



Sample

Korea University Match Report

Three universities, matched to your profile

Prepared for

Sample Applicant

Preferred region

Busan

Target intake

March 2027

Report date

September 2026

| 한국 대학 매칭 보고서 — 지원자의 학력·예산·목표에 맞춰 3개 대학을 선정하고, 비용·장학금·일정·서류·생활 정보를 한 문서로 정리합니다.

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기타 참고사항과 다음 단계

How to read this report

Section 2 is the short answer. Sections 3 to 7 are the evidence behind it. If you only have ten minutes, read section 2 and section 6.

2장이 결론이고 3~7장이 근거입니다. 시간이 없다면 2장과 6장만 보셔도 됩니다.

1 Your profile

This is what we used to select the three universities. If anything here is wrong, tell us before you act on the report — the recommendation changes with it.

Name	Sample Applicant
Nationality	Nepal (example)
Current education	High school graduate, 2025 (example)
Korean level	TOPIK level 3 · taken May 2026 (example)
Career goal	Korean–Nepali interpretation and translation
Preferred region	Busan
Target intake	March 2027
Budget indicated	about USD 9,000 per year (example)

What this means for your options

- Interpretation and translation is offered mainly at master's level in Korea. For an undergraduate degree, Korean language and literature departments are the realistic route.
- Most undergraduate programmes run one semester or one year of foundation courses first, then assign the major by academic results.
- Your TOPIK level determines both admission eligibility and the size of the entrance scholarship. Raising it by one level before you apply is usually the single highest-value thing you can do.

통번역 과정은 대체로 석사에 있습니다. 학부는 한국어문학 계열이 현실적인 경로이고, 보통 1학기 또는 1년 기초전공 후 성적 순으로 학과를 선택합니다. TOPIK 급수가 입학 조건과 장학금 규모를 동시에 결정합니다.

2 At a glance

Three universities, ordered by how well they fit your profile — not by ranking. Option A is our first recommendation.

	A · Busan University of Foreign Studies	B · Dong-A University	C · Tongmyong University
Department	Korean Language Education 한국어교육학과	Korean Language and Literature 한국어문학과	Korean Language Education 한국어교육전공
IEQAS certified	Certified	Certified	Check current status
Admission requirement	TOPIK 3	TOPIK 3, or Dong-A Korean level 3	TOPIK 3 + written undertaking for level 4
Application fee	80,000 KRW	40,000 KRW	None
Application period	Late Jun – mid Jul	Early Jun – late Jun	Early Jun – early Jul
Interview	Yes, mid Jul	None	None
First-year cost at TOPIK 3	≈ 4,975,000 KRW	≈ 4,570,000 KRW	≈ 3,601,000 KRW
Why this one	Strongest fit for an interpreting career; largest international cohort in the city	No interview, and the scholarship covers full tuition at TOPIK 5	Lowest total cost; dormitory bundled and paid before arrival

Figures are indicative and based on the most recent published tuition. They change each year. Section 4 shows how each number is built.

The largest single variable is your TOPIK level. Between level 3 and level 5, first-year cost at Option A falls by roughly 900,000 KRW, and at Option B by considerably more. If your exam date allows it, take TOPIK again before you apply.

순서는 랭킹이 아니라 지원자 조건과의 적합도 기준입니다. TOPIK 급수가 1년차 비용을 가장 크게 바꿉니다.

3 The universities

What each institution is, how large it is, and what it is actually known for — beyond the brochure.

A · Busan University of Foreign Studies 부산외국어대학교 IEQAS certified

Location

Geumjeong-gu, Busan

Total students

≈ 8,000

International students

≈ 1,200

Founded

1981

Recommended department

Korean Language Education, within the Faculty of Korean Language and Culture. Direct path toward interpreting and translation at master's level.

What the university is known for

- Korea's specialist foreign-language university — 27 language majors on one campus
- Entrance scholarship scales cleanly with TOPIK level, from 30% to 60% of tuition
- Visa holders in F1, F2, F4, F5 categories receive an admission-fee waiver
- Large international community, so daily life is manageable before your Korean is strong

Watch for: this is the only one of the three with an interview. Plan your interview preparation into the timeline in section 6.

