

TOPIK 2025: Major Expansion of IBT Availability

- To improve accessibility for test-takers worldwide, an AI-driven TOPIK digital platform will be built as a means of introducing this innovative solution in 2026.

The Ministry of Education (headed by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Lee Ju-Ho) announced the implementation plan for the Test of Proficiency in Korean (TOPIK) 2025 on October 10, 2024.

The Test of Proficiency in Korean, TOPIK, which has been administered since 1997, objectively measures and evaluates the ability to use the Korean language and serves as a guide to effective Korean language learning for overseas Koreans and foreigners. The results of the test are used for studying and working in Korean universities, the Global Korea Scholarship, GKS, and the credit and graduation requirements for Korean-related majors at overseas universities.

In 2025, the number of opportunities to take the internet-based test (IBT) will be more than doubled from three times a year in six countries (2024) to six times a year in 13 countries in order to efficiently respond to the recent significant increase* in test-taking demand.

* Approx. 350,000 (2022) → Approx. 420,000 (2023) → Approx. 420,000 (As of Aug. 2024)

※ Countries administering IBT: [2024] Korea, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Indonesia, China (Hong Kong), Philippines; [2025] Romania (new), Malaysia, US (Guam), Vietnam, Thailand, Paraguay, Pakistan + 2024 countries

As a result, TOPIK I (Listening, Reading) and II (Listening, Reading, Writing) will be administered 12 times, with six paper-based tests (PBT) and six internet-based tests (IBT), and the Speaking test will be administered three times as an internet-based test. The assessment schedule for 2025 is as

follows:

<2025 TOPIK (Reading, Listening, Writing) Schedule>					
Type	Round	Region	Application period *	Test date	Result announcement
PBT	98 th	Korea	Dec. 10 (Tue) - Dec. 16 (Mon), 2024	Jan. 19 (Sun)	Feb. 27 (Thu)
IBT	5 th	Korea + Elsewhere	Dec. 17 (Tue) - Dec. 23 (Mon), 2024	Feb. 22 (Sat)	Mar. 14 (Fri)
IBT	6 th	Korea + Elsewhere	Jan. 14 (Tue) - Jan. 20 (Mon)	Mar. 22 (Sat)	Apr. 11 (Fri)
PBT	99 th	Korea + Elsewhere	Feb. 11 (Tue) - Feb. 17 (Mon)	Apr. 12 (Sat) -Apr. 13 (Sun)	May 30 (Fri)
PBT	100 th	Korea + Elsewhere	Mar. 11 (Tue) - Mar. 17 (Mon)	May 11 (Sun)	Jun. 26 (Thu)
IBT	7 th	Korea + Elsewhere	Apr. 15 (Tue) - Apr. 21 (Mon)	Jun. 14 (Sat)	Jul. 4 (Fri)
IBT	8 th	Korea + Elsewhere	Jul. 15 (Tue) - Jul. 21 (Mon)	Sept. 13 (Sat)	Oct. 2 (Thu)
PBT	102 nd	Korea + Elsewhere	Aug. 5 (Tue) - Aug. 11 (Mon)	Oct. 18 (Sat) - Oct. 19 (Sun)	Dec. 11 (Thu)
IBT	9 th	Korea + Elsewhere	Aug. 26 (Tue) - Sept. 1 (Mon)	Oct. 25 (Sat)	Nov. 14 (Fri)
PBT	103 rd	Korea + Elsewhere	Sept. 2 (Tue) - Sept. 8 (Mon)	Nov. 16 (Sun)	Dec. 23 (Tue)
IBT	10 th	Korea + Elsewhere	Sept. 23 (Tue) - Sept. 29 (Mon)	Nov. 29 (Sat)	Dec. 19 (Fri)

* The schedule above is applicable for domestic purposes only. International schedule may vary by jurisdictions.

<2025 TOPIK (Speaking) Schedule>				
Round	Region	Application period	Test date	Result announcement
7 th	Korea	Jan. 14 (Tue)- Jan. 20 (Mon)	Mar. 22 (Sat)	Apr. 14 (Mon)
8 th	Korea	Apr. 15 (Tue) - Apr. 21 (Mon)	Jun. 14 (Sat)	Jul. 7 (Mon)
9 th	Korea	Aug. 26 (Tue) - Sept. 1 (Mon)	Oct. 25 (Sat)	Nov. 17 (Mon)

The TOPIK Center at the National Institute of International Education (NIIED) has been preparing for the smooth operation of the internet-based test in newly implementing countries by securing test sites with a stable internet environment and conducting pilot tests.

In addition, the center is promoting digital conversion for TOPIK, which includes remote proctoring, automatic question generation, and scoring. The digital platform will allow test-takers to take the test without traveling to a test center, which is expected to greatly improve convenience and respond to the rapidly increasing demand for test-taking.

* Proposed timeline (TBC): ① Construction: [1st phase] Platform development (Dec. 2025); [2nd phase] Platform

"In response to the growing demand for TOPIK, we will increase the number of countries and the number of times the test is administered, and ensure that the internet based-test is conducted reliably," said Park Sung-min, Deputy Minister of Planning and Coordination at the Ministry of Education. "We will also prepare to build a digital platform using AI so that Korean language proficiency can be assessed anytime, anywhere."

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