KAIST

KOREA ADVANCED INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT VIEWBOOK

Global Leading Science and Technology University for Innovative Creation of Future Humanity

Cultivating Creative Leading-Engineers and Pursuing Innovative Research for Future

Why Study at KAIST?

KAIST is the first and top science and technology university in Korea. KAIST has been the gateway to advanced science and technology, innovation, and entrepreneurship, and our graduates have been key players behind Korea's innovation. KAIST will continue to pursue advances in science and technology as well as the economic development of Korea and beyond.

KAIST Overview

Year of Establishment	**1971**
Location	**Daejeon** (main campus/ Munji campus)**, Seoul Campus**
Number of Colleges	**5** (7 Schools, 25 Departments)
Number of Alumni	**74,999** (BS 20,867, MS 38,360, PhD 15,772)
Number of Students	**11,059** (BS 3,665, MS 3,229, PhD 2,769, Integrated MS/PhD 1,396)
Number of Faculty & Staff	**1,681** (Faculty 700, Staff 981)
International Population	**1,066** (Faculty 137, Students 929)

Academic Ranking

Our history of innovation and audacious challenge has been marked by international league tables. They are the marks of our collective advancement. Not to mention, our graduate students are at the heart of the excellence.

QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

24th in Engineering and Technology

KAIST marks the 1st rank in Korea, and the 3rd rank in Asia.

18th in Materials Sciences

23rd in Electrical & Electronic Engineering

24th in Mechanical, Aeronautical Manufacturing Engineering

25th in Chemical Engineering

29th in Computer Science & Information Systems

36th in Civil & Structural Engineering

THE World University Rankings 2023

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

1st in Industry Income Indicator

English as the Official Language of Communication

The primary medium of communication on our campus is research. KAISTians gather around the research of interest, learn, challenge, and create through it. However, when it comes to verbal and written communication, English is the official language of communication. Therefore, comprehension of written and spoken English is essential for admission.

International students will have opportunities to learn the Korean language by taking courses at KAIST language center or through the language exchange programs at KI House.

Your Korean language acquisition will make your life at KAIST more colorful and exciting.

Research Infrastructure

KAIST learns and creates through research. In 2022, KAIST conducted 1,055 Research and Development (R&D) projects from industries and 1,870 from the Korean government. The overall R&D funds in 2022 reached around USD 419 million. This outstanding achievement came from our active engagements in a wide range of science and technology R&D projects and the strategic support of the Korean government that has spent the highest rate of GDP on R&D in the world in 2022 (statista).

KAIST has also ranked #1 in Industry Income Indicator of THE World University Rankings 2022. KAIST published 3,327 articles internationally and domestically in 2022, and 3,033 of them were published in SCI journals.

Historic Moments of KAIST

1971
Establishment of KAIS (the forerunner of the present day KAIST)

1982
Construction of World's Second Internet System

Prof. Kilnam Chon from the School of Computing established the first internet system in Asia and the second internet system in the world, known as System Development Network (SDN).

1992
Successful Launch of KITSAT-1

The first Korean satellite, KITSAT-1, was launched by the KAIST Satellite Technology Research Center (SaTRec) with Prof. Soon-Dal Choi and Dan-Keun Sung from the School of Electrical Engineering.

1994
Development of Korea's First Microprocessor

The first 386 microprocessor developed by Prof. Jong-Min Kyung at the School of Electrical Engineering paved the way for Korea's information industry.

1999
Development of Chiral Fine Chemical Production Technology

Development of technology for economical large-scale production of hydroxycarboxylic acid, which had not been previously possible due to challenges in achieving purity.

2001
Development of Korea's First Humanoid Robot AMI

The first artificial intelligence humanoid robot AMI developed by Prof. Hyun-Seung Yang.

2008
Korea's First Astronaut Goes to Space

The first and currently only Korean astronaut Dr. So-Yeon Lee, a KAIST graduate, successfully returned to Earth after completing her ten-day mission at the International Space Station on board Soyuz TMA-12.

2009
Development of Online Electric Vehicle

A wirelessly charging electric vehicle with "Shaped Magnetic Field in Resonance (SMFIR)" developed by Prof. Dong-Ho Cho from the School of Electrical Engineering.

2015
DRC-HUBO Robot Won the DARPA Robotics Challenge

The Humanoid Robot HUBO, created by Prof. Jun-Ho Oh from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, wins the DARPA Robotics Challenge in 2015.

