

2021 Korea's Invitation Programs for Outstanding Overseas Researchers

Brain Pool
Brain Pool Plus

Brain Pool

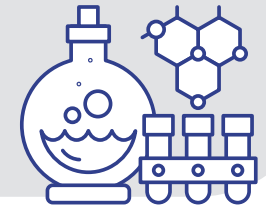
A decorative graphic on the right page featuring a sunburst pattern of small grey dots. The text 'Brain Pool' is overlaid on this pattern. The word 'Brain' is in a light blue color, and 'Pool' is in a darker blue. The letter 'O' in 'Pool' is replaced by a circular inset containing a photograph of a traditional Korean building with a multi-tiered, ornate roof, similar to the one on the left page.

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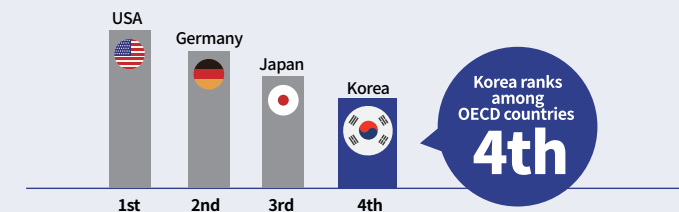
Research Environment in Korea



The World's Fourth Largest Government Investor in R&D

- Korea's government R&D investment in 2018 was the fourth largest amount among OECD countries.
- The government's R&D investment has increased annually, and reached USD 24.6 billion (KRW 27.4 trillion) in 2021.

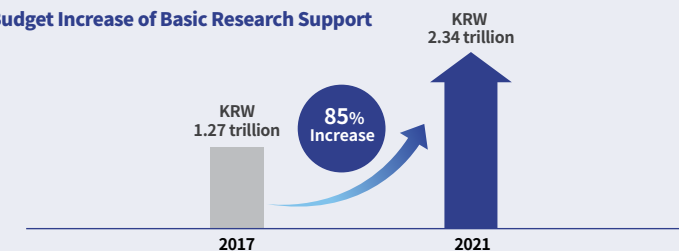
Expenditure on Government R&D for OECD countries in 2018



Valuing Researcher Autonomy and R&D

- Korea claimed the world's No.2 spot in terms of the ratio of R&D spending to GDP 2019, with 4.64%.
- The Korean government is increasing its budget to support basic research every year, with an emphasis on autonomous research culture for researchers.

Budget Increase of Basic Research Support



Excellent Research Infrastructure

- Korea has established an environment suitable for developing and testing highly advancing fields for the 4th industrial revolution, enabling it to attain achievements such as being the first country in the world to commercialize 5G.
- Korea is home to many world-class, cutting-edge tech companies (Samsung, LG, Hyundai, etc.), as well as government-funded research institutes with excellent facilities (refer to nst.re.kr) and world-renowned universities (Seoul National University, KAIST, POSTECH, etc.).



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Global Researcher Invitation Programs

Support outstanding overseas researchers in conducting R&D activities at research institutions in Korea



Details of Support

Host Institution

Government-funded research institutes, national/public research institutes, universities, university-affiliated research institutes, corporate research institutes, and nonprofit research institutes

Supporting Fields

Science and Technology fields

Target of Researchers in Each Program

| Program | Eligible Candidates |
|------------------------------|---|
| Brain Pool : BP | Overseas residing researchers who hold a Ph.D. or who have more than 5 years of onsite R&D experience in the overseas industry, regardless of possession of a Ph.D. |
| Brain Pool Plus : BP+ | Overseas residing researchers with outstanding research capabilities in highly advancing fields for the 4th industrial revolution among those whom the host institution in Korea wishes to employ as a full-time researcher |

How to Apply

Host research institutions(university, research institute, industry) seek out BP/BP+ candidates or vice versa; then, submit an application to the NRF via e-R&D system(ernd.nrf.re.kr).

Supported Overseas Researchers for the past 3 years

| Nationality Year | India | China | Korea | U.S.A | France | Japan | Russia | Canada | Germany | England | etc. | Total |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|--------|--------|---------|---------|------|-------|
| 2018 | 59 | 25 | 26 | 24 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 49 | 202 |
| 2019 | 91 | 35 | 67 | 21 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 100 | 339 |
| 2020 | 89 | 28 | 68 | 24 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 129 | 359 |

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Brain Pool

Support outstanding overseas researchers for carrying out their R&D activities at research institutions in Korea and establishing research networks



Eligible BP Candidates

Overseas residing researchers who hold a Ph.D. or who have more than 5 years of experience onsite R&D experience in the industry regardless of possession of a Ph.D.

