

2026 DUO-Korea Fellowship Programme

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1. General Description

CAUTION: If any application falls under the following 4 cases, the application is disqualified and will not be considered for selection. If such cases are found after the selection, the Secretariat may still reserve the right to cancel the fellowship of both Korean/European students and request the reimbursement of the fellowship in full. Therefore, ***the contact persons of the institutions should carefully confirm that the applications do not fall under the following 4 cases.***

- Case 1. The transfer of credits is less than the minimum requirements (10 credits / 20 ECTS) *The language training or sports courses are NOT counted
- Case 2. GPA/ECTS written on the application are different from those transcripts
- Case 3. During the application period (2026 spring term), the Korean student does not stay in Korea or the European student does not stay in Europe (leave of absence is allowed)
- Case 4. If applicants have another source of finance from other government or institutions (※ Please refer to FAQ Q16)

DUO-Korea Fellowship Programme was established in 2001 with the aim of promoting exchanges of people between Korea and 30 ASEM European countries on ***a balanced and permanent*** basis. In this respect, DUO-Korea requires that a ***PAIR (two persons)*** of students be exchanged in the framework of a cooperative project.

Definitions of students are as below:

- Undergraduate(bachelor) and Graduate(master) students who are currently enrolled in institutions in Korea or one of the 30 ASEM European countries

N.B.: All applicants shall maintain their “student status” at the time of application until the time they are engaged in exchange projects. **A student who has already started the exchange before the application period is not eligible.**

[30 ASEM European member countries]

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta,

Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the U.K.

1.1. Eligibility

Due to the unique nature of this program, the followings are required to be eligible:

Your exchange project fulfills all four requirements below:

- 1) A Korean institution and an European institution have established ***an academic cooperative agreement***;
- 2) The Korean institution has ***selected a Korean national student*** enrolled at the Korean institution to send to the European institution, and such selection has been ***accepted*** by the European institution;
- 3) The ***same*** European institution has ***selected an ASEM European national student*** enrolled at the European institution to send to the Korean institution, and such selection has been accepted by the ***same*** Korean institution.
- 4) If the Korean student who has already started the exchange outside Korea, or the European student who has already started the exchange outside the ASEM European region during the application period (2026 spring term), they are not eligible.

1.2. Duration and Funding

DUO-Korea 2026 is for exchange projects, which will start **from August 2026 and end before August 2027** to avoid duplication of implementation period of exchange projects selected by DUO-Korea in the ensuing years.

The selection of DUO-Korea 2026 is made **ONLY** once a year. In this respect, those who are planning to exchange in **Spring Semester of 2027 (January-July 2027)** shall apply for **DUO-Korea 2026**.

The duration and the amount of the fellowships are **standardized** as follows:

- 1 semester (or four months) for an amount of 8,000 Euro for both students in a pair (**4,000 Euro each**).
- Maximum duration for application is 1 semester (**4 months, 120days**).

The exchange duration should be at least one semester. Exchange of less than one semester is NOT allowed. If a semester or stay period in the Korean/European institutions is longer than 4 months, the fellowship will be given for 4 months. If it is less than 4 months, **the fellowship will be adjusted on a pro-rata basis.**

2. Application and Selection Procedure

2.1. Application Period

Applications will be accepted **from April 3(Fri) to May 20(Wed), 2026** Korean local time.
Applications submitted **after May 20(Wed), 2026 will not be accepted.**

2.2. Who Applies?

The educational institutions in **Korea** apply on behalf of **two** institutions. European institutions in partnership with Korean institutions shall cooperate fully with them in providing precise information of European applicants. Individuals wishing to apply are advised to contact the **relevant offices ONLY (e.g. International Relations Offices)** of the institutions to file an application for this program.

Professors or lecturers cannot be the contact persons for **DUO-Korea**. ONLY a staff of the relevant office (e.g. International Relations Offices) can be the contact person.

2.3. Documents for Submission

*All documents listed below should be written **in English**. In regard to writing the application, please refer to **3. Instructions for DUO-Korea Application Form** in the following context or the **DUO-Korea FAQ**.

1. An **Online Application**

2. A copy of **Cooperation Agreement** (or Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation) between paired institutions OR declaration of intention to set up new cooperation agreement (**ONLY valid one**).

3. A copy of **Valid Passport** of paired applicants

*A copy of National Registration Card (Korean) or a Citizen Card (European) also allowed, but a permanent residency card is *not* acceptable.

4. A copy of **Official Transcript** of paired applicants (**issued on or after March 1, 2026**)

5. A **Motivation Letter** of paired applicants (max. A4 1 page, except for the cover page)

*You may find the **Motivation Letter Forms** from the ASEM-DUO website using the link;
https://asemduo.org/03_forms/forms_01.php

2.4. Application Submission

1. Enter your **ID** and **password** on the **LOGIN page** to fill out an online application.

※ Click JOIN US button to get an ID.