B · Dong-A University 동아대학교 IEQAS certified

Location

Seo-gu / Saha-gu,
Busan

Total students

≈ 20,000

International students

≈ 1,500

Founded

1946

Recommended department

Korean Language and Literature. Broader literary focus than Option A; better if you may later move toward teaching or publishing.

What the university is known for

- One of the oldest and largest private universities in the region
- Its own Korean proficiency test is accepted in place of TOPIK level 3
- At TOPIK 5, top scorers within the admitted half receive full tuition
- Continuing scholarships are graded by class rank, from 20% to 100%

Watch for: the application window closes earliest of the three. If you are deciding late, this option disappears first.

C · Tongmyong University 동명대학교

Confirm IEQAS status

Location

Nam-gu, Busan

Total students

≈ 9,000

International students

≈ 900

Founded

1979

Recommended department

Korean Language Education, within the School of Self-Designed Majors. You choose your specialisation after the foundation year.

What the university is known for

- No application fee, and the steepest scholarship curve of the three — TOPIK 6 covers tuition in full
- Dormitory fees are paid before arrival, which simplifies your first month
- Two meals a day on weekdays are included in the dormitory fee
- Accepts a written undertaking to reach TOPIK 4, so TOPIK 3 is enough to apply

Confirm the IEQAS certification status before you apply. Only certified universities can issue a Standard Admission Letter, which affects how your visa is processed. We will verify this with the university during document consulting.

교육국제화역량 인증(IEQAS) 대학만 표준입학허가서를 발급할 수 있고, 이는 비자 처리 방식에 직접 영향을 줍니다. 지원 전 반드시 확인합니다.

Why these three, and not others

We looked at every university in the Busan area offering a Korean language degree that accepts international applicants at TOPIK level 3. Institutions were excluded where the intake for your target semester was already closed, where the requirement was level 4 or above, or where the department does not lead toward interpreting work. The three above are what remained.

부산권에서 TOPIK 3급으로 지원 가능한 한국어 계열 학과를 전수 검토한 뒤, 모집 마감·요구 급수·전공 연계를 기준으로 걸러낸 결과입니다.

4 Costs and scholarships

Every figure below is paid to the university or to a third party. None of it is a GEA fee.

Tuition — one year, before scholarship

University	Admission fee	Tuition	Total
A · Busan Univ. of Foreign Studies	108,000	2,863,000	2,971,000
B · Dong-A University	284,760	2,857,000	3,141,760
C · Tongmyong University	220,000	2,817,600	3,037,600

KRW. Based on the most recently published tuition schedule; universities revise this annually.

Entrance scholarship by TOPIK level — share of tuition covered

University	TOPIK 3	TOPIK 4	TOPIK 5	TOPIK 6
A · Busan Univ. of Foreign Studies	30%	40%	50%	60%
B · Dong-A University	50%	50%	100% ^{top half only}	100%
C · Tongmyong University	40%	50%	60%	100%

First-semester payment, after entrance scholarship

University	TOPIK 3	TOPIK 4	TOPIK 5	TOPIK 6
A · Busan Univ. of Foreign Studies	2,112,100	1,825,800	1,539,500	1,253,200
B · Dong-A University	1,713,260	1,713,260	284,760	284,760
C · Tongmyong University	1,910,560	1,628,800	1,347,040	220,000

KRW. Continuing scholarships in later semesters depend on your grades, not on TOPIK.

Read this row across, not down. At Option B the difference between TOPIK 4 and TOPIK 5 is about 1,430,000 KRW in a single semester. That is more than most applicants spend on a year of Korean study before departure.

TOPIK 급수 한 단계가 한 학기 등록금을 백만 원 단위로 바꿉니다. 출국 전 한국어 학습 비용보다 절감액이 큰 경우가 많습니다.