- ※ Excluding those who have not yet obtained a doctorate degree and those residing overseas temporarily.
- ※ Researcher invited by a corporate research institution should have more than 5 years of onsite R&D experience in the overseas industry, regardless of possession of a Ph.D.

Supporting Fields

All fields in science and technology

- ※ Preference fields: 3 strategic investment fields, 8 leading industrial technology fields and 13 innovative growth engines

Quota for 2021 BP

Approx. 55 researchers

Supporting Details

| Type | Program Duration | Personnel Costs | Invitation Expenses | Subsidies |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| [Type 1] Short Term Support | 6~12months ※ Corporate research institutes may apply for 3~12 months ※ Flexible Research Duration may apply for 6~12 months for 3 years. | Based on the Brain Pool fellow's annual salary level at original affiliation (Min. KRW 5 mil. ~ max. KRW 25 mil. per month) ※ For corporate research institutes, 70% of annual salary will be supported. | Airfare, moving expenses, insurance premiums, business travel expenses, conference attendance fees, thesis publication fees, Korean language education expenses, housing allowances, child education subsidies (equivalent to Nuri Course support details) ※ Housing Allowances available for Type 2 applicants (Max. KRW 12 million) | Max. KRW 5 million (Including subsidies for assigned staff) |
| [Type 2] Long Term Support | Max. 3 years | | | |

※ Check the supporting fields for Flexible Research Duration (refer to call for BP Program on NRF website)

Application Schedule

| Application Call | Application Period |
|------------------|---|
| 1st | Feb. 15, 2021 (Mon.) – Feb. 26, 2021 (Fri.), KST 6:00 PM |
| 2nd | Feb. 27, 2021 (Sat.) – April 30, 2021 (Fri.), KST 6:00 PM |
| 3rd | May 1, 2021 (Sat.) – June 30, 2021 (Wed.), KST 6:00 PM |
| 4th | July 1, 2021 (Thu.) – Aug. 31, 2021 (Tue.), KST 6:00 PM |

※ The above schedule is subject to change according to circumstances (2nd to 4th calls may not be opened).

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Brain Pool Plus

Support overseas researchers in highly advancing fields for the 4th industrial revolution with being recruited as full-time (permanent) employees at research institutions in Korea



Eligible BP+ Candidates

Overseas residing researchers with outstanding research capabilities in highly advancing fields for the 4th industrial revolution among those whom the host institution in Korea wishes to employ as a full-time researcher

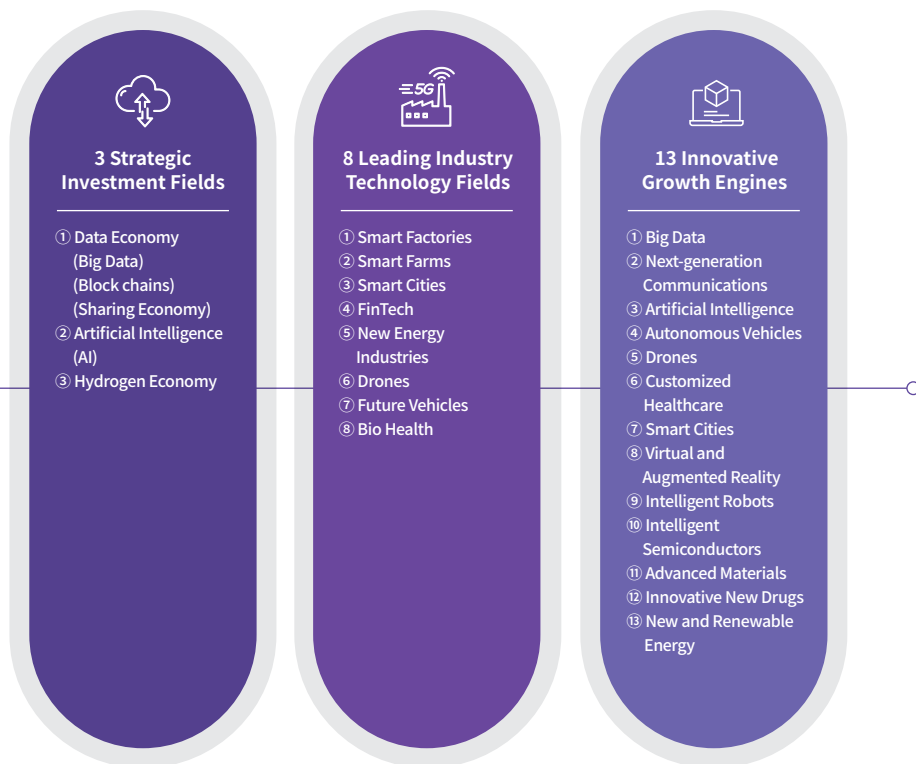
- ※ Overseas researchers who hold a Ph.D. or who have more than 5 years of experience onsite R&D experience in the overseas industry regardless of possession of a Ph.D.
- ※ The invited researcher's employment status must not be confirmed by the host institution until the date of final selection (those under suspended employment, etc. shall also be excluded).