2020
"KAIST New Deal R&D" Initiative for COVID-19 Response

Science- and technology-based initiative to overcome epidemics and other national disasters by creating a new epidemic control industry.
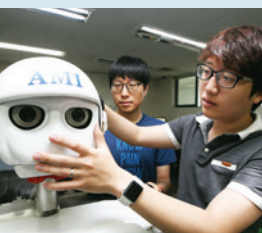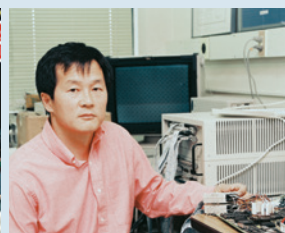
| 1971 | 1982 | 1992 | 1994 | 2001 | 2008 | 2015 | 2020 |

KAIST and International Cooperation

United Kingdom
University of Manchester
University of Leeds
Imperial College London

Switzerland
ETH Zurich

Italy
Politecnico di Milano

France
Centrale Supelec And
Unversite Paris-Saclay
École Nationale Supérieure
des Mines de Saint-Étienne
IMT Lille Douai
Institut National des Sciences
Appliquees de Lyon
ISAE-SUPAERO

**Republice of
South Africa**
University of
KwaZulu-Natal

Tanzania
The Nelson Mandela African
Institution of Science and
Technology

Sweden
KTH Royal Institute of
Technology

Denmark
Technical University of
Denmark (DTU)

Netherlands
Eindhoven University of
Technology (TU/e)

Finland
Aalto University

Germany
Karlsruhe Institute of
Technology (KIT)
TU Berlin (Technische
Universität Berlin)

United Arab Emirates
Khalifa University

Saudi Arabia
KAUST

India
Indian Institute of
Technology Madras

Sri Lanka
University of Moratuwa

Thailand
Chulalongkorn University

Vietnam
Hanoi University of
Science and Technology
Ho Chi Minh City
University of Technology

Malaysia
National University
of Malaysia
University of Malaya

China
Chongqing University of
Techonology
Peking University
Shanghai Jiao Tong University
Shenzhen Institutes of
Advanced Technology
Tsinghua University
Tongji University
Hong Kong University of
Science and Technology
(HKUST)

Japan
RIKEN Center for Advanced
Intelligence Project
Tohoku University
Tokyo Institute of Technology
University of Tokyo

Taiwan
National
Taiwan
University

Singapore
Nanyang Technological
University
National University of
Singapore

Indonesia
Universitas Katolik
Parahyangan (UNPAR)
Institut Teknologi
Bandung

Australia
Queensland University
of Technology (QUT)
University of Melbourne
University of Sydney
Macquarie University

Canada
École de Technologie
Supérieure
University of Toronto

USA
Texas A&M University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Santa Cruz
Northwestern University
University of California, Irvine
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
University of Cincinnati
Miami University
University of Texas at Austin
Carnegie Mellon University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Iowa State University
New York University
Harvard University

Brazil
University of
São Paulo

Global Partners

65 COUNTRIES	294 INSTITUTIONS	512 AGREEMENTS

Student Exchange

33 COUNTRIES	126 INSTITUTIONS	126 PROGRAMS

KAIST Community-Global Connections

More information, visit here.

With every passing year, the KAIST international community grows in size and diversity. Not only within its walls, but the KAIST network also spreads wider across the globe with each prestigious international graduate making a worldwide impact. We believe that maintaining a cordial line of connection between all members of the international community will only serve to nourish relations and open opportunities that are beneficial for students and alumni alike. To that end, KAIST Community-Global Connection serves as a platform for all members of the KAIST international community to reach out to one another and establish mutual communication between students, alumni, and International Scholar and Student Services (ISSS) .

ISSS Contact Information
TEL: **+82-42-350-2481~7**   FAX: **+82-42-350-2480**
EMAIL: **issst@kaist.ac.kr**   INSTAGRAM: **@kaist_isss**

International Scholar and Student Services (ISSS) Programs and Events

Mentor Program
New full-time international students are matched with KAIST seniors to help settle in at KAIST and in Korea

Academic Coaching Program
Students in KAIST regular courses or other subjects are paired up with a mentor in one-on-one or small group sessions

Buddy Program
A group of three new international exchange students and dual-degree students is paired with a Korean student to partake in sports activities, cultural experiences, and field trips.