Dormitory

University	Arrangement	Cost	Meals
A · Busan Univ. of Foreign Studies	Per semester, 4 months 6-month option available	1,290,000 – 1,532,000+ 100,000 deposit	Three meal plans
B · Dong-A University	On campus, 6 months	≈ 1,400,000	Not included
C · Tongmyong University	Three-person room, 6 months paid before arrival	1,700,000incl. meals	Two meals daily, weekdays

KRW. Option C requires six months of dormitory residence after enrolment.

Other costs in your first months

International student insurance	150,000 KRW / year	Mandatory
Alien registration card and bank account	31,000 KRW	One time, after arrival
Bedding, if not provided	50,000 KRW	Optional
Korean textbooks	12,000 KRW	Per course
Student council fee	10,000 KRW	Per six months

What you need in the bank before you apply

USD 18,000 in your own name, or your sponsor's name with proof of relationship.

Some universities require the certificate to be issued within 30 days of the application date. If the account is in a parent's name, you will also need their employment and income certificates. This is the single most common reason an otherwise strong application is delayed.

재정능력 입증은 지원자 본인 또는 보증인 명의로 USD 18,000이 기준이며, 일부 대학은 원서접수일 전후 30일 이내 발급 증명서를 요구합니다. 보증인 명의일 경우 재직·소득 증명이 추가로 필요합니다.

Estimated cost of your first year

At TOPIK 3, budget between 3.6 and 5.0 million KRW for tuition and dormitory combined, depending on the university, plus living costs in section 5. At TOPIK 5 the same range falls to between 1.7 and 3.5 million KRW.

5 Living there

Busan is Korea's second city and costs meaningfully less than Seoul. This section is about the months after you arrive, not the application.

Monthly living cost

Food, outside dormitory meals	250,000 – 350,000
Mobile plan	25,000 – 45,000
Transport	50,000 – 70,000
Personal and study	100,000 – 200,000
Typical total	425,000 – 665,000

KRW per month, assuming dormitory accommodation.

Everyday prices

Meal at a student restaurant	6,000 – 9,000
Coffee	2,000 – 5,000
Subway, single journey	1,550
Bus, single journey	1,550
One-room monthly rent, off campus	350,000 – 550,000

KRW. Off-campus rent usually requires a deposit of several million KRW.

Getting around

Busan has two subway lines crossing the city plus a light rail to the airport, and a dense bus network. All three campuses are reachable by subway or a short bus connection. A transport card works on both subway and bus with free transfers within thirty minutes.

Healthcare

International student insurance is mandatory and costs about 150,000 KRW a year. It covers most of the cost of a clinic visit; you typically pay 5,000 to 15,000 KRW at the counter. University health centres handle minor issues free of charge. Busan has several large general hospitals with international patient desks.

Part-time work

You cannot work immediately, and you need permission.

A D-2 student visa permits part-time work only after you have completed six months of study and obtained separate authorisation from immigration. Permitted hours depend on your TOPIK level and academic results. Working without authorisation puts your visa at risk.

In practice, students in Busan work in cafes, convenience stores, restaurants, and increasingly in language tutoring. The legal minimum wage applies. Jobs requiring customer conversation generally need TOPIK level 4 or above, which is another reason to raise your level.

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6 Timeline

Dates below follow last year's published schedule. Universities announce the coming year separately and the dates shift by one or two weeks.

Application schedule, by university

Stage	A · Foreign Studies	B · Dong-A	C · Tongmyong
Application opens	20 Jun	7 Jun	6 Jun
Application closes	15 Jul	21 Jun	1 Jul
Document review	18 Jul	7 Jul	—
Interview	20 Jul, afternoon	None	None
Result announced	21 Jul	29 Jul	13 Jul
Invoice issued	Notified separately	2 – 4 Aug	Within 3 days of committee review
Standard Admission Letter	Notified separately	After payment	After payment
Dormitory move-in	Notified separately	Notified separately	22 – 26 Aug

Your working schedule

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
TOPIK registration	8th							
Shortlist universities								
Deposit funds, obtain certificate								
TOPIK exam			10th					
TOPIK result				19th				
Write personal statement								
Collect and certify documents								
Submit applications								
Interview preparation								
Results and tuition payment								
Visa application								
Dormitory and arrival								
Semester begins								

The document collection bar is the one that slips. Graduation certificates, transcripts, and consular legalisation routinely take four to six weeks in total, and cannot be rushed. Start in the month shown, not later.

