



# COVID-19 FAQ

GENERAL GUIDE OF TaLK PROCEDURES WITH COVID-19  
Teach and Learn in Korea (TaLK) Program



# Pre-Arrival Preparations

## What do I need to prepare to arrive in Korea during the COVID-19 pandemic?

As of March 2021, any arrival from outside of Korea will be required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result in order to board the flight and also to enter Korea. **The result must be carried to Korea as a physical copy because it will be collected upon entry.**

You will also need to have the quarantine facility address and contact phone number on hand, which will be given to successful applicants closer to the arrival date in Korea.

## What type of PCR test result is required?

The test result needs to have the following information:

- Name (same as passport)
- Test name (**must be a DNA-related test; antibody tests not accepted**)
- Test result
- Issue date (**must be within 72 hours of departure**)
- Date of birth (passport number or ID card number also accepted)
- Test date
- Seal/signature of issuing agency

**Note:** If there is no official seal/signature due to local circumstances, it must include the exact name of the inspection agency.

## When is the arrival date?

The arrival date will be announced to successful candidates once it has been finalized.

## Can I arrive earlier in Korea?

For the smoothest operation of the quarantine and orientation, **we do not recommend early arrival.** However, if you choose to arrive early, you will need to make your own arrangements for transportation, quarantine, PCR testing, post-quarantine accommodations, and all other related costs. Scholars who arrive early are still expected to participate in all parts of the orientation (online and offline), and depending on how early the arrival was, they may need to take another PCR test to attend the on-site orientation.

**Note:** The NIIED will not provide any support for the matters listed above (except for orientation) for those who choose to arrive early.



# Arrival at Airport

## What happens when I arrive at the airport?

When you arrive, you will need to go through the normal procedures through Immigrations and Customs. However, there will also be COVID-19 procedures, which includes checking your temperature and the requirement of presenting an acceptable negative PCR test result (as outlined in the previous section) to be allowed entry into Korea.

## What if I arrive in Korea with symptoms similar to COVID-19?

If you have any symptoms when arriving in Korea, you will be required to stay in a isolated facility where you will be monitored and tested for COVID-19. If your result is negative, then you will be allowed to return to the airport. Otherwise, you will need to complete your quarantine at a government facility, which may cost \$1,400 to \$2,100 US Dollars.

## What if the test result I brought with me is deemed insufficient? What do I do if I arrive in Korea without the physical copy of the test result?

For foreign passport holders, entry into Korea will be denied and you must return to your home country. **This process may void your visa and scholarship.**

For Korean passport holders, you will be required to complete the 14-day quarantine at a facility designated by the Korean government. You will be responsible for all costs, **and you will not qualify for any quarantine reimbursement through the TaLK Program.**

## Will we be picked up at the airport?

Due to COVID protocols and varying arrival times depending on each Scholar's flight ticket, we will not be able to prepare any transportation from the airport. We advise preparing cash (~200,000 Korean Won or \$200 US Dollars) before your arrival in Korea for transportation, as you will likely be unable to change cash or withdraw money at the airport.



# Quarantine

## Where will TaLK Scholars complete the quarantine?

The NIIED will have a facility prepared for quarantine purposes. The location of this facility will be given to successful applicants closer to the arrival date.

## Do I need to pay for the quarantine? How much will it cost?

TaLK Scholars will need to pay the cost of the quarantine upfront. **As of March 2021, we have not yet finalized the quarantine facility, so we do not yet have the final cost.** Based on the previous intake, the quarantine is expected to cost a minimum of \$1,500 US Dollars, and it must be paid in cash. This cash should be prepared before flying into Korea.

Although Scholars will need to pay the cost upfront, the Provincial Offices of Education (POEs) have agreed to provide a partial reimbursement for the quarantine facility cost. The reimbursement will be a maximum of 1.5 million Korean Won.

**Note: These details are not finalized. Updated information will be provided to successful applicants closer to the arrival date.**

## Can I complete the quarantine at a relative's house? Can I arrange my own place for quarantine?

The NIIED highly recommends completing the quarantine at our arranged facility for the easiest transition to the on-site orientation and to potentially minimize costs as some amenities will be provided, along with daily meals, which are included in the total cost. However, if you wish to complete quarantine at a relative's house or somewhere else, you must confirm with Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency that the chosen accommodations will be allowed for the quarantine process. They can be contacted at **1339** within Korea, or **+82-1339** from outside Korea.

**Note: When choosing to complete the quarantine outside of the arranged facility, you will be responsible for all costs, and you will not qualify for the partial reimbursement provided by the POEs.**



# Program Changes

## How has the TaLK Program changed due to COVID-19?

The rural areas have not been as heavily affected as the larger metropolitan cities, particularly the Greater Seoul Area. However, schools are still taking precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and you may be asked to teach while wearing a mask. You may also be asked to conduct online classes alongside regular classes depending on the COVID-19 protocols at the time of teaching.

Outside of teaching, there may be less cultural excursions hosted by the Provincial Offices of Education due to COVID-19 protocols. Large gatherings are heavily discouraged, so any large-scale provincial culture trips may not happen until after COVID-19 restrictions have lifted.

## Is there still an orientation?

There is still an orientation, but rather than the two intensive weeks at an orientation venue, there will be about one week of live Zoom lectures during the quarantine, and about one week for an on-site orientation which will focus on teaching practice. There will also be pre-orientation training, which will be pre-recorded online lessons that should be completed during the quarantine period.

Applicants who complete the quarantine at our prepared facility will be transported to the orientation venue. Those who choose to complete the quarantine with their relatives or outside of the facility will be responsible for making their way to the quarantine facility to catch the transportation to the orientation venue.

**Note:** The orientation venue has not yet been confirmed at this time.

## Can UK and South African applicants apply this term?

Currently, as of March 2021, there are still visa restrictions placed on UK and South Africa. However, we are currently processing applications and will keep an eye on the situation as it gets closer to August. The ability for these applicants to enter Korea will heavily depend on the COVID-19 protocols in place around that time, so we will provide an update as we draw closer to the starting date.



# Vaccination

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## Is COVID-19 vaccination required to enter Korea?

Currently, there are no protocols that require vaccinations for any arrivals from outside of Korea.

## Can I get vaccinated in Korea?

Any foreigner who has a sojourn period of 3 months or greater will be eligible to obtain COVID-19 vaccination at no cost. Currently, there is no choice of vaccination type.

## When can I get vaccinated?

According to the current scheme, TaLK Scholars would fall under the category of general vaccinations for adults aged 18-64, which is expected to begin around July.

## Where can I get vaccinated?

More information will be available later in the year once the vaccine is available for the general public tier.