16
What to bring.....	16
Important regulations and our policies.....	17
Visa requirements	17
Specific government regulations & Local rules	17
ICYE policies	17
Rules for Volunteers	17

Information on the host country

History

Korea has a history of 5,000 years

▶ **The beginning of Korean history is Gojoseon (Gojoseon 2333-108.B.C.)**



Gojoseon was the first country to be formed in Korea. Its patriarch was Dangun Wanggom, who established the kingdom in 2333 B.C. Gojoseon first developed with the Liaoning district as its center and gradually rose as a center of the East.

▶ **Silla led maritime trade in East Asia (Silla Kingdom B.C.57~A.D.935)**

Silla was located in the southeastern part of the Korean peninsula. In its early days, Silla was the weakest of three kingdoms in existence, but later became powerful enough to unify them under its rule in 676. After unification, Silla traded vigorously with foreign countries. General Jangbogo established Cheonghaejin on



Wando Island and swept the pirates from the seas and led the overseas trade of East Asia Sea.

▶ **Goguryeo, a powerful kingdom in Asia (Goguryeo Kingdom B.C.37~A.D.668)**



Goguryeo covered large parts of present-day Manchuria. The country was not only the most powerful and most aggressive kingdom of three kingdoms in existence (Baekje and Silla being the other two) but also the most powerful in Northeast Asia in the 5th century. King Gwanggaeto the Great (375-413), in particular, conquered the largest territory in the entire history of Korea.

▶ **Baekje had a great influence on Japanese culture (Baekje Kingdom B.C.18~A.D.660)**



Baekje was located in the southwestern part of the Korean peninsula and was one of the most advanced nations at that time. Baekje had the closest communication with neighboring Japan and exerted great influence on various fields of Japanese culture, sending many craftsmen, artisans, tailors, tile makers, and scholars to that country.

▶ **Balhae recovered most of Goguryeo territory (Balhae Kingdom 698~926)**



After the fall of Goguryeo, a man from Goguryeo, Dae Joyeong, formed an army of the Goguryeo and Malgal (a Tungusic tribe) people, and eventually settled near Jilin in Manchuria, and there founded Balhae. Balhae declared itself the successor to Goguryeo and soon regained control of most of the former Goguryeo territory. The ruling class of Balhae consisted mostly of Goguryeo people.

▶ **Goryeo succeeded Goguryeo (Goryeo Dynasty 918~1392)**

It was Wang Geon who unified the Korean peninsula for the second time and founded the Goryeo Dynasty, named after Goguryeo. Jikji, the oldest metal printed book in the world, and the Goryeo celadon, the greatest cultural achievement of Goryeo, were produced during the Goryeo Dynasty.



▶ **Hangul during the Joseon Dynasty, one of the world's greatest inventions (Joseon Dynasty 1392~1910)**



Joseon derives its name from the first kingdom of Korea. Joseon adopted Confucianism as its guiding principle, and this philosophy exerted much influence during the Joseon Dynasty. King Sejong the Great (1394-1450), the country's finest king, is the most respected person in Korean history. He invented Hangeul, the Korean alphabet, in 1446. He also invented a rain gauge, striking water clocks, and a sundial.

▶ **Koreans who resisted Japanese invasion (The Japanese Occupation Period 1910~1945)**

In the late 19th century, Korea was occupied by Japan. The country was exploited for the benefit of the Japanese Empire. The occupiers attempted to eradicate Korean culture and even forbade Koreans from speaking their own language. But the Koreans resisted continuously, both at home and abroad, until the surrender of Japan, which ended World War II.



▶ **Korea is now moving towards the center of Northeast Asia! (The Republic of Korea 1945~Present)**



In 1945, Korea was liberalized but North peninsula was under the control of soviet and people's republic of china while South peninsula was under the control of USA and Europe. But in the end, The Korean war occurred due to different ideologies in 1950. 6.25. After 3 years,

armistice agreement was signed and war has been stopped so far. And these are the country you can see at present, South and North Korea. After the Korean war, Korea got back up through Saemaul Undong (새마을 운동) and modernization South Korea has been considered like the country where has Powerful IT, High quality of Medical care and Korean wave.



