

2026 SMG - UNIV. OF SEOUL

MUAP

Master of Urban Administration and Planning

International School of Urban Sciences, the University of Seoul
In cooperation with Seoul Metropolitan Government





Yongkul Won

President,
University of Seoul

The Leading Education & Research Institution in Urban Sciences in Korea

Founded in 1918, the University of Seoul has long been dedicated to providing high-quality higher education to talented, motivated, and creative scholars. As a public institution, the University is committed to cultivating future leaders who will contribute meaningfully to shaping the urban future of Korea and the global community.

With a wide range of undergraduate colleges and approximately 90 fields of study across its Graduate School and specialized programs, the University of Seoul integrates research, policy, and practice. It strives to balance academic excellence with professional relevance, as well as visionary goals with practical research. In addition to advancing academic inquiry, the University serves as a key think tank supporting and informing major policy initiatives of the Seoul Metropolitan Government.

International School of Urban Sciences has been a pioneer in Korea in combining urban sciences with international development cooperation since its foundation in 2012. It attracts a finest set of people around the globe and serves a knowledge sharing platform with respect to urban development, urban planning, construction, infrastructure planning and environmental management. A great mix of urban professionals gather at the school and get to experience cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural interactions and benefit from mutual learning with a common aim to find answers to sustainable development of each participant's home country. I am certain that you will have a rewarding experience with them.

As the president of the University, I warmly welcome all participants in the school's programs and urge you to keep your passion that you now have in your heart all along while you pursue your personal development goals at the University of Seoul.

Thank you.

Hub of 'International Networking' for Global Experts



Shin Lee

Dean of ISUS,
University of Seoul

International School of Urban Sciences (ISUS) was established at the University of Seoul (UOS) in 2012 with the aim to contribute to the sustainable development of global urban communities. Its education covers diverse fields of urban sciences including urban planning, infrastructure development, construction and environmental management.

ISUS offers three Master's programs for Korean students: global construction management, sustainable urban development, and international development cooperation. It also hosts four full-scholarship Master's programs for overseas students in cooperation with partner organizations: Master of Urban Administration and Planning (MUAP) in collaboration with Seoul Metropolitan Government, Master of Urban Development (MUD) with Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Master's program for Future Global Leaders in Environmental Policy (MGLEP) with the Ministry of Environment, and Master of Urban Development and Smart Infrastructure Policy (MUDSIP) with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport. These funded programs have common aims of providing international professionals with specialized skills required for leading the sustainable development of their home countries.

Having transformed from one of the aid-receiving countries to a donor country over half a century, Korea is increasingly looked to as a source of lesson-learning by various countries. In response, ISUS is committed to sharing its unique and relatively recent development experience with the rest of the world and intends to be a platform for just doing that. We strive to construct a system of experiential knowledge Korea has accumulated during its compact development process while equipping our students with theoretical and practical knowledge that can reinforce their professionalism, they bring with them. On this global knowledge exchange platform, program participants will also gain a global and cross-disciplinary perspective through mutual learning.

Join us and develop your abilities of pioneering and leading the new age of urban development.

University of Seoul, The Birthplace of Korea's Urban Study

The University of Seoul was founded in 1918 and has a long tradition of providing high-quality higher education to talented, motivated, and creative scholars. As a public institution, the University is committed to addressing the social, regional, technological, and creative challenges of an increasingly urbanized world. To this end, it dedicates itself to cultivating future leaders who will help shape the urban future of Korea and the global community. Its faculty, students, and administrative staff share a strong commitment to civic values and the advancement of a dynamic urban civilization.

The University of Seoul places equal emphasis on academic quality and intellectual breadth. It is firmly committed to both theory and practice, while promoting openness and collaboration with students and Korea's leading public institutions. With an enrollment of more than 10,000 students, the University comprises seven undergraduate colleges and nearly 90 fields of study at the graduate level. Through diverse and specialized programs that integrate research, policy, education, and practice, the University strives to balance academic rigor with professional relevance, as well as visionary thinking with practical research. In addition to advancing fundamental research, the University serves as a key think tank supporting the major policy initiatives of the Seoul Metropolitan Government. Within this context, the International School of Urban Sciences (ISUS) has established itself as a leading institution in the field of urban sciences. Its academic scope spans environmental and civil engineering, architecture, urban planning and landscape design, public law and administration, taxation studies, economics, urban sociology, and urban management. Supported by Korea's largest and most comprehensive pool of human and informational resources dedicated to urban futures, ISUS is distinguished by its unique network of research institutes that develop innovative solutions to urban challenges and forward-looking visions for the cities of tomorrow.