Quota for 2021 BP+

Approx. 5 researchers

Supporting Fields

Highly advancing fields for the 4th industrial revolution including 3 strategic investment fields, 8 leading industry technology fields, and 13 innovative growth fields



Supporting Details

| Program Duration | Personnel costs | | Housing Allowances | | | Subsidies |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| | Internal | Other | Research Expenses | Housing Allowances | Other Expenses | |
| Max. 10 years (2+3+3+2) | Additional personnel costs, excluding personnel costs for full-time employees borne by the research institute | Outsourced staff, student staff, research support staff, etc. ※ It is necessary to assign staff in charge of the relevant administrative work, and the personnel costs incurred will be provided. | Initial cost of laboratory construction, material costs, etc. | Monthly rent or interest payments for deposits Up to KRW 12 million per year per researcher | Child education expenses (equivalent to Nuri Course support details), insurance premiums, relocation expenses, domestic and overseas business travel expenses, etc. | within 10% of research expenses, excluding personnel costs for post-docs, research allowances, etc. |

Max. KRW 600 million in total per year

- ※ Personnel costs can be additionally funded through government subsidies in accordance with an agreement between the host R&D institute and the invited scientist (e.g., the amount proposed by the institute to scout the overseas researcher) and the total personnel costs (amount to be paid by the institute plus the outstanding amount) are recommended to be at least 100 percent of the salary that the invited scientist would receive overseas.
- ※ Participating researchers accompanying the invited scientist will be also supported with housing allowances and other expenses.
- ※ Personnel costs paid by host institutions must be at least the salary level for their full-time employees.

Application Schedule

| Application Call | Application Period |
|------------------|---|
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※ The above schedule is subject to change according to circumstances (2nd to 4th calls may not be opened).

Notice

BP+ fellows must be employed as a **full-time employee** at a host institution in Korea.

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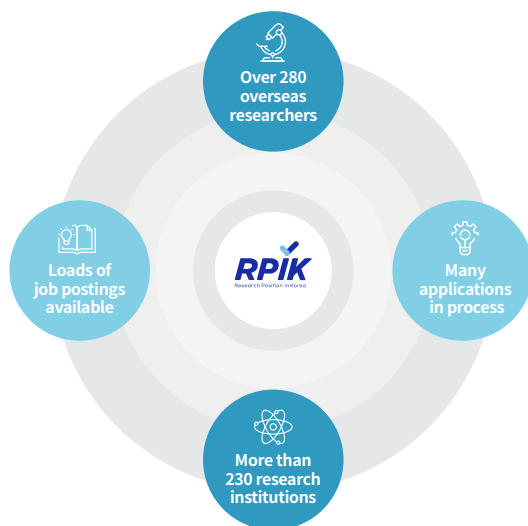
RPIK Research Position in Korea

Recruitment matching platform that supports job seeking of overseas researchers and recruitment activities at research institutions in Korea



Introduction

※ As of Feb. 2021



Target

- Overseas researchers who look for research institutes in Korea or Research institutes /labs/researchers in Korea that need matching with overseas researchers
- Overseas researchers who want to get a job in Korea or Research institutes/labs /researchers in Korea ready for recruiting overseas researchers