The ID only will be given to the contact person of the Korean Institution. If you don't find the name of your institution, please contact the Secretariat to add your institution to the list. One institution will have ONLY ONE ID and there should be **ONLY one contact**

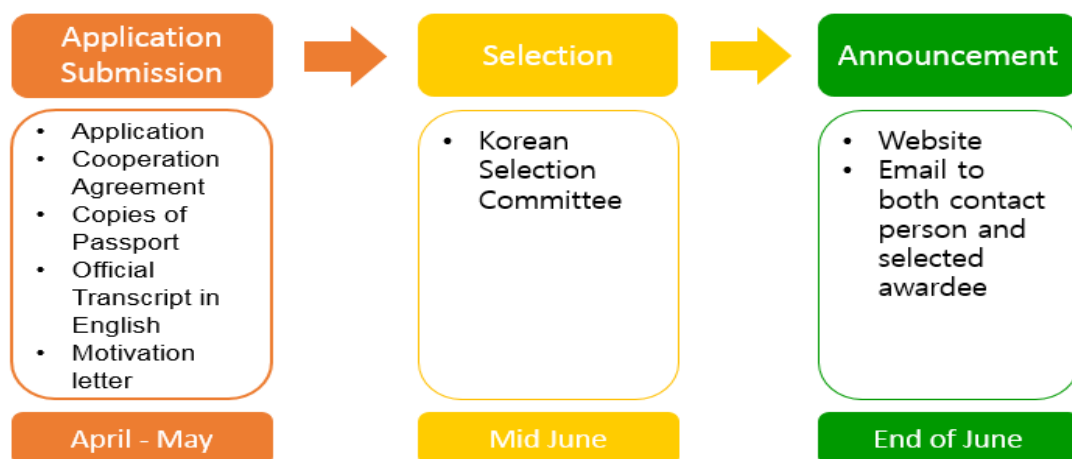
person in the same Korean institution.

2. **Korean institutions** need to fill out the whole online application including the information of European institutions.
3. The rest of the documents (cooperation agreement, passport copies, official transcripts and motivation letters) can be uploaded in the step 5 of the application process.
4. Once completed, please make sure to submit your application **by clicking the “submit” button**. Korean institutions should get a confirmation email within 3 days after submission. If not, please contact the Secretariat via email.

2.5. Selection Method

A Korean Selection Committee, comprising Korean experts in the field of educational exchange, will make the selection after the application deadline. The decision will be announced by **June 2026**.

The selection results will be notified on the ASEM-DUO website, and the Secretariat will **ONLY** directly inform the selected awardees and their contact persons with the hard copies of the notification of selection results. The form for awardees such as Letter of Acceptance could be downloaded at the banner of Forms on the ASEM-DUO website (www.aseduo.org).



2.6. Selection Criteria

New Exchange Projects which have not been selected until DUO-Korea 2025 shall be given priority in selection. Besides, the followings will be considered for selection;

1. Motivation letters
2. Courses to take in Korean/European institutions
3. Recommendation of institutions
4. GPA
5. Source of Finance

2.7. Fellowship Grants

The DUO-Korea Fellowship will be transferred directly to awardees by Secretariat.

There are no restrictions in using the fellowship. It can finance the tuition, and living or travel expenses.

3. Instructions for DUO-Korea Application Form

3.1. Language of Application

You should write your application **in English**.

3.2. How to write the Application Form

***Please note that more detailed guidelines are available in the FAQ (English version) for each section.**

1) STEP 1. – Korean Institution

The first box of *ID number* and *Date of submission* will be given after submission. Please note that the contact person information for Korean institutions is automatically set by the login information. If necessary, please update the information in the Update Account section.

- **Contact person** means **a regular staff of Korean institutions** who arranges the exchange projects and is willing to communicate with the Secretariat in such events as verifying application details, monitoring exchanges and providing further information on the status of the exchange.
- **Person of Exchange** shall be any **Korean national students** who will participate in the exchange.
- **Level of Study** means currently enrolled degree level as of spring semester of 2026.
- **GPA** means a grade which a Korean student has earned up to **the most recent semester**. ***Please refer to FAQ 19 for further details.**
- In a box for **Enrollment Status**, please check it as of the spring semester of 2026, in case of leave of absence, please specify the reason and current residence country.
- In a box for **Institutional criteria**, please describe why you (or your institution) recommend the person of exchange for fellowship in detail.

2) STEP 2. – European Institution

Please, provide information on the European institution involved in the exchange project.