Geography, Climate and Biodiversity



The Korean Peninsula, the centre of Northeast Asia, lies between China to the west and Japan to the east, and is located between 33 and 43 degrees north latitude and 124 and 132 degrees east longitude. The Korean Peninsula is 950 kilometres long from north to south and 540 kilometres long from east to west, and covers an area of 100,364 square kilometres. Except for the north, which is adjacent to the continent, Korea is bordered on three sides by the sea and is 30% flat and 70% mountainous. Although there are many mountains, only 15% of the mountains are over 1,000 metres above sea level, and more than 65% are low mountains below 500 metres.

Centred on the Taebaek Mountains, which run like a backbone from north to south, the peninsula is asymmetrical, with the east being higher and the west lower. Large and small rivers originating from the high mountains in the east flow to the west and south coasts, forming a plain that is a granary.

The climate of the eastern mountain range and the life of its inhabitants are closely related. The mountains are so high that the easterly winds blow over them and create the Föhn phenomenon, which creates hot, dry high winds, making transport inconvenient and development slow, but nowadays they are attracting attention for their natural beauty.

▣ Four Seasons

▶ Spring (March - May)

Spring is one of the most beautiful seasons in Korea, with warm and pleasant weather. Many Koreans love spring because it's the best weather for living.



▶ Spring features

- Mild climate : Winter's chill recedes and warmer weather begins. Statistics show that the average temperature in spring is 13.2°C in 2024
- Flowering season : Cherry blossoms and forsythia are in full bloom, and spring flower festivals are held everywhere. The cherry blossom festivals, especially around the beginning of April, offer a truly spectacular sight.

► Summer (June - August)

Summer in South Korea is characterised by hot and humid weather. In recent years, there have been many days with tropical nights (nighttime lows of 25°C or more) and high temperatures of 30°C or



more during the day. The summer weather in Korea is characterised by high temperatures and humidity due to the rainy season. While the high temperatures are not uncomfortable, the high humidity can make it difficult to stay healthy if you are not prepared for it..

► Summer features

- Hot and humid: Temperatures rise significantly, and the high humidity makes it feel hot. As of 2024, the average summer temperature was 25.6°C.

- Rainy season: The rainy season starts around mid-July, with lots of rain. It can be quite heavy at times, so it is recommended to avoid outdoor activities during this time. Also, typhoons sometimes affect Korea, so it is advisable to pay attention to the weather forecast in summer.

► Autumn (September - November)

Autumn is a season known for its cooler weather and colourful foliage. Along with spring, it's also one of the best seasons to live in - it's the perfect transition from summer to winter, and it's a beautiful time of year. The temperature is perfect for living, and you can easily see autumn leaves and fallen leaves everywhere. However, there is a feeling that autumn is getting shorter and shorter due to recent weather changes in Korea. If you're travelling to Korea, I recommend visiting in autumn as well as spring to enjoy the outdoors.



► Autumn features

- Cool and dry: The heat is gone and the weather is cooler, making it easier to dress light and enjoy whatever you're doing, indoors or out. As of 2021, the average temperature for autumn weather is 16.8°C.

- Autumn leaves season: The mountains and parks offer beautiful autumn colours, especially in South Korea, where there are many mountains, even close to the city centre, and many trees change colour at the same time. If you love the changing colours of nature, this is a great time to go mountain climbing in Korea.

► Winter (December - February)

Winter in Korea is a very cold and sometimes snowy season. Recently, there has been a big difference in weather and a lot of snow, but you can feel the fun of winter. There are many festivals held on ski slopes and frozen ice. If you're coming from Southeast Asia or a desert climate, the cold can be hard to deal with, so be sure to pack warm clothes and supplies.