Academic Counseling Program
A professional counselor is available to provide individual counseling, art therapy, and psychology testing

International Food Festival
International students prepare and serve traditional dishes from around the world at the spring each year

KAIST ONE (KAIST Overseas Networking Exchange)
This event offers KAIST students a chance to showcase their home countries through presentations, performances, and traditional dishes.

Cooks and Talks
An event to learn more about traditional Korean/international dishes while meeting international members from more than 100 countries

Year-End Party
An annual Year-End Party is held for international students, faculty, and researchers to enjoy music performances, games, and food in celebration of the year's accomplishments.

Lovely Floral Day
Giveaway of beautiful flowers to members of the international community at KAIST

Window Decoration and Tile Painting Event
An opportunity to express artistic talents by drawing on the W2-1 (International Center) building's windows or tiles

DADO-Traditional Korean Tea Drinking Networking Meeting
A networking event with KAIST members accompanied by Korean traditional tea

Tea Talk Seminar
A seminar on various topics accompanied by a cup of tea

Culture Classes
A variety of fun and exciting culture classes are offered in English (Guitar, LED lotus table lights, taekwondo, pearl necklaces, Korean traditional paintings, Korean fan paintings, etc.)

KI House (KAIST International House)
- Free one-on-one Korean lessons with native Korean speaking volunteers
- Korean culture/holiday-related events, Korean speech contests, and many more

Undergraduate Admissions
for International Students

Applying to KAIST

a. Eligibility
- Academic Qualifications*: Applicants who have graduated or will graduate from high school before the intended admission semester begins
- Citizenship Requirement: Applicants with foreign citizenship (Applicants who hold Korean Citizenship including dual citizenship are NOT eligible to apply as international students.)

* Please visit our website and read our admission guide for more details regarding the eligibility criteria for your intended admission cycle.

b. Yearly Timelines

	Early Track	Regular Track
Application Term	September – October	November – January
Decisions Announcement	January	March
Admission Date	February or August	August

*The schedules above are subject to change. Please visit our website for details.

Application Materials

Item	Remarks	Documents
Submit Online	Mandatory	① Application Form
	Mandatory	② One Recommendation Letter
Upload Online	Mandatory	③ High School Transcript
	Mandatory	④ Passport or National ID Copy
	Optional (Recommended)	⑤ Standardized Official Test Score Report
		⑥ English Proficiency Test Score Report
		⑦ Honors and Awards
		⑧ High School Profile

◎ All materials above must be provided in English. The translation must preferably be done by the issuing institute or the public notary.

Selection Procedure

① Application review   ② Interview (if necessary)   ③ Final deliberation

Application Fee: KRW 80,000 by online payment or USD 80 by transfer

* Application fees can be waived for students from one of the Least Developed Countries according to the UN list of LCDs. For detailed eligibility criteria, please visit our website.

KAIST Scholarship

a. Eligibility : Open to all international students

b. Subsidies

Full Tuition Grants for 8 semesters	Monthly Living Expenses of KRW 350,000 for 8 semesters	Monthly National Health Insurance premium

Academic Degree Programs for Undergraduate Students

College	School	Departments/Divisions
College of Natural Sciences http://natsci.kaist.ac.kr/eng	—	Physics
		Mathematical Sciences
		Chemistry
College of Life Science & Bioengineering https://bio.kaist.ac.kr/	—	Biological Sciences
		Brain and Cognitive Sciences
College of Engineering http://coeng.kaist.ac.kr/html/en	School of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering	Mechanical Engineering
		Aerospace Engineering
	School of Electrical Engineering	Electrical Engineering
	School of Computing	Computer Science
	—	Civil & Environmental Engineering
		Bio & Brain Engineering
		Industrial Design
		Industrial & Systems Engineering
		Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering
		Materials Science & Engineering
		Nuclear & Quantum Engineering
College of Business https://btm.kaist.ac.kr/en/	—	Business and Technology Management
	School of Transdisciplinary Studies http://sts.kaist.ac.kr/site/sts/	

* The offered degrees and programs above are subject to change. Please visit our website and read our admission guide for your intended admission cycle.