****If your partner European Institution is not included, the contact person of the Korean Institution may contact the Secretariat to add the partner institution to the list.***

- **Contact person** means a regular staff of European institutions who arranges the exchange project and is willing to communicate with the Secretariat in such events as verifying application details, monitoring exchange and providing further information on the status of the exchange.
- **Person of Exchange** shall be any ASEM European national students who will participate in the exchange.
- **Level of Study** means currently enrolled degree level as of spring semester of 2026.
- **ECTS** means a whole ECTS that a European student has earned up to the most recent semester. *Please refer to FAQ 19 for further details.
- In a box for **Enrollment Status**, please check it as of the spring semester of 2026, in case of leave of absence, please specify the reason and current residence country.
- In a box for **Institutional criteria**, please describe why you (or your institution) recommend the person of exchange for fellowship in detail.
- Confirmation of Agreement with the European institution (**TO BE SIGNED by the contact person at the Korean institution**): he/she should confirm here by clicking on the “YES” button if the contact person in the European institution also agrees with this submission.

3) STEP 3. – Description of Exchange Program

In this section, please describe the type, duration and purpose of exchange as instructed on the form.

- **Type of exchange**
If the status of the person of exchange changes from undergraduate to graduate (master) prior to the start of the exchange semester, please check the “others” and specify in detail.
- **Duration of Exchange**
Please write the exchange duration **on one semester basis (between 120 and 180 days)** in accordance with the academic calendars of the destination institution. If the semester period is shorter than 4 months (120 days), please check the “others” and specify in detail.
If a person of exchange will engage in the exchange for the whole year, please **choose** one semester (2026 fall or 2027 spring) would like to apply for **DUO-Korea 2026**.
- **Purpose of Exchange**
Please check the purpose of the exchange is and fill in how many credits/ECTS will be completed at the destination institution.
If your purpose of the exchange is other than the Transfer of Credits, please specify in detail.

4) STEP 4. – Exchange Details/ Source of Finance

- **Exchange Details**

Person of exchange needs to fill in the courses which will be taken during their exchange period. **As the minimum requirement for eligibility is 10 credits/20 ECTS on a semester basis, if you write less than the minimum requirement, then your application would not qualify for selection.**

CAUTION: Person of Exchanges **need to complete all courses** as written on the application. If actual courses happen to differ from the courses listed on the application, the contact person or persons of exchange are responsible for informing the Secretariat for approval; if this procedure is not taken beforehand, fellowship award is subject to cancellation or consequent reimbursement. Also, **intensive language courses and sports courses are not honored in this program.**

- **Source of Finance**

-If this exchange project has any other source of finance, or if you are planning to apply, please specify in detail such as Name of Fellowship, Name of organization, Amount, Purpose of the fellowship, and Announcement period, etc.

<Fellowship that will be considered as double-funding>

- 1) Korean Government Fellowship (ex. GKS Fellowship, etc)
- 2) The Fellowship in the name of the exchange support which provides a corresponding amount of DUO-Korea (over 500 Euro/month) by other governments or private institutions (ex. Mirae Asset Fellowship, Erasmus+, etc)

<Fellowship that will *NOT* be considered as double-funding>

- 1) Any Fellowship provided by originating/destination institutions for the exchange program
- 2) Any kind of Academic & Tuition Fellowship, Fellowship for low-income family background support, or Repayable loans Fellowship

*Please be informed that even though we allow the above fellowship, if the respective institution does not allow double funding, you may follow their regulation.

5) STEP 5. – Certification of Authenticity

A copy of cooperation agreement, passport copies, official transcripts, and motivation

letters of paired applicants should be attached.

- All documents **should be submitted in English version**. If there is no official English version of each document, applicants need to submit translated version along with the original document.
- The preferred file formats are **JPG**. or **PDF**. Please set the name of the attachment files as a ***Name of document_Given name_Surname*** order (e.g. Passport_John_Smith).

After completing all relevant items in an appropriate manner on the application, please write the date and the names of the contact person of the **Korean institution** and the president or Director of the **Korean institution** in the section of Certification of Authenticity. And then, please submit it to the Secretariat **by clicking the “submit” button**.

The original version including the signatures and official stamp of the Korean Institution will be requested, only if your exchange project has been selected.

3.3. After the Submission: Acknowledgement

The acknowledgment of submission will be sent to the contact person in the Korean institutions via e-mail ***within 3 working days after submission***.

If the application is **approved**, the **ID number will be given to each application** and the contact persons of Korean institutions can print it as the PDF version.

However, if there is any application with incomplete or improper information, the Secretariat will request further information through the contact persons of **Korean institutions individually**. And you need to submit the revised application through the online system again within 48 hours. ***If we do not receive the revised one within 48 hours, we regard it as a notice of abandonment.***