
2025-2026 KAMS <Korea Focus> Support Program

Application Guidelines

To promote the discourse on Korean art, the Korea Arts Management Service (KAMS) offers a support program for overseas art institutions, titled 'Korea Focus'. We encourage active participation from art institutions and professionals worldwide.

I Program Outline

Type	Detailed
Project Title	Korean Art Spotlight Project <Korea Focus>
Application period	January 17, 2025 – February 28, 2025 (deadline at 16:00 KST)
Application review dates	In March*(Tentative)
Eligibility	<p>Non-profit visual arts overseas organizations (such as art museums, art universities, etc.) interested in exhibiting and researching Korean art.</p> <p>*Exhibitions conducted solely as venue rentals are not permitted under any circumstances.</p> <p>*Additional points will be given for collaboration with Korean institutes and researchers.</p>
Grant amount	<p>Up to KRW 200 million per applicant annually, depending on the scale of the project.</p> <p>*Additionally, beginner-level organizations with no prior experience in hosting Korean art exhibitions or conferences may qualify for an additional support of up to KRW 30 million specifically for the 'Inbound Research Trip for Overseas Researchers.' This includes airfare, accommodation, and program fees."</p> <p>*Support will be allocated based on the size of the project.</p>
Support Details	<p>- Korean art projects (Annual support for research, conference, exhibition, additional event, etc)</p> <p>◇ Beginner: additional support for Research Trip (airfare, accommodation, and program fees)</p> <p>* Beginner-level program is only available for institutions with no prior experience in hosting Korean art exhibitions, academic conferences, or similar events.</p> <p>◇ Year 1: (mandatory) Conference or Research</p> <p>◇ Year 2: (mandatory) Exhibition or Publication/(optional) Additional Event/Program</p>

	<p>*Exhibitions conducted solely as venue rentals are not permitted under any circumstances.</p> <p>*Additional points will be given for collaboration with Korean institutes and researchers.</p> <p>*Applicants selected for funding (2025-2026) must submit the interim settlement report by December 15, 2025, and the second project proposal by January 2026.</p>
Grant Condition	Receiving funding for the same project from Korean central or local government agencies, as well as public organizations, is not permitted.
Project period	(Year 1) April 2025 – December 2025 (Year 2) January 2026 – December 2026
Selection process	Eligibility review and funding review by committee composed of external experts (1st stage: document review, 2nd stage: interview)
Fund disbursement process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KAMS will directly disburse the funds to the selected overseas institution in two installments after signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). - Disbursed in two installments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1st installment) 70% of the total grant disbursed after MOU (2nd installment) The remaining 30% will be disbursed after completion of the project, upon the submission of project outcomes report with the audited financial report by a local accountant (with notarized Korean translation) until December 15, 2025 <p>* Failure to submit deliverables within the specified deadlines will result in the forfeiture of funds and potential restrictions on eligibility for future KAMS programs. This includes mandatory submission of project outcome reports and financial audits.</p>
Required Documents	<p>(mandatory)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Application form (submit the provided form in a MS Word file) ② Introductory materials for the institution (e.g., portfolio, brochure, catalog in free format) (PDF, JPEG) <p>(optional)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ③ Additional documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Research reports, exhibition proposals, participants resume and other materials deemed helpful for the review process. ④ Researcher resume and proposal for ‘Inbound Research Trip for Overseas Researchers’

II Program Description

1. Grant amount

- Up to KRW 200 million per applicant (depending on the scale of the project)

*Additional support (up to 30 million KRW) for the ‘Inbound Research Trip for Overseas Researchers’ will be provided only to beginner-level organizations with no prior history of hosting Korean art exhibitions or academic conferences.

* The final grant amount may be adjusted during the review process based on the scale of the project.

2. Support Details: Support for research, conferences, exhibitions, publications, etc., related to Korean art.

*KAMS also offers support for orientational lectures and consultations on Korean art.

Type	Year1	Year2
Beginner	•(additional support) Inbound Research Trip for Overseas Researchers	
Common	(mandatory) •Korean Art Project Research •Hosting of Korean Art Conference	(mandatory) •Korean Art Exhibition •Korean Art Publication (optional) •Additional event/program
<p>- Support is only available for the project categories defined for each year. (e.g., Support for exhibition, publication, and side events is not available in the 1st year.)</p> <p>- Year 2: Exhibition and Publication are mandatory, while side events are optional.</p>		

3. Support Categories *overhead costs are not eligible for support

Type	Expense Item	Detailed
(*Optional) Inbound Research Trip for Overseas Researchers		
Research Trip	Airfare	- Reimbursement for researchers in economy class <i>*Only applicable for flights between the institution's country and Korea</i>
	Accommodation	- Cost of staying in Korea for researchers (up to 20 nights)
	Program fee	- Program registration fees for seminars, workshops, training programs, etc. for the study of Korean art
(Year 1)		
Conference	Rent	- Venue Costs and Equipment rental fee <i>*Not applicable if hosted in applying organization's space</i>