Contact

Undergraduate Admissions Team, Office of Admissions
EMAIL: **creative.adm@kaist.ac.kr**
TEL: **+82-42-350-4803**

Graduate Admissions
for International Students

Applying to KAIST

a. Eligibility
- Academic Qualifications: Bachelor's degree for Master's and Master-Ph.D. integrated programs, Master's degree for Doctoral programs
- Citizenship Requirement: Non-Korean citizenship

b. Yearly Timelines

	Spring	Fall Early Track	Fall Regular Track
Application Term	August–September	December–January	March – April
Decisions Announcement	December	March	June
Admission Date	February	August	August

The schedules above are subject to change. Please visit our website for details.

Application Materials
- Online Application & Statement of Financial Resources printout
- Two recommendation letters (online)
- A certified or true copy of the (expected) degree certificate
- A certified or true copy of transcripts
- A valid score report of the official English proficiency test
  Minimum score requirements:
  iBT: 83   IELTS: 6.5   TEPS: 326   TOEIC: 720
- Curriculum Vitae
- Official identification documents of the applicant and his/her parents
- A certificate of family relationship or an equivalent public document
- Honors & Awards
◎ All materials above must be provided in English. The translation must preferably be done by the issuing institute or the public notary.

Selection Procedure

① Application review (Graduate Admissions Team)	② Application review (Student Selection Committees)	③ Interview (if necessary, Student Selection Committees)	④ Final deliberation (higher committee)

Application Fee: KRW 80,000 by online payment or USD 80 by transfer
* Application fees can be waived for students from one of the Least Developed Countries according to the UN list of LCDs. For detailed eligibility criteria, please visit our website.

Scholarship Programs

KAIST Scholarship
a. Eligibility: Open to international students applying for KAIST graduate programs
b. Subsidies
- **FULL TUITION GRANTS:** 4 semesters for Master's, 10 for Master's-Ph.D. Integrated, 8 for Ph.D.
- **MONTHLY LIVING EXPENSES:** KRW 350,000 for Master's, KRW 400,000 for Ph.D. The stipend may also be awarded depending on your level of involvement in research.
- **MONTHLY NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM** (The coverages and conditions are subject to change.)

> For the last five years,
> **94%**
> of our international students have been **granted KAIST Scholarships.**

KAIST Global Presidential Scholarship (KGPS)
a. Eligibility
- Those who apply for Master's or Master's-Ph.D. Integrated programs through KAIST International Graduate Admission cycles with KAIST Scholarship will be automatically considered for KGPS without further application
- Those who are recommended by the student selection committee of the department (Awardees of KGPS are selected among those who apply with the KAIST Scholarship.)

b. Subsidies: Full tuition and monthly stipends of KRW 1,000,000 for 4 semesters
* Awardees from Master's-Ph.D. Integrated programs will receive the same benefits as the KAIST Scholarship after 4 semesters of the KGPS guarantee.

Global Korea Scholarship (GKS) program
a. Subsidies: Tuition, living expenses, airfares, the Korean language training course, and other aid. Learn more about the grants at the NIIED website.
* GKS recipients are required to take one-year Korean language courses in South Korea.

b. Application Timetable:

Education Level	Application Term	Decisions Announcement	Beginning of Class
Graduate	February	June	August

c. Notes
- Applicants must check their eligibility and the application track – University/Embassy – with the application guidelines attached to the GKS announcement of the year.
- Master's-Ph.D. Integrated programs are NOT available in GKS.

Academic Degree Programs (next page)
The offered degrees and programs on the next page are subject to change. Please visit our website and read our admission guide for your intended admission cycle.

Contact
Graduate Admissions Team, Office of Admissions
#110, E16-1, 291 Daehak-ro, Yuseong-gu, Daejeon, Republic of Korea (zip: 34141)
EMAIL: **advanced.adm@kaist.ac.kr** | TEL: **+82-42-350-2352, 2354**

