



# NOTES OF GUIDANCE FOR YOUR EXCHANGE DESTINATION

## Seoul National University, South Korea

### Fast Facts:

<b>Website:</b>	<a href="https://en.snu.ac.kr/">https://en.snu.ac.kr/</a> <a href="https://oia.snu.ac.kr/">https://oia.snu.ac.kr/</a>
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	Korean, English
<b>Semester dates:</b>	Semester 1 (Fall/Semester 2 in South Korea): March – June Semester 2 (Spring/Semester 1 in South Korea): September - December
<b>Number of students currently enrolled</b>	28, 000
<b>Academic restrictions at a glance</b> <i>Please note: These are guidelines. It is your responsibility to research whether the partner provides appropriate courses for your degree programme.</i>	Applicants who wish to study in the discipline of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Nursing, Music, Fine Arts, and MBA must, in advance, be advised of the program availability by SNU exchange program coordinators.  Other restrictions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College of Business Administration</li> <li>• Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering</li> <li>• Depts. of Korean History, Psychology, Statistics, Pharmacy</li> <li>• College of Law</li> <li>• Dept. of Vocal Music</li> <li>• College of Medicine</li> <li>• Graduate School of Business (MBA program)</li> </ul>
<b>General Costs</b>	Using the estimates provided by Seoul National University, students can expect to pay around <del>₩</del> <b>₩840,000 - ₩1.64 million (South Korean Won) per month</b> for amenities such as rent, food, transport, insurance, telecommunication and personal expenses.  This estimate does not include any expenses paid to the university or for university supplies such as books, or for visa costs. Please note, this information is just an estimate with prices that are subject to change, and costs that may differ depending on your lifestyle and the amenities available to you while on exchange.

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## About the University

Since its foundation in 1946, Seoul National University has been the undisputed leader of higher education in Korea and has established a global reputation. As SNU embraces its vision of becoming a truly global university, there will be greater emphasis put on diversity and international community on campus than ever before.

To assist its international students, SNU has an Office of International Affairs. It also provides various scholarships to international students and is set to increase its financial support in the near future. The most important reason to come to SNU is to be a part of this remarkable institution as it makes a transition into the next chapter as global institution in every sense of the word.

## What to expect

### Application process

You apply for study exchanges through SWAY. You can find out more about our [study exchange routes here](#), and more about the [application process here](#).

After applying, if you are allocated an exchange place at Seoul National University, you will be officially nominated by the International Programmes Team. We will then provide you with your detailed application instructions. **You can ONLY apply to any exchange destination if you have been allocated a place there, and if you are officially nominated by us.**

### Academics

For support with the academic side of your exchange, your best point of contact is your Exchange Coordinator, [found here](#). The Exchange Coordinator is a member of academic staff who will be a key contact throughout your exchange.

### Course Load and Credit Load

You are normally **required** to take whatever constitutes a full academic credit or course load at your host university.

The page linked below contains a copy of the **International Exchange Credit Requirements**. This outlines the number of credits you are required to take at your host institution. There are also more answers to frequently asked questions about the academic side of your exchange.