► Winter features

- Cold temperatures: Temperatures often drop below freezing, with strong winds. As of 2024, the average winter temperature was 14.5°C.

- Snowy season: Snow falls in abundance, especially in the northern regions, making it a great time for skiing and snowboarding.

In recent years, global warming has led to a shift towards a more subtropical climate. Temperatures are rising above 35 degrees Celsius in summer, and spring azaleas and forsythia are blooming earlier and earlier. Over the past four to five years, there have been fewer weather-related record-breaking events.

Summer heat waves are becoming more common, and precipitation patterns are changing. Whereas the rainy season used to be characterised by widespread rainfall from rain fronts, we are now seeing a shift to localised heavy rainfall in small areas. Localised heavy snowfall is also occurring in winter. Ten years ago, it was common to have three days of cold weather and four days of warm weather in winter, but this has almost disappeared.

Political System

The politics of South Korea take place in the framework of a presidential representative democratic republic, whereby the president is the head of state, and of a multi-party system. To ensure a separation of powers, the government of the Republic of Korea is made up of three branches: legislative, executive, and judicial. The government exercises executive power, and legislative power is vested in both the government and the National Assembly. The judiciary is independent of the executive and the legislature and comprises a Supreme Court, appellate courts, and a Constitutional Court.

The Ministry of Environment has announced ten key environmental policies that will change starting in 2025. These ten newly introduced or revised policies are primarily those that are of high public and business interest, with "accelerating the green economy" as their core focus.

- Expanded support for electric vehicle subsidies for young people and multi-child households
- Green Transition Guarantee Project Guarantees KRW 1.5 trillion for Jiangsu Climate Technology (Tech) Companies
- Promotion and management of 10 local rivers to national rivers
- Implementation of the Water Purification Plant Hygiene and Safety Certification System
- Implementation of 'One-Stop Service' for Environmental Damage Relief
- Implementation of the Public Sector Biogas Production Target System
- Chemicals regulation to be improved to international standards
- Expanding the number of participants in the emissions trading system and enhancing market flexibility
- Expansion of Carbon Neutrality Point System Payment Items
- Consideration of local conditions and environmental impacts, operation of a differentiated environmental impact assessment system

This government policy shift recognizes the seriousness of the environmental impact and seeks to promote investment in carbon neutrality and sustainable technologies.

■ The Impact and Political Legacy of the Democratization Movement

Several key democratization movements marked crucial turning points in Korea's democratization process. These movements went beyond mere political events and profoundly influenced the development of democratic consciousness and institutions in Korean society.

▶ April 19 Revolution (1960)



Korea's first democratic revolution, it brought about the collapse of the Syngman Rhee dictatorship. This event demonstrated the collective experience of resistance to dictatorship and confirmed the nation's desire for democracy. Although democratization was subsequently thwarted by a military coup, the spirit of the April 19 Revolution became the spiritual foundation for all subsequent democratization movements.

▶ May 18 Democratization Movement (1980)



The May 18 Democratization Movement, a citizens' protest demanding democratization that took place in Gwangju from May 18 to 27, 1980, is a symbolic event of resistance against the military regime.

It is considered a significant turning point in the history of Korean democratization. This incident symbolized the citizens' resistance against military dictatorship and laid the foundation for the democratization movement that led to the June Struggle of 1987.

▶ June Struggle (1987)



This was a nationwide democratization movement that fought against the dictatorship of the Chun Doo-hwan regime and achieved a constitutional amendment for direct presidential elections.

Beginning in protest against the torture and death of Park Jong-cheol and the April 13th Constitutional Amendment, this movement was a widespread struggle involving students, citizens, religious groups, and workers from all walks of life. The uprising resulted in the June 29th Declaration, which established a constitutional amendment for direct presidential elections, a crucial moment that laid the institutional foundation for Korean democracy. Furthermore, various social movements, including the Great Labor Struggle, the Farmers' Movement, and the Women's Movement, were revitalized, broadening the base of Korean democracy.