College	Graduate Program	M.S.	M.S.-Ph.D	Ph.D
Natural Sciences	Physics		●	●
	Mathematical Sciences	●	●	●
	Chemistry		●	●
	Graduate School of Quantum Science and Technology		●	●
Life Science & Bioengineering	Biological Sciences		●	●
	Graduate School of Medical Science and Engineering		●	●
	Brain and Cognitive Sciences		●	
	Graduate School of Engineering Biology	●	●	●
Engineering	Mechanical Engineering	●		●
	Aerospace Engineering	●		●
	Electrical Engineering	●	●	●
	- The Robotics Program	●		●
	- Future Vehicle	●		●
	- Graduate School of AI Semiconductor	●		●
	School of Computing	●	●	●
	- Graduate School of Information Security	●	●	●
	Civil & Environmental Engineering	●		●
	- Environmental and Energy Technology Program	●		●
	Bio and Brain Engineering	●	●	●
	- Brain and Cognitive Engineering	●	●	●
	Industrial Design	●		●
	Industrial & Systems Engineering	●	●	●
	- Graduate School of Data Science	●	●	●
	Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering	●		●
	Materials Science & Engineering	●		●
	Nuclear & Quantum Engineering	●		●
	- KINS-KAIST Master's Degree Program	●		
	- RCA-KAIST Master's Degree Program	●		
	Cho Chun Shik Graduate School of Mobility	●		●
	Kim Jaechul Graduate School of AI	●	●	●
	Graduate School of Green Growth and Sustainability	●		●
Liberal Arts & Convergence	School of Digital Humanities and Computational Social Sciences	●		●
	Graduate School of Culture Technology	●		●
	Graduate School of Science and Technology Policy	●	●	●
Business (Daejeon Campus)	Business and Technology Management	●		●
	Graduate School of Global Digital Innovation			
	- Global Information & Telecommunication Technology Program (GDI-ITTP) track	●		●
	- Global Technology Innovation Program (GDI-GTIP) track	●		
Business (Seoul Campus)	Management Engineering	●	●	●
	KAIST MBA	●		
	Impact MBA (KOICA-KAIST)	●		

Student Welfare

KAIST Clinic (Pappalardo Center)

It is a medical center that was completed in 2010, providing medical services to KAIST's Korean and international members and their families.

Departments like internal medicine, dentistry, dermatology, and ophthalmology are available, and it is a research-oriented hospital that conducts medical research integrating clinical and academic research functions.

International Office

It is a compound educational and cultural space created so that international professors, researchers, and students can smoothly integrate with Korean members. It is equipped with a language room, classroom, multi-purpose room, lounge, and outdoor terrace, and there are departments that handle administrative and life support for international members.

Lyu Keun-Chul Sports Complex

It is a multi-purpose sports facility for promoting students' health. It is equipped with a main stadium for ball sports with 3,000 seats and a 200m jogging track. There are also fitness centers, golf learning zones, exercise prescription rooms, dance rooms, martial arts rooms, and club rooms.

Indoor Swimming Pool

It is an indoor swimming pool for the members of the university and is located to the left of the main auditorium (E15).

There is a sauna facility, and it is possible to enter daily at a cheap price, and free lessons are available from the student swimming club.

Chang Young Shin Student Activity Center

This is a space for students to enjoy a fun and happy campus life through various cultural activities. It was built and designed based on students' suggestions, and the students are responsible for operating the space after completion. It houses a multi-purpose room, martial arts room, individual practice room, club room, bookstore, student autonomy organization office, counseling room, and others.

Academic Cultural Center

The KAIST Academic Cultural Center (Library) located in the center of the main campus provides services focusing on the latest information in the field of science and technology, and also provides materials for general education. In addition to serving KAIST members, it has made significant contributions to the Korean science and technology community by providing information to many researchers in the field of science and technology.

Global Talent Visa Center

The Ministry of Justice opened the 'Global Talent Visa Center' at KAIST in Daejeon in December 2021 and launched a fast-track visa system to attract international sci-tech talent. International students who earn a master's degree or Ph.D. at KAIST are eligible to apply for the F-2 residence visa immediately after graduation, regardless of their job status. If they continue their research, they can apply for the F-5 permanent residence visa three years later without the income precondition for acquiring permanent residence or Korean citizenship. International students at KAIST receive overall support for staying in the country.

Dormitory

All KAIST students can live in the dormitories. We operate 21 dormitories with a total capacity of over 8,000 people so that students can concentrate on education and research and adapt smoothly to campus life. It is large enough for all students who wish to enter to live in, and it is equipped with various convenience facilities such as a store and a gym.

KAIST dorm fees are generously low compared to other universities in Korea. Dorm fees will depend on whether you are assigned to a two / three person room or single room. All dorm rooms are equipped with desks, chairs, closets, and beds. In your first semester, you will be assigned a dorm room. From the second semester on, you must apply for a dorm room yourself during the application period at kds.kaist.ac.kr. Some students choose to live off-campus by finding housing for themselves.