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	<a href="#">Academic matters   The University of Edinburgh</a>
<b>Courses</b>	<p>All applicants for exchange/visiting program must choose one college and department as their affiliation and in general, applicants choose one that most suits their academic background or study abroad purpose. A list of Undergraduate programmes and departments can be found <a href="#">here</a>. Students can, however, take other courses from different colleges and departments, as long as they are unrestricted to exchange students.</p> <p>The majority of courses are taught in Korean but each college and department offers some courses in English as well. The course catalogue for the new semester is available at the beginning of January and July each year. Until then, applicants will have to refer to the previous year's catalogue.</p> <p>Please note that when registering for courses, it is done on a first come first served basis and there is no guarantee that you will be able to register on the courses that you wish to take. Because of this, you need to ensure there is a good amount of back-up courses.</p> <p><b>**Please be aware, there may not be an up-to-date course catalogue available at this exchange destination. Please use the information available to get an idea about what you can study while on exchange**</b></p>
<b>Academic Restrictions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>College of Business Administration</b> Restricted to students majoring in business or economics. Number are strictly controlled, and it is more likely for students to be rejected during the application screening procedure.</li> <li>• <b>Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering</b> Students must have earned at least 15 credits in CSE-related courses (one credit corresponds to 15 lecture hours or 30 lab hours). This must be explicitly shown on the official transcript; if not, additional proof must be presented by the student. This number of students accepted has been controlled and restricted due to lack of course capacity and placement.</li> <li>• <b>Depts. of Korean History, Psychology, Statistics and Pharmacy</b> Students must provide proof of Korean language proficiency. Students' ability should be Level 5 or above of the Official Korean Language Proficiency Test (TOPIK)</li> <li>• <b>College of Law</b> <b>Not</b> available to undergraduate law students. The School of law is available to undergraduate students, however they will be enrolled at a graduate (Masters) level.</li> <li>• <b>Dept. of Vocal Music</b> Restricted to students studying vocal music at hei home institution</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>College of Medicine</b> No longer available to exchange students.</li> <li>• <b>School of dentistry</b> Open only to graduate students currently enrolled in a Master's program at School of Dentistry or equivalent</li> <li>• <b>Graduate School of Business (MBA program)</b> Restricted to current full-time MBA applicants at home university.</li> </ul> <p><b>Please note:</b> These are guidelines. It is <b>your</b> responsibility to research whether the partner provides appropriate courses for your degree programme. <b>Even if there are not restrictions on your degree subject, it does not mean that there are appropriate courses for you. Please check.</b></p>
<b>Orientation</b>	More information about orientation and the orientation schedule will be sent via email closer to the time.

## Accommodation

Finding accommodation that you are happy with on your year abroad is very important and there are often many aspects to consider when looking for somewhere to live. Many host institutions do offer university accommodation but please do note, **this is not always guaranteed.** You may also need to pay for things like agent or administrative fees that is not always the case here in Edinburgh. It is a good idea to do your research so you do not have any surprises!

<b>University Accommodation</b>	<p>Students going to Seoul National University on exchange are eligible for <a href="#">On-campus housing</a>.</p> <p>There are two different types of halls of residence available on the main campus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gwanak Residence Halls:</b> Double rooms or shared flats (double rooms) available for undergraduate students</li> <li>• <b>Global Residence Halls:</b> Double rooms or shared flats (single rooms) available for undergraduate and graduate students</li> </ul> <p>Please note that space in on-campus housing isn't guaranteed.</p>
<b>Private Accommodation</b>	<p>Private accommodation is available close to the campus, but it is the student's own responsibility to find their own accommodation.</p> <p>The Office of International Affairs has some information <a href="#">here</a> which includes options such as renting a room in a house and homestays.</p>

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## Costs

It is important to budget for different expenses while on exchange. Your exchange destination may be more expensive than Edinburgh, and different expenses may be required. For example, rent may be higher; you might need to take public transport more; essentials may be more expensive or different, like sun cream in warmer climates or woolly socks in colder climates! These costs will add up so it is good to have an estimate of how much money you might need.

