

How to Apply

We are here to support your school every step of the way—bringing Korea to your classroom and your students to Korea.

Step 1 Prepare

- Gauge interest among students, parents, and school staff
- Decide on a program type (regular or after-school)
- Secure a qualified Korean instructor (we can assist!)



Step 2 Contact Us

- Receive official guidelines and application materials
- Get personalized consultation from our team



Step 3 Apply

- Submit your proposal for review
- Await funding decisions and program approval



About the Korean Education Center in Chicago

1 Who We Are

The Korean Education Center in Chicago is an official branch of the **Ministry of Education of the Republic of Korea**, operating under the **Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Chicago**. We serve 13 Midwestern states, promoting Korean language and cultural education across the U.S.

2 Our Major Roles

- Advancing Korean Language Education Globally
- Supporting Educational Pursuits in Korea for International Students and Overseas Koreans
- Fostering International Educational Exchange Initiatives
- Providing Lifelong Education and Heritage Education for Overseas Koreans

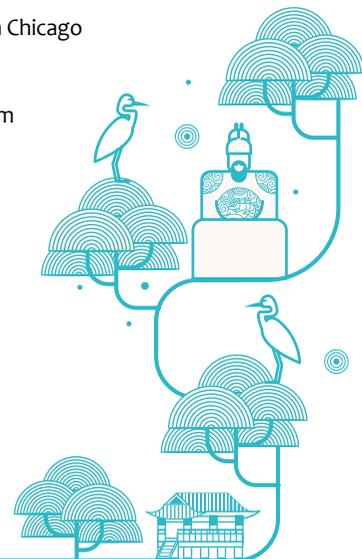
Contact Information

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Bringing Korean to Your School

Guide to Starting a Korean Language Program in K-12 Education





Discover Korea & Why Learn Korean?

1 Discover Korea

Korea is a vibrant and dynamic country where tradition and innovation exist side by side.

From royal palaces and traditional culture to smart cities and cutting-edge technology, Korea offers a rich blend of the old and the new.

Its global cultural influence—known as the Korean Wave (Hallyu)—has captivated the world through K-pop, K-dramas, films, cuisine, and fashion.

Whether exploring Korea’s heritage or its modern culture, students are inspired to embrace curiosity and build bridges between cultures.

2 Why Learn Korean?

Korean is one of the fastest-growing languages in the world, thanks to the global popularity of Korean entertainment, technology, and culture. Learning Korean opens doors to new friendships, careers, and global communities.

- **Cultural Insight**
Understand Korean values, customs, and perspectives from the inside out.
- **Global Connection**
Join a worldwide community of learners and professionals united through a shared language and a deep appreciation for culture.
- **Academic & Career Opportunities**
Korean is increasingly valued in fields such as business, education, and international relations.
- **Scientific Logic**
Learn Hangeul—an efficient, scientifically designed writing system praised by linguists around the world.
Studying Korean is more than just learning a new language—it's gaining a lifelong skill that fosters empathy, curiosity, and intercultural understanding.



Korean Language Programs in Schools

1 Regular Program (During School Hours)

- Integrated into the official school curriculum
- Students earn academic credit
- Structured lessons aligned with national/world language standards

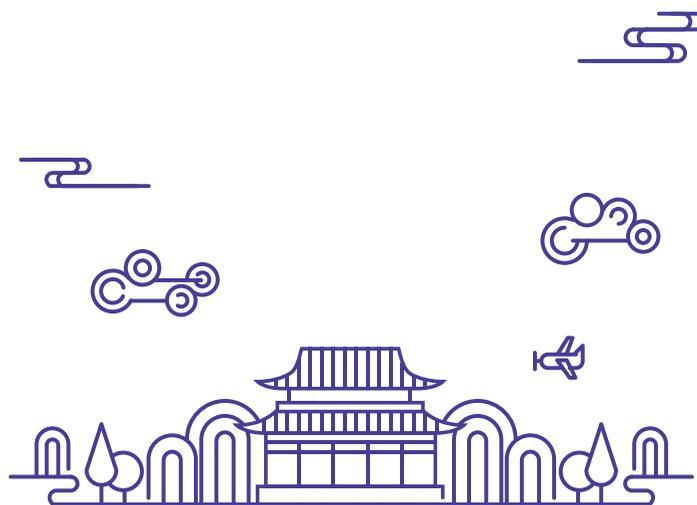


2 After-School Program

- Flexible scheduling for schools and students
- Focus on cultural enrichment and introductory language skills
- Ideal for schools piloting Korean for the first time



Both programs aim to **foster global citizenship** and enhance students’ cultural competence, preparing them for success in an interconnected world.



Program Benefits & Support

Schools and students partnering with the Korean Education Center in Chicago enjoy comprehensive support:

1 Financial Support

- **Regular Program** : Funding is available to support Korean language classes, Korean cultural festivals, and other Korea-related events.
- **After-School Program** : Funding is provided to cover after-school teachers’ labor costs and materials for Korean language classes, cultural festivals, and other Korea-related events.



2 Material Support

- Free Korean-language textbooks published by the Korean government
- Cultural teaching aids (traditional games, clothing, and craft kits)

3 Teacher Training

- Teachers may participate in the Korean Teacher Network, where they can exchange information and further develop their professional expertise.
- Selected teachers travel to Korea for in-depth training, classroom observation, and cultural immersion, improving instructional quality and strengthening cultural exchange.



4 Student Field Trips to Korea

- Opportunities for selected students to visit Korea, experience daily life, and deepen their cultural understanding.

5 Event Participation

- Involvement in the **World Language Korean Festival** and other cultural events to showcase student talent and celebrate language learning.

