

Incoming Exchange Students FAQ

*Seoul National University
Office of International Affairs*

1. HOW CAN I APPLY FOR THE STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM?

Your home university must first nominate you to apply for the SNU exchange program. Once nominated, either SNU or your home university will provide details about the application process. Further information is available on the SNU exchange program website.

<https://oia.snu.ac.kr/exchange-program>

2. WHY DO I HAVE TO CHOOSE A SPECIFIC COLLEGE AND DEPARTMENT DURING THE ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS?

After receiving all application materials, they are forwarded to the chosen department, where a screening committee will review your credentials based on the submitted documents and decide on your acceptance. Therefore, selecting the college and department that align with your academic background and goals is essential. Once accepted, you'll be admitted as a non-degree-seeking exchange student with the same access to modules and facilities as domestic students.

3. HOW CAN I APPLY FOR THE ON-CAMPUS DORMITORY? IS DORMITORY SPACE GUARANTEED?

Accepted exchange students will receive a guide on dormitory applications. While all exchange students can apply for on-campus accommodation at Gwanak Residence Halls and Global Residence Halls, room assignments are not guaranteed due to limited space. More details on on-campus housing are available at: <https://snudorm.snu.ac.kr/en/>.

4. HOW CAN I FIND AN OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING IN CASE I AM NOT ACCEPTED TO ON-CAMPUS DORMITORY?

Office of International Affairs can provide information on off-campus housing options, although it is your responsibility to secure and manage the off-campus accommodation contract. Additional resources are available at <https://oia.snu.ac.kr/campus-0>.

5. HOW CAN I REGISTER FOR COURSES?

Accepted students will receive a guide on course registration. Generally, registration opens in early August for the Fall semester and early February for the Spring semester. Undergraduate students can take up to 18 credits, and graduate students up to 12 credits.

6. WHERE CAN I FIND THE COURSE LIST AND SYLLABI?

Course lists and syllabi can be found on the SNU course registration website. The final course catalog is updated online every July for the Fall semester and every January for the Spring semester. Until then, you should refer to the previous semester's catalogs: <https://sugang.snu.ac.kr/>.

7. CAN I TAKE COURSES OUTSIDE OF MY DEPARTMENT?

Yes, you may take courses offered by other departments or colleges. However, be aware that some courses have restrictions, so it is advisable to contact the instructor beforehand to ensure you can register.

8. HOW CAN I OBTAIN ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS AT SNU?

Transcripts can be issued through the mySNU portal, SNU's official administrative website. Detailed guidance will be provided at the end of each semester.

9. IS THERE A KOREAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM AVAILABLE FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS?

Exchange students can enroll in Korean Language Programs offered by the SNU Language Education Institute, which is fee-based. OIA may provide full or partial financial support for the tuition fee, and a full waiver is available for students majoring in Korean Studies at their home university. Program information is accessible at: <https://lei.snu.ac.kr/>.

10. WHEN CAN I APPLY FOR A VISA?

Non-Korean exchange students must apply for a D-2 student visa after receiving the acceptance packet from SNU. Visit your local Korean embassy/consulate with the Certificate of Admission (CoA) and other supporting documents for visa processing. More details can be obtained from your nearest Korean Embassy/Consulate.

11. CAN I STUDY IN KOREA WITH A TOURIST VISA?

No, it is illegal to participate in the exchange program with a tourist visa. You must obtain a D-2 student visa before arriving in Korea. If you have another type of visa, confirm its applicability for the program with the Korean Immigration Office beforehand.

<https://www.hikorea.go.kr/Main.pt>

12. DO YOU HAVE A STUDENT GROUP WHICH HELPS EXCHANGE STUDENTS? HOW CAN I JOIN THE GROUP?

SNU has a student group called SNU Buddy that assists exchange students in settling in. The group organizes various events and activities throughout the semester. Accepted exchange students will receive an invitation to join SNU Buddy before the semester begins.

<http://www.snubuddyprogram.com/>