► Candlelight Revolution (2016-2017)



This peaceful citizens' revolution protested President Park Geun-hye's corruption and led to her impeachment and a change of government. This movement, involving millions of citizens, resulted in the unprecedented impeachment of President Park Geun-hye through constitutional procedures. The Candlelight Revolution was characterized by peaceful, non-violent protests, voluntary participation through digital media, and solidarity across generations and social classes.

Economy

South Korea has adopted a mixed economic system based on capitalism.

South Korea is the only country in the world that has gone from receiving aid from other countries since the Korean War in 1950 to now providing aid to other countries.

From the 1950s to the 1970s, its economic growth strategy was an export-driven model based on a robust government-led planned economy.

In the 1960s, the government provided long-term support through low-interest loans, tax benefits, and technical training to foster industries such as textiles, steel, and electronics. This support, coupled with the growth of companies like Samsung, LG, and POSCO, helped South Korea become an export powerhouse.

In the 1970s, the transition to high value-added industries began with the development of heavy and chemical industries, focusing on the development of heavy and chemical industries such as steel, shipbuilding, machinery, and electronics, ensuring sustainable economic growth.

The 21st century Korean economic environment is rapidly changing, with new challenges emerging, including global competition, digital transformation, and climate change response. Consequently, economic policies are also evolving accordingly. 1) Innovation-Driven Growth and the Fourth Industrial Revolution

The country is shifting to a growth model centered on innovation and sustainability, and is building an advanced industrial structure based on digital transformation and Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies.

Through the "Digital New Deal," the country is laying the foundation for a digital economy while also pursuing policies that support AI, IoT, 5G, and data center construction. This aims to secure competitiveness not only in traditional manufacturing but also in cutting-edge industries such as IT and biotechnology.

2) Eco-Friendly Economy and Carbon Neutrality

- The country has set a goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050 and is implementing various projects to reduce carbon emissions through the "Green New Deal" policy, including the development of eco-friendly technologies, expansion of renewable energy sources, and the spread of electric and hydrogen vehicles.

3) Income-Driven Growth and an Inclusive Economy

This policy aims to ensure that the benefits of economic growth are widely distributed and enhance the stability of the national economy through policies such as raising the minimum wage, creating public sector jobs, and expanding the social safety net.

Korea's economic policy has shifted from the past export-led, heavy and chemical industrialization model to the current model that pursues innovation and sustainability. Going forward, we will flexibly respond to changes in the global economy and develop around three pillars: technological innovation, an eco-friendly economy, and an inclusive economy.



Culture and Identity

Korean culture encompasses a wide range of aspects, including traditional arts, food, clothing, shelter, and lifestyle.

Korean traditional culture has been shaped by diverse philosophies and religious ideologies, including Confucianism, Buddhism, and Shamanism. Confucian values became deeply ingrained in Korean life, particularly during the Joseon Dynasty, and were embodied in etiquette, family-centered thinking, and a sense of community. Examples include ancestral rites, respectful greetings to elders, and the custom of sharing food. Hangul, the Korean alphabet, is also a symbol of Korean traditional culture. Created by King Sejong, Hangul was created for the common people and is still considered the most scientific writing system in the world today. Furthermore, cultural heritages such as the hanbok (traditional Korean clothing), hanok (traditional Korean houses), and traditional games reflect the lives and spirit of the Korean people.

Recently, K-culture has become a global cultural trend, gaining recognition across diverse fields, from K-pop to K-drama, K-movies, K-food, K-beauty, and K-fashion. One of the reasons K-culture is attracting attention is its harmony of "locality" and "globality."

Korean culture showcases a diverse and multifaceted approach centered on three pillars: traditional values, modern flexibility, and the global reach of "K-color."