일정에서 가장 자주 밀리는 구간은 서류 수집·인증입니다. 졸업증명·성적증명·영사확인에 통상 4~6주가 걸리며 단축이 어렵습니다.

7 Documents you will need

Requirements differ by university. Prepare the common set first — it covers most of what all three ask for.

Common to all three

- Application form, with photograph attached
- Personal statement and study plan, handwritten or self-written
- Passport copy, in colour
- Photographs, white background — sizes differ by university, 3.5 × 4.5 cm is the common one
- High school graduation certificate and full transcript, consular-legalised
- Identity documents for you and your parents, showing nationality
- Proof of family relationship between you and your sponsor
- TOPIK certificate
- Bank balance certificate, USD 18,000
- Consent to collection and third-party provision of personal information — signature required

Additional, by university

A · Foreign Studies	Alien registration card copy, if you already hold one
B · Dong-A	Academic record verification consent · applicant declaration · checklist · final graduation verification
C · Tongmyong	Personal statement written in Korean, by hand · written undertaking to obtain TOPIK level 4 · employment and income certificates for the person named on the financial certificate · bank certificate issued within 30 days of the application date

Two items to start on immediately. Consular legalisation of your graduation certificate and transcript, and the bank balance certificate. The first is slow; the second has a validity window that is easy to miss.

Option C requires the personal statement in Korean, handwritten.

This is not unusual, and it is not something most applicants can do unaided at TOPIK level 3. It is the reason our personal statement service exists — you provide the content in your own language and approve the Korean version.

동명대는 자기소개서를 한국어로 자필 작성하도록 요구합니다. TOPIK 3급 수준에서 단독 작성은 현실적으로 어렵습니다.

8 Notes and next steps

Three things worth knowing

- **Your major may not be fixed at entry.** At Option C in particular, the first year is foundation study and the specialisation is assigned afterwards, by results. Plan for that rather than assuming your department from day one.
- **Interpreting and translation is a graduate path in Korea.** The undergraduate degree is the entry point, not the destination. If this is your goal, choose the university where you can maintain the strongest grades, not the best-known name.
- **IEQAS certification affects your visa, not your degree.** A certified university can issue a Standard Admission Letter, which simplifies the visa route. It says nothing about teaching quality.

What happens next

- 1 Your consultation.** One hour online, in English. Bring your questions about this report. We will go through the trade-offs between the three options and help you decide which to apply to.
- 2 If the three do not suit you.** One re-recommendation is included. Tell us what was wrong with these and we will produce a new set.
- 3 When you have decided.** Document consulting takes over from here — we tell you exactly what to obtain and in what form, check every document, and submit your application to the university ourselves, from Busan.
- 4 Before your interview.** Option A interviews. If it is on your list, the Admit package includes five hours of Korean interview training, taught in English, so you can explain your own statement in Korean.

The amount you paid for this report is credited in full toward any GEA package.

You are not paying twice. If you continue with us, this report costs you nothing on top of the package price.

본 보고서 결제 금액은 이후 콤보 결제 시 전액 차감됩니다.

About this report. Prepared individually for the applicant named on the cover. Not for redistribution.

Accuracy. Tuition, scholarship, dormitory, and schedule figures are taken from the most recent published information available at the report date. Universities revise these annually and without notice. Confirm current figures with the university before making any payment. Cost estimates are indicative, not quotations.

What this report is not. It is a research and advisory document. It is not an offer of admission, a prediction of admission, or a guarantee of a visa. Admission is decided by each university. Visa issuance is decided by Korean immigration authorities.

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