Registration

Access the RPIK and sign up for a membership according to the member type

URL

rpik.or.kr

Member Type

Laboratory Member

(Research institutes/labs/researchers in Korea)

- Input information of laboratory such as records of academic writing and equipment etc.
- Upload and manage recruitment notifications
- Check the list of overseas researchers
- Set applicants' status and interview schedule

Individual Member

(Overseas Researchers)

- Upload resumes and select desired employment conditions
- Apply for recruitment 24/7, all year round
- Customized job recommendations according to the applicant's expertise and experiences
- 1:1 Q&A with each laboratory

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Testimonials



Russia



—
Dr. Larina Liudmila Leonidovna (Chungnam National University)

Period: 2019.08.01. ~ 2020.07.31.

I conducted my research at KAIST from 2017 to 2018 under the BP program, and was selected for the 2019 BP program after re-applying with a new host PI through Chungnam National University. I conduct research in the field of solar energy and nanotechnology, and the research lab of my host institution is very well-equipped, so I can carry out my research smoothly. My lab has researchers of various nationalities, and everyone can communicate in English. It is great to collaborate with the large number of excellent students and researchers here, and we plan to continue our joint research after completing the BP program.

Japan



—
Dr. Kaoru Kashima (Korea Institute of Geoscience and Mineral Resources: KIGAM)

Period: 2019.08.01. ~ 2020.07.31.

I was an invited researcher via the Brain Pool Program at the Korea Institute of Geoscience and Mineral Resources in Daejeon. Thanks to its excellent research facilities and having the utmost support from my host institution, the research outcomes exceeded expectations. I lived in Daejeon, where many government-oriented high-tech laboratories are concentrated, and the vigorous exchange of research can be seen between research institutions in the city. I highly recommend the Brain Pool program for high-profile scientists overseas for furthering their career development in Korea.

France



—
Dr. Francois Rameau (Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology: KAIST)

Period: 2015.12.15. ~ 2020.02.29.

Joining this program was a fantastic opportunity to develop my career. The 5 years of support offered by the program allowed me to focus on long-term projects which are usually not approachable for most post-doctorates, and the program helped me to build a national network with other Korean researchers and professors. DaeJeon, where I resided, was a perfect city for research and family. Also, Daejeon is very safe place and has great public order as well. The city takes pride in its public order and security, and the people are very friendly. I strongly recommend the program to young foreign researchers.

U.S.A



—
Dr. Jiwon Kim (Institute for Advanced Engineering : IAE)

Period: 2016.02.15. ~ 2020.02.29.

This program is a very important program, as it helps foreign and Korean national researchers who lack knowledge and experience with the research environment in Korea to build a support network and lay the foundation for success with their initial research in Korea. I believe that this program serves as a bridge between foreign researchers and Korean universities/research institutes, and it provides opportunities for overseas researchers to establish themselves as researchers in Korea. I believe that this program can be a valuable opportunity for many overseas researchers, since fellows may have a chance to get a job at the host institution after completing their tenure, as was my case.

Thailand



—
Dr. Chatanun Eamudomkarn (Chungbuk National University)

Period: 2018.10.01. ~ 2022.12.31.

I was introduced to my host PI through a Ph.D. advisor in Thailand and was fortunate to be selected as a this program fellow. Cheongju, where I live now, is a small and comfortable city. When I came to Korea, I was pleasantly surprised by the well-equipped research lab and the excellent teamwork between researchers. The program supports fellows with their housing allowance, so you can enjoy a stable life while you fully focus on your research. The host PI and lab members helped me with settling down in Korea, as well as with improving my research performance. I look forward to achieving great research results through the program.

Belgian



—
Dr. Peter Verwilst (Korea University)

Period: 2016.10.15. ~ 2019.10.21.

I strongly encourage overseas researchers to apply for this program. As a fellow, the program allows you to build and expand on your personal network via workshops and cultural excursions with international and domestic researchers. The addition of the brain pool program for senior researchers also permits discussions and joint workshops with established researchers. The unique 3-5-year duration of the fellowship gives job security, so you can fully focus on your research and career development. Finally, the program provides a very competitive remuneration and additional benefits (housing, insurance, language classes, etc.) and a platform to facilitate moving to and living in Korea.