■ Traditional Culture Festivals

► Andong International Mask Dance Festival

This world-class festival offers a chance to experience the essence of Korean mask dances, including Hahoe Mask and Bongsan Mask Dance, which are registered as UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The festival offers workshops where participants can try on masks and learn the dances, mask-making workshops, and children's mask dance performances. Hahoe Village traditional experience programs are also included, allowing participants to experience the full spectrum of folk culture.



▶ **Jindo Ganggangsullae Festival**



This festival offers an opportunity to learn and experience "Ganggangsullae," a traditional women's dance registered by UNESCO. Through performances of women's circular dances, folk songs, and traditional costumes, participants can experience the depth of Korean community culture firsthand.

▶ **Seoul Intangible Cultural Heritage Festival**

This urban festival shares the diverse intangible cultural heritage of Seoul with its citizens. Experience a variety of traditional techniques and arts, including hanji (Korean paper), lacquerware, embroidery, hanok architecture, jangdo (Korean traditional swordsmanship), and pansori (Korean traditional narrative music), establishing itself as a platform for traditional culture in the city.

▶ **Korean Food Culture Expo**

This large-scale expo covers all aspects of Korean cuisine. It offers a specialized event where visitors can experience both the history and techniques of food, including royal cuisine demonstrations, cooking utensil demonstrations, presentations, and traditional cooking lessons.



▶ **Seoul Global Culture Festival**



This international festival features information booths in English, Japanese, and Chinese, volunteer interpreters, and an experience zone exclusively for foreigners. The festival's fusion of international cultures and Korean traditions is captivating.

▶ **Suwon Hwaseong Cultural Festival**



Set against the backdrop of Suwon, a military city in the late Joseon Dynasty, the festival features events such as the changing of the guard ceremony, archery, armor wearing, and barracks experiences. Foreign language interpretation

services are available, allowing visitors to experience historical military culture.

▶ **National Identity:**

Total Population of South Korea: 51,149,546

Koreans: 48,448,523 (94.7%)

Other Foreigners: 2,701,023 (5.3%)

▶ **Language**

The Korean language, like Hungarian, Turkish, Mongolian, and Finnish, is classified into the Ural-Altaic Language group. Hangeul, the Korean alphabet, is composed of 10 simple vowels and 14 consonants. A group of scholars under the patronage of King Sejong developed this systematic rendition of spoken sound in 1443. It is widely acclaimed by linguists as an ingenious invention.

The chart on the next page presents the Romanization of the 24 hangeul letters. This Romanization is based on the new Romanization system proclaimed in 2000 by the Korean government.

However, because all road signs and information boards that are based on McCune-Reischauer system, the old official Romanization cannot be changed immediately, there might be some coexistence of two systems through 2005.

Consonants					
ㄱ	g, k	ㅂ	b, p	ㅋ	k
ㄴ	n	ㅅ	s	ㅌ	t
ㄷ	d, t	ㅇ	ng, silent	ㅍ	p
ㄹ	r, l	ㅈ	j	ㅎ	h
ㅁ	m	ㅊ	ch		
Vowels					
ㅏ	a	ㅓ	o	ㅜ	eu
ㅑ	ya	ㅕ	yo	ㅣ	i
ㅓ	eo	ㅗ	u		
ㅕ	yeo	ㅛ	yu		
a g Slient			Hangeul is written in syllabic Units made up of two, three, or Four letters		
h	한	u 국 어			
n	k				
han	guk	eo (Korean language)			

Food



Typical Korean meal

- 1 : rice (밥)
- 2 : soup (국)
- 3 : spoon (숟가락)
- 4 : chopsticks (젓가락)
- 5 : side dishes (반찬)

The basic meal in Korea consists of a bowl of rice ('BAB'), soups ('KUK') and many side dishes ('Banchan'). There are many different types of side dishes: kimchi (always!), vegetables cooked in different styles, boiled dishes flavored with soy sauce, grilled meat or fish, pan-fried meat or fish, and raw fish or seafood.

