KDI School of Public Policy and Management
2026 ADB – KFP Scholarship Program

ADB-KFP Program overview

Sponsored by the ADB and the government of the Republic of Korea, KDI School's KFP program will offer three 1.5-year master's degrees – Public Policy, Development Policy, and Public Management.

All selected students will automatically receive full tuition waiver, return airfare support, and monthly stipend, as well as the opportunity to be a part of the dynamic learning environment KDI School has to offer including numerous non-degree academic programs, field trips, and networking opportunities.

Academic Information

Degree (Master's): Public Policy, Development Policy, Public Management

Study length: 1.5-year residential, on-campus learning. Students are expected to complete both the coursework and the research project within the 1.5-year residential period

Graduation requirements: 36 credits excluding research project

* *Courses from each concentration may be found here*
* *The complete course list from current and previous semester may be found here*

Scholarship Information

All candidates that successfully receive an admission offer will automatically qualify for the ADB-KFP scholarship that entails the following benefits, conditional upon maintaining required academic standards:

- Full tuition waiver, monthly stipend, roundtrip airfare

Eligibility

The candidate must:

a. be a national of an eligible country (ADB's developing member countries) with no borrowing constraints imposed by ADB's Board of Directors or the Government of Korea;

Developing members
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Cook Islands, People's Republic of China, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Fiji, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, Niue, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka , Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor- Leste, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam

b. not hold dual citizenship of any country which is not an ADB developing member country (DMC);

c. have gained admission to an approved master's course at KDI School;

d. hold a bachelor's degree or its equivalent with superior academic record;

Note: The bachelor's degree equivalent will be determined by KDI School in consultation with ADB.

e. have at least three (3) years of full-time working experience as government officials (acquired after obtaining a university degree) at the time of application. The candidate must have proficiency in oral and written English communication skills to successfully pursue their studies;

f. not be more than thirty-five (35) years old at the time of application, unless waived in exceptional cases with the expressed endorsement of the Government of Korea;

g. be in good health;

h. agree to return to and work in their home country for at least two (2) years after completion of studies under the Program in order to contribute to its development;

i. not be an executive director, alternate director, management, staff and consultant of ADB, or be a close relative of the aforementioned by blood or adoption, with the term "close relative" defined as: spouse, mother, stepmother, father, stepfather, sister, stepsister, brother, stepbrother, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, niece, or nephew;

j. not be staff of KDI School;

k. not be living or working in a country other than their home country; and

l. not be already enrolled in graduate degree programs.

Academic schedule

Students should expect to enter Korea in mid-August 2026 and begin their studies in the beginning of September 2026 and complete their studies in mid-December 2027. Refer to KDI School 2026 Academic Calendar for other academic events and schedules.

Admission Schedule

1. Online Application : February 13 9:00 ~ February 27 18:00 (KST)
2. Document Review Result : March 20
3. Interview : March 20 ~ March 31
4. Final Result : TBA (Late May)
5. Document Submission & Registration : Until July 1
6. Designated Period of Arrival : end of August(TBA)
7. Orientation : early September(TBA)

How to apply

Application period: February 13 9:00 ~ February 27 18:00 (KST)
Application website: https://apply.kdischool.ac.kr
※ Once the online application is submitted, changes CANNOT be made. You will need to cancel the existing application and reapply.
※ Only applications (including two recommendation letters) that have been successfully submitted by the deadline will be valid.
※ Please be aware that the email address CANNOT be changed afterwards. Please make sure to sign up with a valid email address as we announce all important notice and results through email and system.

Application Documents (to Upload / Submit)

8. Online Application & Online Statement of Purpose(SOP)
9. Applicant's Photo : 35x45mm
10. A Copy of Passport which is valid at least until August 2028
11. Online Survey
12. TWO(2) Online Recommendation Letters : Applicants must send requests for the 'Online' Recommendation Letters to two (2) recommenders by using the application system.
13. Official Diploma or Graduation Certificate : Official Bachelor's (minimum 3 years) degree certificates from undergraduate institutions

※ Any unofficial, provisional or temporary graduation certificates are NOT acceptable.
※ The certificate must indicate 'Bachelor/Master's/Ph.D. Degree' or 'Equivalent to a Bachelor/Master's/Ph.D. Degree and a date of graduation.

14. Official Transcripts : Official Bachelor's degree transcripts from undergraduate institutions

15. Employment Verification/Certificate : The form can be downloaded from 'Admission Documents ' from the Admissions website(Click)

16. English Proficiency Test Score Report

Test(8 Types)	1. TOFEL (iBT, including Home Edition)	2. IELTS (Including Online)	3. OPIc	4. TEPS	5. Duolingo
Minimum Required Score	72 for test from 26.1.21~ : 4	6.0	IM3	286	100

KDI School of Public Policy and Management

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