

Korea 101: Education

Foreign Schools and Foreign Educational Institutions

(1) Foreign Schools

Foreign schools in Korea are established to provide the children of foreigners staying in Korea with education equivalent to that of their own countries. They are also open to Korean nationals who have returned after residing for three years or longer in a foreign country within a certain percentage of the total number of students.

There are 40 foreign schools in Korea with more than half concentrated in Seoul. Gyeonggi-do and Busan are home to a number of foreign schools, too. Most international schools use English as their official language and follow the American curriculum. Students of those schools have to get separate lessons about the Korean history and the Korean language accredited by the Ministry of Education if they want to enter universities in Korea. For schools overseas, their regular curricula are good enough. Check in advance whether schools you are interested in are running accredited educational programs to enter institutions of higher education.

The number of students ranges from 100 to 1,500 with tuition fees from USD 15,000 to USD 25,000 per year, excluding some additional costs for school buses, textbooks and extracurricular activities.

Each school has a different admission criteria. The country's laws about foreign schools change frequently. So direct contact with the schools is the best way to obtain the latest information.

No. of Foreign Schools and their Students (as of Jan. 9, 2019)

No. of foreign schools	No. of classes	No. of students	No. of students at kindergartens, elementary and middle schools	No. of high school students
40	782	11,735	7,992	3,743

* Source: Korean Education Statistics Service

No. of Schools by Language (as of Jan. 9, 2019)

English	German	Japanese	French	Mongolian	Chinese	Chinese + English
24	1	2	2	1	8	2

* Source: International School Information (<https://www.isi.go.kr>)

(2) Foreign Educational Institutions

Foreign educational institutions refers to the state, a local government, or a non-profit corporation which establishes and manages a preschool/elementary/secondary educational institution under the foreign statutes in a foreign country with the approval of the Minister of Education of Korea. There are seven foreign educational institutions across the country as follows.

Schools	Foreign Educational Institutions	Regions	Country
Preschool/ elementary/ middle schools	Daegu International School	Daegu-Gyeongbuk	USA
	Chadwick International School Songdo	Incheon	USA
High schools	SUNY Korea	Incheon	USA
	The University of Utah Asia Campus	Incheon	USA
	Ghent University Global Campus	Incheon	Belgium
	George Mason University Korea	Incheon	USA
	Friedrich Alexander University (FAU) Busan Campus	Busan-Jinhae	Germany

(2) Jeju International Schools

Jeju international schools refers to those established in Jeju English Education City with the approval of the Superintendent of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province. There are four international schools at present. Jeju international schools can offer kindergarten, elementary, middle and high schools courses, which can be added or integrated as needed.

International Schools in Jeju
North London Collegiate School Jeju
Branksome Hall Asia
St. Johnsbury Academy Jeju
Korea International School Jeju Campus



Comparison Table

Foreign schools, foreign educational institutions, and Jeju international schools sound similar. However, they differ in applicable law, establishment requirements, and admission qualifications.

Description	Foreign Schools	Foreign Educational Institutions	Jeju International Schools
Admission qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Foreigners' children - Koreans who lived overseas for 3 years or longer - Naturalized citizens' children considered unfit to continue studying in regular schools 	No restrictions	No restrictions
Admission rate of Koreans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 30% (or up to 50% by local education office regulations) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary and middle schools: 30% (or up to 50% by local education office regulations) - High schools: No restrictions 	No restrictions
Establishment & operation status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 40 schools nationwide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 kindergartens, elementary & middle schools - 5 high schools 	4 schools (KIS, LCS Jeju, Branksome Hall Asia, SJA Jeju)

TIP

Curious about foreign schools in Korea?

If so, visit the website of International School Information run by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. You can check all the necessary information on foreign schools, international schools and foreign educational institutions from kindergartens to universities, including contact information, website addresses, class schedules, school foundation days, school locations and types. You can also visit the websites of all those schools and institutions with just a couple of clicks.

Website: <https://www.isi.go.kr> Language: English

If you have further questions please contact



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or visit



www.investkorea.org