Koreans use chopsticks and spoons. Koreans are the only people in East Asia to eat their rice and soup with spoons.

No Korean meal would be completed without kimchi. Kimchi is a kind of fermented vegetable. It is preserved in a mixture of salt and other ingredients. Soon, you may realize how much Koreans love it and how often Koreans eat it. Then you will be one of two: love it or hate it.

Eating out is quite common in Korea. Normally, Koreans eat lunch and dinner outside.

The food is just something, which you have to get used to - because it is part of the culture. There are few fatty foods in Korea. Normally food is very healthy. Welcome to Korean Cuisine. You may enjoy them!



Information on the National Committee (NC)

About the NC

ICYE South Korea is one of the Seoul YMCA International Fellowship Projects. It was officially accepted as an Associate Member of ICYE in November 1986 at the General Assembly in Ghana. Then, in 1988, it was granted Full Member status at the General Assembly in Austria. And ICYE South Korea is continually striving to enhance the program for all people connected with ICYE.

The ICYE South Korea program is separate from Seoul YMCA in 2012. We own an office at Seoul YMCA Building. ICYE South Korea handles all financial matters and operates all the issues on our own.



The ICYE South Korea National Committee as a whole will be responsible for the receiving and sending of exchanges. All of these responsibilities include the following; promotion of the program, screening selecting candidates, organizing conferences and other meetings. The members also serve as consultants to the exchanges, host families and work projects.

The office of ICYE South Korea is in the Seoul YMCA. It has one full-time staff with several co-workers. Most of the co-workers are volunteers who have been exchangees themselves through ICYE program.

The office is open at 9:30am and closed at 6:30pm from Monday to Friday. Saturday and Sunday are off days.

What do we expect from you? - Three goals for exchange program



The first goal is an easy one to make friends and experience fellowship in a foreign society. The second is more difficult and complex to develop international understanding. To do this, it is basic that the exchangees work to overcome the language and cultural barriers, then they may begin to learn what human issues are important to Korean society and how they are dealt with here. Further, exchangees can learn what international cooperation can do for all human issues. The

third responsibility involves putting ideas into action, whether it would be during their exchange year abroad or when they return home.

Who is Who



Dr. Cho Gyu Tae
Chairperson



Mr. Kim Jin Sam
Director / Coordinator
(Incoming/Outgoing)

Our support for your well-being and safety

▶ Pocket money and travel reimbursement

- Pocket Money : Monthly value 290,000Won
(Pocketmoney 130,000Won + Extra food money 160,000Won)
- Transportation Money : Monthly value 90,000Won)
(**Travel Month : 250,000Won**)

▶ Language Course

This course is held for 5 days in the morning during the orientation period, and is offered free of charge in 2 classes based on the Korean language level once a week until the end of the program.(* However, free Korean language classes may not be held depending on the circumstances, and Korean language classes will not be held at the February orientation.)

▶ Trainings and additional activities

Virtual trainings on topics of interest, culture shock, use and management of insurance, implementation of ICYE policies

▶ Volunteering placements

See the Work Profile

What you need to know before arriving

Medical system

South Korea's healthcare system offers convenient access to general hospitals, secondary hospitals, and clinics when sick. In particular, hospital visits often eliminate long wait times. However, because few places accept ICYE international insurance, a refund request is required after visit.



*Medical Emergencies

There is an emergency medical information centre which is available 24 hours a day by dialing 1339. English-speaking doctors are available to provide medical information in an emergency, as well as advice on finding an open pharmacy (yaguk), some of which are open 24 hours a day, or hospital. To reach this service from a mobile telephone or from outside Seoul, Tel: 02 1339.

Accommodation

Volunteers will live in single rooms in a boarding house.

Transportation and travel

Traveling by public transportation in Korea is safe. Currently, T-money cards and the Climate Change Card are used interchangeably.