Program Overview

Program Title	Master of Urban Administration and Planning (MUAP)
Duration	August 2026~ August 2028 (25 months) - On-campus Phase: August 2026 – August 2027 (13 months) Coursework at the International School of Urban Sciences, University of Seoul - Off-campus Phase: September 2027 – June 2028 (10 months) Thesis preparation and submission in the student's home country Master's Degree will be granted in August 2028 - Master of Urban Administration and Planning
Objectives	- To train mid-career public officials who specialize in city planning and urban administration by learning Seoul's successful development cases and experiences. - To give opportunities to experience Korean culture and to learn language that can increase students' understanding of Korea - To develop a basis for collaborative relations between Seoul and its sister cities
Hosting Institution	International Urban Development Program (IUDP), International School of Urban Sciences (ISUS), University of Seoul
Language	English
Qualification	Applicant Qualifications - Foreign nationals whose both parents are foreign nationals - Applicants with excellent command of spoken and written English - Applicants in good physical and mental health (Pregnancy is regarded as a disqualifying condition) Career Qualifications - Government officials with more than 3 years of professional experience - Applicants under 40 years of age - Holders of a bachelor's degree or an equivalent qualification
Financial Support	The Following expenses will be covered by the Seoul Metropolitan Government and the University of Seoul - Tuition & Dormitory fees - Economy-class round-trip airfare between Seoul and the student's home country - Textbook and materials - Monthly living allowance based on SMG regulations

How to apply

APPLICATION & ADMISSION PROCESS

A. APPLICATION SUBMISSION

- Applications must be submitted online via the ISUS website: <http://isus.uos.ac.kr>
- Only online applications will be accepted. **Deadline: March 11, 2026.**

B. ADMISSION PROCESS

- Round 1 : Application Review - Evaluation of submitted application documents
- Round 2 : Zoom Interview - Applicants who pass Round 1 will be invited to an English-language interview

C. ADMISSION TIMELINE

Procedure	Date	Note
Online Application	Until March 11, 2026	Online application only (ISUS website)
Round 1: Application Review	March 16 ~ 20, 2026	Application review by the Admissions Committee
Round 2: Zoom Interview	April 6 ~ 10, 2026	Online interview (Zoom) for Round 1 passers only
Final Admission Results	April 15, 2026	Results notification via email
Submission of Original Documents	April 20 ~ May 13, 2026	Submission required for admitted applicants only
Arrival in Korea	August 10, 2026	-

※ All dates are subject to change.

※ All dates and times are based on Korean Standard Time (KST).

D. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

No.	Documents	Submission Type	Reference
1	Application Form	 	Link for Application: http://isus.uos.ac.kr/isus/web/recruit/muap
2	Two Photos, 3.5X4.5cm (with white-colored background)	  	Two original pictures must be brought when you are admitted, and then come to Korea
3	Two letters of recommendation	  	At least one of the letter should be from the applicant's current agency or organization.
4	Curriculum Vitae	  	-
5	Transcripts of all colleges/graduate schools	  	① Chinese: Verification Report is additionally required ② non-Chinese: Apostille or the Consular Authentication (You can check further information here: https://www.apostille.go.kr/index.do) ※ The name of the school and the date of graduation between the application form and the documents must match. ※ An applicant who has completed even one program at a Korean school during the entire education course is not eligible.
6	Certificate of (expected) graduation of all colleges/graduate schools	  	
7	Certificate of Employment	  	
8	Two copies of Medical Reports	  	One should be from the applicant, and the other from authorized physician
9	TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS score report	  	1. Applicants holding nationality of an English-speaking country 2. Applicants who finished their Bachelor's curriculum in full English. Please submit the certificate for the medium of instruction or corresponding documents 3. Applicants holding English-proficiency test result from one of the following: TOEFL 530, TOEFL CBT 197, TOEFL iBT 71, IELTS 5.5, CEFR B2, TEPS 600 (NEW TEPS 326) ★The Korean Embassy may ask you to submit the TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS score report as one of the required document. Make sure to check if it is required for visa issuance before application.
10	Project/Policy-making Concept Note for applying SMG policy to your country	 	You can find 157 cases of Seoul's policy at the URBAN SDG KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM below by typing a keyword as "Seoul"
11	Proof of parents' nationality and relationship	  	Chinese Nationals
			Other than Chinese Nationals

 Online Submission

 Hard copy submission by post

 Mandatory submission

 Optional submission

Curriculum

Students are required to take at least 50 credits for graduation. [*The courses are subject to change.]

Course Classification	Course Title
Core Courses	12 Credits Global Project Development 1, 2 / Research Methodology and Quantitative Analysis / Thesis Seminar
Elective Courses	24 Credits Urban Administration and Finance / Urban Planning and Development / Urban Design and Historic Preservation / Carbon pricing and international carbon market / Urban Growth and Employment / Housing and Land Policy / Geographic Information Systems / History of Korean Urban Development / Seminar in International Urban Development and Planning / E-Government / Environment and Global Markets / Environment and Climate Change / Transportation Policy and development / Climate Adaptation, Disaster Risks and Inequality / Seminar in Public Investment Management
Internship(optional)	1 Credit
Language	8 Credits Basic Korean 1, 2 / Academic Writing 1, 2
Thesis	6 Credits
Total	50~51 Credits

Extracurricular Program

Students are required to take part in the Extracurricular Program, including **Field Trip, Urban Infra Forum, Internship, and other ISUS official events.**

Classification	Period	Remarks
Field Trip	Throughout the Program	Quarterly field trips which provide students opportunities to learn exemplary development projects in different parts of Korea
Urban Infra Forum	Throughout the Program	A discussion forum held on the second Thursday of each month where global experts in urban development and infrastructure construction engage with each other
ISUS Events	Throughout the Program	ISUS networking events: Global Friends Night, ISUS Policy Sharing Conference, ISUS Sports Day, etc.
Internship(optional)	Winter Session	Short-term internship opportunities (1~2 weeks) at the participating organizations such as Seoul Metropolitan Government, Seoul Human Resource Development Center, CityNet, Seoul Urban Solutions Agency, etc.



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