<b>Tuition Fees</b>	<p>While on exchange, you will continue to pay fees to the University of Edinburgh, as appropriate, and your fee status will determine how much you pay.</p> <p>Consult our webpage <a href="#">here</a> and follow the link to consult the university's information on tuition fees for students studying abroad.</p>																		
<b>Estimated Cost of Living</b>	<p>Note, the amounts below are an estimation and may change depending on your individual budget and personal lifestyles.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="512 1016 1465 1592"> <tr> <td data-bbox="512 1016 799 1077">Housing</td> <td data-bbox="799 1016 1465 1077">(On-campus) 124,800 –248,100 / month</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="512 1077 799 1167"></td> <td data-bbox="799 1077 1465 1167">(Off-campus) 400,000 KRW – 800,000 KRW / month (deposit excluded)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="512 1167 799 1256">Local Transportation</td> <td data-bbox="799 1167 1465 1256">50,000 –80,000 KRW / month</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="512 1256 799 1317">Bus/subway ride</td> <td data-bbox="799 1256 1465 1317">(A bus/subway ride costs 1,200 KRW.)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="512 1317 799 1377">Meals</td> <td data-bbox="799 1317 1465 1377">300,000 KRW / month</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="512 1377 799 1438">On-campus meal</td> <td data-bbox="799 1377 1465 1438">2,500 – 4,000 KRW</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="512 1438 799 1498">Books/Uni supplied</td> <td data-bbox="799 1438 1465 1498">150,000 KRW / semester</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="512 1498 799 1559">Telecommunication</td> <td data-bbox="799 1498 1465 1559">20,000 KRW - 100,000 KRW / month</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="512 1559 799 1592">Personal Expenses</td> <td data-bbox="799 1559 1465 1592">300,000 KRW / month</td> </tr> </table> <p>You may also be required to pay for administrative fees at your host institution. This can include paying for your transcript to be sent to us at the end of your exchange.</p>	Housing	(On-campus) 124,800 –248,100 / month		(Off-campus) 400,000 KRW – 800,000 KRW / month (deposit excluded)	Local Transportation	50,000 –80,000 KRW / month	Bus/subway ride	(A bus/subway ride costs 1,200 KRW.)	Meals	300,000 KRW / month	On-campus meal	2,500 – 4,000 KRW	Books/Uni supplied	150,000 KRW / semester	Telecommunication	20,000 KRW - 100,000 KRW / month	Personal Expenses	300,000 KRW / month
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<b>Insurance</b>	<p>From March 2021, it is mandatory that all non-Korean international students are automatically subscribed to Korea's National Health Insurance (NHIS) upon the date of alien registration. Given that administrative process of alien registration takes about a month, it is expected that exchange/visiting students will be subscribed to KNHIS from April (for Spring semester) or from October (for Fall semester).</p>																		

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	<p>NHIS will charge about 40,000 KRW (about 35 USD / 30 Euro) per month.</p> <p>To fill the gap between students' arrival date and the NHIS's application date, it is strongly recommended to purchase a travel/study abroad medical insurance that covers until late-April (or late-October), which should cover potential medical expenses incurred by sickness and accident during the stay in Korea. No additional financial assistance can be provided by SNU.</p>
<b>Student Loans and Grants</b>	<p>Consult our <a href="#">funding webpages</a> for more information about the Funding available to you through SWAY while on your year abroad.</p> <p>If you receive a student loan or grant, you may still be eligible to receive them during your exchange. Contact your funding providers for more information on the availability and eligibility of funding during your exchange, as well as any additional support they may offer. For example: some loan providers offer travel grants to students.</p>

## Other

<b>Passports</b>	<p><b>Make sure that your passport will be in date for the entirety of your stay, and for any additional required time after the end of your exchange for entry requirements and visa purposes.</b></p> <p>If you need to apply for a new passport during the application process to your host institution, this may delay the application and visa processes.</p>
<b>Visas</b>	<p>The visa process will vary from country to country, and your own citizenship will influence the visa process you need to undertake. You must make sure to enter your host country on the appropriate visa.</p> <p>A student visa (D-2) is required for every non-Korean student who will be studying in Korea, and it must be acquired before entering Korea. In most cases, exchange students can acquire their D-2 visa easily when they present the Certificate of Admission (CoA), issued by Seoul National University, to the relevant officials in home country. <b>You must not enter the country on a tourist visa, or try to complete your exchange on a tourist visa.</b></p> <p>For detailed information on the visa application process, students must contact the nearest Korean embassy/consulate or refer to <a href="#">this webpage</a>.</p> <p>After arrival in Korea, all international students who stay for more than 90 days are required to apply for alien registration through</p>

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	<p>Korean immigration office. More detailed information will be provided before arrival.</p> <p>Here in SWAY we cannot give specific visa advice. Please research using the relevant embassy and government websites for more information. There is more information on our webpage about things to consider regarding visas <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Once you have received an offer from a host institution, you will be given more advice from them about the visa processes.</p>
<p><b>Disability Statement and Accessibility</b></p>	<p>Some destinations may be more accessible than others for disabled students. If you require any adjustments due to disability or specific learning difficulties or disabilities and you wish to study abroad please contact The International Programmes Team via email: <a href="mailto:international.outgoing@ed.ac.uk">international.outgoing@ed.ac.uk</a>.</p> <p>We will work together with you to explore the help available at your host institution. It may also be helpful if you discuss this with your Personal Tutor and the Disability and Learning Support Service as well.</p>