	Airfare	- Reimbursement for speakers in economy class - Round trip / Country of institution ↔ Nationality of speaker
	Accommodation	- Cost of staying in Korea for speakers (up to 5 nights)
	Promotional costs	- Promotional marketing costs paid to media - Production and printing of promotional materials
	Professional fee	- Speaker honorariums and interpreter fees
Research	Professional fee	- Research fees for local Korean art experts - Korean art experts consulting fees and critic & interpreter fees
	Writing & Translating Fee	- Research publication writing fees and translation fees <i>*Research results must be submitted for Year 1</i>
(Year 2)		
Exhibition	Airfare	- Reimbursement for Korean curators or artists in economy class
	Accommodation	- Cost of staying in the institution's location Korean curators or artists (up to 20 nights)
	Artworks Shipping	- Shipping fees for Korean artworks
	Promotional costs	- Promotional marketing costs paid to media - Production and printing of promotional materials for exhibition catalogue - Design, image usage fees, and other actual costs.
	Professional fee	- Korean art experts consulting fees and critic & interpreter fees
Publication	Writing & Translating Fee	- Research book publication writing fees and translation fees <i>*Publications should accompany the exhibition and be at least 100 pages</i>
	Printing	- Research book publication printing costs - Design, image usage fees, and other actual costs.
Additional Event / Program (Such as Artist Talks)	Rent	- Venue costs and equipment rental fee <i>* Not applicable if hosted in applying organization's space</i>
	Promotional costs	- Promotional marketing costs paid to media - Production and printing of promotional material
	Professional fee	- Speaker or artists honorariums and interpreter fees

4. Method of disbursement

- KAMS will directly disburse the funds to the selected overseas institution in two installments.

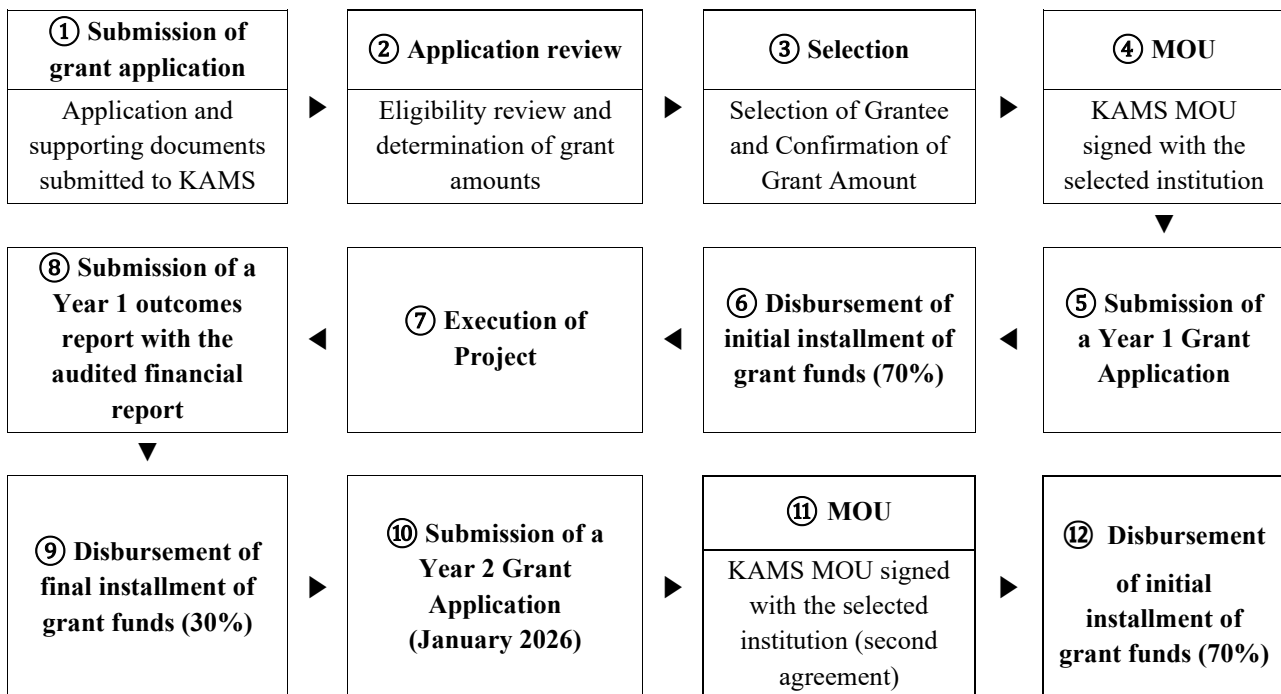
- (1st installment) 70% of the total grant disbursed after signing of the MOU.
- (2nd installment) The remaining 30% will be disbursed after completion of the project, upon the submission of outcomes report with the audited financial report by a local accountant (with notarized Korean translation) until December 15, 2025.

*This grant will be paid to the official bank account of the recipient organization and cannot be received or executed by an individual.

5. Project period

- (Year 1) April 2025 – December 2025
- (Year 2) January 2026 – December 2026

[Project flow chart]



* If the outcomes reports are not submitted by the deadline, the grant may be returned.