In order to take metro/bus, you should buy a "T-money Transportation Card". or "Climate Card". The Climate Card is a comprehensive transportation card **providing unlimited use of public transportation (e.g., subway, bus) and Ttareungi(Seoul Bike) for a period of 30 days** after charging with a one-time fare.

It is a distance scale rates system. Metro fare is also a distant scale rates system and it costs 1,350 KRW with cash and 1,250 KRW with T-money card or Climate card.

First, you need to buy your T-money card or Climate card at the metro station or at the convenient store. It costs about 3,000 KRW. Then you need to prepay for your transportation card. When you are getting on or off the bus/ metro, you should touch your transportation card to the card reader.

Travelling

During your stay in Korea you will travel around Korea for camps.

You will visit many places for weekend trips with your friends and your host family. But remember, you are an exchangee not a tourist.

When you are away for a while from your hosting place or go travel, please remember following points.



- Our policy about travel is the same as that of ICYE internationally.
- You are allowed to travel freely on your own four weeks holiday at the end of your exchange year. You can also travel during weekends. But we recommend you not to do it every weekend in order to share some of your free time with your host family.
- Always inform your host family when you will be back and keep up with the time.
- ICYE insurance DOES NOT COVER accidents if you have been hitch hiking or driving a motor vehicle and your travel abroad.

Monetary system

The Korean Currency is Won : Korean Won (₩)

Banknotes : ₩50,000 / ₩10,000 / ₩5,000 / ₩1000

Coins : ₩500 / ₩100 / ₩50 / ₩10

1USD = 1,420.30 Won

1 Euro = 1,643.85Won



Plug type and electricity

South Korea uses 220V



What to bring

- Passport & Visa
- Photograph for making a Registration Card 2 photos
(3.5cm X 4.5cm, passport photo style recent front-faced full coloured)
- Photographs for general use
(3cm X 4cm recent front-faced full coloured)
- Materials to introduce your country : flags, maps, pictures etc.
- Some extra cash(KRW) for your very first days in Korea
- An umbrella
- Towel
- Sleeping bag
- Small souvenirs as a gift for your friends you will have here
- Comfy clothes, shoes and thick coat for winter
- Traditional foods from your country
- Item for your personal use

Important regulations and our policies

Visa requirements

Visa Type : **D-6 (Religion)**

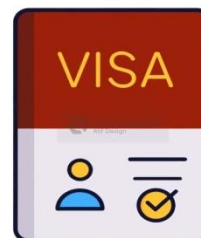
All exchange going to South Korea need to apply for D-6 Visa. You can get your visa issued in Korean Embassy in your country or nearest countries available.

**** Detail documents see the Visa Regulations.**

ICYE South Korea will provide you with most of the necessary documents to complete the visa process completely online.

Visa renewal : The D-6 visa expires after the 1 year or 6 month program ends and cannot be extended or renewed.

At the airport will reject the exchange if departure or arriving without D-6 visa to South Korea and the exchange will have to return home or own country of origin.



Specific government regulations & Local rules

- South Korea has a well-developed public transportation system, making it accessible and safe for travel between regions. However, hitchhiking can be dangerous and is therefore strongly discouraged.
- In the case of any emergency, accident or difficulty you must inform to any member of ICYE South Korea staff.

ICYE policies

ICYE South Korea wishes to advance in their activities the ICYE policies (pdf, icye.org):

ICYE's Code of Ethical Practice Greener together

- ICYE's commitment for a sustainable and regenerative future Care to Engage
- ICYE's Policy on Safeguarding Children Safer Together
- ICYE's policy addressing sexual violence in international volunteering

At ICYE South Korea we wish to create in all our activities together with all the participants safer spaces in which everyone can feel welcome and respected. To advance this, we follow in our activities ICYE South Korea guidelines for safer spaces

RULES FOR VOLUNTEERS

You are joining a cultural exchange programme built on trust, responsibility, and cooperation. These rules exist to protect you, your project, your host family, and ICYE South Korea, and help ensure a meaningful, safe, and successful volunteer year.

