

GIST, a university where foreign scientists and engineers aspire to reside, has been selected by the Ministry of Justice to operate the "Early Adaptation Program for Immigrants"

- Customized support for the stable settlement of international students begins in earnest... Strengthening practical support, from housing and living infrastructure to education and research activities, to create a "global campus" where international students can grow together

- President Kichul Lim: "We will create a global settlement ecosystem where international students can live with peace of mind"



▲ Foreign exchange students of various nationalities are taking a commemorative photo on the GIST campus.

The Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST, President Kichul Lim) announced on Thursday, the 31st, that it has been selected as the operator of the "Early Adaptation Program for Immigrants," hosted by the Ministry of Justice.

Accordingly, GIST plans to further strengthen its systematic support to help international students quickly adapt and settle into Korean society.

The "Early Adaptation Program for Immigrants" is a program run by the Ministry of Justice to support the initial settlement of newly arrived foreigners by providing them with information on Korean society's systems, laws, culture, and daily life.

The program aims to provide practical assistance to foreigners, including essential information on how to use public services.

GIST's selection demonstrates that, amidst the national trend of expanding policy support for foreigners and immigrants, research-oriented universities can serve as a hub for the stable settlement and self-reliance of global science and technology talent.

GIST has been operating various settlement support programs to help international students feel comfortable in unfamiliar environments and focus on their studies and research.

Representative programs include: ▲ "International Culture Night," a multicultural communication event where Korean and international students can mingle; ▲ "GIST Companion Campaign," a cultural experience and exchange program linked to the local community; ▲ "Global Intern Program," which invites outstanding international science and engineering students to participate in research for eight weeks; and ▲ "Buddy Program," which provides one-on-one mentoring between Korean and international students.

In addition, various programs support the initial adjustment of international students through practical information, such as ▲ Korean language education, ▲ life orientation, and guidance on administrative procedures.

GIST aims to be a campus that goes beyond simply providing an international study environment, providing a "sustainable settlement foundation" for international students to settle and grow steadily across all aspects of education, research, and daily life.

President Kichul Lim stated, "GIST has established various settlement support systems to alleviate the anxiety and inconveniences experienced by international students in a new environment. With this designation, we will further strengthen our role as a practical support base for international students."

He continued, "Building on established campus infrastructure, such as the recently completed 'Young Scientist Building (YSB),' which provides stable housing for postdoctoral researchers and other emerging researchers under the age of 45, we will continue to foster a global settlement ecosystem where international students can feel secure throughout their education, research, and daily life."

Currently, 169 international students, representing approximately 10% of the total student body, are pursuing bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees at GIST. 74 international researchers, including full-time faculty and postdoctoral researchers, also work at GIST.

These international students, hailing from 32 countries around the world, are key players in GIST's internationalization and research competitiveness. At the 2025 school year entrance ceremony held in February of this year, a 'Global Flag Raising Ceremony' was held as a preliminary event in which international students directly participated.



▲ On Thursday, February 27, a flag-raising ceremony for 30 countries was held in the parking lot at the main gate of GIST Oryong Hall as a pre-entrance ceremony event, with representative international students from each country participating.