III Application Guidelines and Review Process

1. Application period: January 17, 2025 – February 28, 2025 (deadline at 16:00KST)

2. Application method: Online submission to <koreafocus@gokams.or.kr >

3. Required documents and submission method: Submit as an electronic file (HWP, MS Word, or PDF)

Type		Required documents
List of documents	Mandatory	① Application (designated form, English) *Submit as an MS Word file ② Institutional introduction materials (e.g., portfolio, brochure, catalog in free format) (PDF, JPEG)
	Optional	③ Other attached documents *Research reports, exhibition proposals, participants resume and other materials deemed helpful for the review process. ④ Researcher resume and proposal for ‘Inbound Research Trip for Overseas Researchers’

* The application form must strictly adhere to the designated format provided by KAMS. Any applications not following the designated format may be disqualified.

* Applicants must complete and submit the consent form for the collection and use of personal information, along with the confirmation of privacy notice, as part of the application. Failure to do so will result in the application being deemed incomplete and ineligible for review.

* If the application is written in a language other than Korean or English, a translation into either language must also be submitted.

4. Evaluation and selection process

- Evaluation

Type	Required documents
Method	Document review and interview
Review panel	A panel of external experts
Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specificity/Feasibility of the Project Plan (40%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding and alignment with the project’s purpose (objectives) - Specificity and thoroughness of the project content • Feasibility of the Project Plan (40%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The applicant organization’s relevant track record - The applicant organization’s ability to implement and achieve the project • Expected Outcomes and Impact (20%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expected benefits and impacts from implementation of the project - Contribution to the field and potential ripple effect

- Review dates: In March(Tentative)
- Announcement of results: In March(Tentative) /The result will be announced on the official website of KAMS, and selected grant recipients will be individually notified.

*The schedule is tentative and may be revised depending on circumstances or unforeseen conditions.

IV Eligibility and Requirements

Ineligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receiving duplicate funding for the same project from other KAMS support programs is prohibited. • Receiving overlapping support from national subsidies or the Arts Council Korea's central cultural fund for the same project is not allowed. • Projects involving fundraising activities are ineligible. • Routine member exhibitions, group shows, annual exhibitions, thesis presentations, or school-level graduation showcases are not eligible. • Organizations subject to Article 31-2 of the “Subsidy Management Act”, whose participation in subsidy projects is prohibited, as overseen by the Ministry of Economy and Finance, are disqualified. • Organizations listed under Article 7, Paragraph 4 of the “Guidelines for the Operation of National Subsidies” by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (revised May 16, 2022) are not eligible. • Entities or individuals who have been penalized for unfair practices under Article 6-2 of the “Artist Welfare Act” are ineligible. • Individuals, or organizations with such individuals as members, who were punished or sentenced to treatment and custody for crimes under Article 2 of the “Act on Special Cases Concerning the Punishment of Sexual Violence Crimes” or Article 37-2, Clause 2 of the “Equal Employment Opportunity and Work-Family Balance Assistance Act,” are disqualified, except in cases where the member is not involved in decision-making or operations, or where the period specified by Article 7 of “Act on the Lapse of Criminal Sentences” has expired. • Individuals or organizations under investigation or trial for sexual harassment or sexual violence that may hinder or jeopardize project implementation are not eligible.
Non-Fundable Expenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine operating expenses, including full-time staff salaries, office or gallery rental fees, office supplies, and utility costs. • Capital expenditures for organizational operations, such as asset purchases, construction costs, repair expenses, incidental facility fees, overhead cost and website development.. • Ancillary costs, including meeting or hospitality expenses. • Costs for preparatory trips, such as transportation, accommodation, or fuel expenses. • Indirect costs not directly related to the supported project

**Grant
Recipient
Obligations**

The recipient of the program must:

- Sign an MOU agreement with KAMS.
- Outcomes reports may be published as result booklets and used on KAMS media platforms with consent from the authors.
- Submit annual settlement and outcomes reports verified by a local accountant with notarized Korean translations.

※ The second installment of the funding will be disbursed after the year's settlement and outcomes reports are submitted by December 15 and have been reviewed.

- If the project scope (e.g., participating artists or submitted works) changes, the grant amount may be adjusted or reduced, even after the selection and disbursement decision based on review criteria.
- Projects not completed within the agreed timeline will require full repayment of grant funds.
- Applications containing plagiarized works or works involved in copyright will be disqualified even after they have been selected, and the involved parties will face restrictions from future KAMS support programs for a designated period.
- Submitted documents will not be returned and cannot be revised or supplemented after the application deadline.
- Develop a safety plan to manage visitors and crowds during exhibitions.
- Settlement and outcomes reports should use the forms provided by KAMS.
- Settlement reports must be prepared by a local accountant and translated into Korean with notarization.
- The end date of the project must be within 20 days after the closing of the exhibition.
- Actively participate in the production of overarching promotional materials for KAMS programs.
- Cooperate with on-site evaluations and project monitoring.
- Include the logos of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and KAMS and an acknowledgement for the support of these agencies (e.g., "This publication was supported by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and KAMS (Korea Arts Management Service)") in all promotional and printed materials.