Please read them carefully before signing.

GENERAL

1. I will obey the Korean law. If I break the law, I understand that I am fully responsible for any consequences, including fines, legal costs, and possible deportation.
2. My residence permit allows me to only volunteer. I am not permitted to take any paid job. If I work illegally, I may be deported and barred from entering South Korea in the future.
3. I will not use or possess illegal drugs at any time (marijuana, hash, cocaine, ecstasy, mushrooms, etc). I understand that drug use or possession may lead to immediate dismissal from the programme.
4. I will take an active part in all ICYE camps, meetings, and activities planned for volunteers.
5. I will attend the Korean language program provided and make a genuine effort to learn the language.
6. I will not schedule visitors during ICYE camps or important project periods. Visitors must not interfere with my obligations at my project.
7. I will leave in South Korea at the end of my exchange year unless I have independently secured a new residence permit.
8. I understand that my health and liability insurance provided through ICYE ends immediately after the programme. From that time ICYE South Korea has no further obligations towards me.
9. I understand that major life changes (pregnancy, marriage, etc) affect my legal stay and my participation. I will contact ICYE South Korea immediately if such a situation arises.
10. I confirm that I have read the South Korea National Profile before choosing South Korea.
11. I will respect Korean culture, values, communication styles, and daily norms.
12. I understand that I represent both ICYE and my home country as a cultural ambassador.

PROJECT AND HOST FAMILY

13. I will follow all rules of my project, including punctuality, confidentiality, safety guidelines, and appropriate conduct.
14. When working with children, youth or vulnerable groups, I understand that professional boundaries apply (e.g, no dating students)
15. I will honour agreements made between myself, the project, and my host family or accommodation.
16. I will communicate openly if I face difficulties fulfilling expectations.
17. I will contact ICYE South Korea if challenges arise with my project or living situation. I understand that ICYE South Korea mediation process must be followed.
18. I understand that host family/project changes normally cannot be made in the hole year unless my well-being is at risk.
19. I will accept the disadvantages that come with not following project norms.
20. I will show respect and communicate directly and openly, following Korean norms.

TRAVEL

21. ICYE South Korea is not a travel or tourism programme. Longer independent travel is normally allowed only in the last month of the programme (or last two weeks for a 6-month stay). Short trips during the year must be approved by my project, host family, and ICYE South Korea.
22. If I plan to travel abroad, I must inform both ICYE South Korea, my project and host family (if relevant) as soon as I now. ICYE South Korea, my project, and my host family must all approve the trip.

POCKET MONEY

23. I understand that pocket money is intended for small personal expenses, not large purchases or travel.
24. The mount is set by the ICYE Federation and cannot be changed.
25. Pocket money is transferred monthly before last day.
26. If I return home early, I will not receive pocket money for the remaining period.
27. I understand that my pocket money will be paid from my project, and I will accept that if my service contract is terminated due to a problem with my project, my pocket money will not be paid.



28. Early completion means no independent travel.

SAFEGUARDING

- 29. I will use alcohol responsibly and never while working or supervising children. I understand that excessive or unsafe alcohol use may lead to termination of contract.
- 30. I will not post photos or videos of children or vulnerable people without clear permission from my project.
- 31. I will represent ICYE South Korea, my project, and my host family respectfully online.
- 32. I will keep all sensitive information about children, students, residents, or colleagues private.
- 33. I will inform my project immediately if I am sick or unable to attend work.
- 34. I will notify ICYE South Korea if I face serious health or wellbeing challenges so they can support me.

TERMINATION BY ICYE SOUTH KOREA

- 35. I understand that my placement may be terminated if I violate these rules or behave in a way that goes against the expectations of ICYE South Korea. No refunds are given if the programme ends due to misconduct.**

I have read and understood the above rules and agree to obey them.

Name : _____ Home Country: _____

Signature : _____ Date(DD/MM/YYYY): _____