

2015 MOE Plans

Happy Education for All,
Creative Talent Shapes the Future

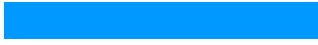
2015 Plan

for Ministry of Education

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MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF KOREA



2015 Policy Direction



2015 MOE Plans

"Happy Education for All, Creative Talent Shapes the Future"

① MOE will expand "Exam-Free Semester" to 70% of all middle schools, and career field trips will be provided further with the cooperation of various government ministries and the private sector.

△ In cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, and the Ministry of Health and Welfare, more career field trips will be discovered, which will eventually be expanded to all ministries.

△ "The Career Education Law" will be enacted to mandate all public organizations to provide career field trips for students.

② The national curriculum will be reformed to actively cultivate students' creativity and build their character, and the overall college admission system will be improved.

△ Character education will be covered more in the revised version of the national curriculum of 2015, which will be confirmed and made public in September.

△ Mid to long-term plans to improve the College Scholastic Ability Test will be put forth (from March), and English will be assessed based on an absolute grading scale from 2018 onward.

③ Colleges will be restructured to enhance their competitiveness.

△ Coupled with assessments on colleges, restructuring will be carried out, which will include downsizing and limited provision of financial support from the government.

△ Departments in colleges will be consolidated to better meet the demands of industries, and those colleges that actively implement consolidation will receive further support.

④ New demands will be created in higher education to prompt the atmosphere of the so-called Korean Wave spread in the field of global education.

△ More support will be provided to high-performing regional universities to help them attract the best and brightest international students, and their capacity of managing the international students will be strengthened.

△ Korea will host 2015 World Education Forum to share its firsthand experience of national development through education.

⑤ A new concept of humanities of the 21st century will be introduced to promote active humanities movements across Korea.

△ Small-scale humanities labs will be created and the 2nd phase of the Humanities Korea (HK) project will be introduced.

⑥ Universities' capacity in technology transfer will be greatly enhanced.

△ Source technologies, patents and outstanding research outcomes of universities will be fully protected and supported to be commercialized through Research & Business Development.

⑦ MOE will strive to create a very safe school environment, especially to secure students' mental health.

△ A system will be introduced to early detect and diagnose those at risk for depression → support will be provided to the students in cooperation with specialized institutions in their community.

⑧ Various ministries will work together to establish a support system for at-risk students and students from multicultural families.

△ A system to detect early and support students who are at risk will be established to

provide them with support, including vocational training opportunities.

⑨ Promotion of transparency and the sense of accountability in regards to local education budget through carrying our assessment on their financial management.

△ Incentives will be provided according to the result of assessments on the financial management.

⑩ Deputy Prime Minister of Social Affairs (Minister of Education) will strive to break down the silos between ministries and work with them to effectively address various social issues.

△ Meeting of ministers in the field of education, social affairs and culture will be organized on a regular basis.

Happy Education for All, Creative Talent Shapes the Future

1 Schools that nurture dreams and talents	2 Universities, pillars of creative economy	3 Linking vocational education with lifelong education	4 Safe schools and fair education opportunities for all students
1. Expansion of Exam-Free Semester	1. Restructuring of universities to increase competitiveness of higher education	1. Expansion of career field trips for high school students	1. Safe schools
2. Schools that help students build character	2. Creation of new demands in higher education	2. Boosting job placement rates of graduates of universities and junior colleges	2. Reduction of educational expenses
3. Curriculum that cultivates students' creativity	3. Production of creative talent through innovating higher education	3. Establishment of lifelong education system to prepare for the centenarian age	3. Provision of customized education
4. Improving teachers' level of expertise and morale	4. Enhancement of universities' research competitiveness and commercialization	4. Laying the foundation for individual competency-based society	4. Early childhood education leveling the playing field
5. College admission exam to be more relevant to what is actually taught in school	5. Realization of the Korean Wave in education worldwide		5. Better management of local education budget

◆ MOE will realize "Happy Education", which earns trust of the people by materializing the policies of the Park administration, including the enhancement of human resources through the promotion of vocational and character education, as well as the one which nurture creativity, and the introduction of a series of deregulation.

◆ Laying the foundation for people's happiness by exploring innovative ways to reform social policies in line with welfare and culture.

1. Schools that nurture dreams and talents

Go

To build students' character and nurture their creativity by improving the overall curriculum and college entrance system, while helping students find their dreams and cultivate talents.

1

Key Points

- Prior to being fully implemented from 2016 onward, the Exam-Free Semester will be actively supported to help it take root as a valid mechanism to develop students' aptitude and talents.
- Students' wholistic development is supported by improving the curriculum in a way that it can cultivate the creativity and character of students.
- Promote teachers' expertise and morale to advance the overall quality of school education.
- Improve the college entrance system to ensure that students can enter colleges without having to seek help from the private education sector.

Progress Index	2014	2015	2016	2017
No. of schools with Exam-Free Semester	811 (25%)	2,230 (70%)	3,186 (100%)	3,186 (100%)
Plans regarding character Education	Enactment of 「Character Education Promotion Act」	Establishment of overall plan of character education	Implementation of comprehensive plan on character education	Implementation and expansion of character education
Revised curriculum of 2015 and textbook development	Announcement of the curriculum overview	Announcement of specific outlines	Textbook development	Revision of CSAT
Absolute grading of CSAT English	Announcement of plans	Introduction of specific plans	Plan to stabilize the level of difficulty	Implementation from 2018
Support for teachers' study clubs	721	1,000	1,300	1,500

2. Universities, the Pillars of Creative Economy

Both qualitative and quantitative restructuring will be **Go** carried out to sharpen the competitive edge of colleges, serving as the key pillars of a creative economy.

1 Key Points

- To upgrade the competitiveness of higher education, colleges will be restructured and evaluated, as well as innovated to better meet the demand of industries and local economies.
- Regional universities will be financially supported to transform themselves to serve as hubs that produce well-equipped workers that are demanded by specific local economies.
- New demands in higher education will be created by attracting international students, accommodating overseas Koreans and strengthening vocational and lifelong education systems.
- With the wide-spread of interdisciplinary convergence and industry-university cooperation, well-rounded talent will be

nurtured. The introduction of K-MOOC will stimulate change in the way higher education is provided.

□ Universities' basic research capacities will be enhanced and their creative, intangible assets will be commercialized to transform universities into the sources of high added-value.

Progress Index	2014	2015	2016	2017
No. of international students	85,000	89,000	98,000	108,000
No. of colleges with startup-friendly courses	119	150	180	210
No. of courses of K-MOOC (no. of participating schools)	-	20 (10)	100 (20)	200 (30)
No. of technology transfer/transfer fee	2,900(approx)/ 50 billion won (approx)	3,100/ 53 billion won	3,400/ 57 billion won	3,800/ 65 billion won

3. Linking Vocational Education with Lifelong Education

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Education will be closely linked to the real-world industrial market to resolve the current mismatch between the market and academia, ensuring that everyone has what it takes to become qualified workforce.

1

Key Points

- In order to boost youth employment rates and bring about individuals' competency-based society, vocational education will be transformed to be in line with the needs of different industries, regions and employers.
- In high schools, apprenticeship system will be more readily expanded in vocational schools, and vocational education opportunities will be given to all students who wish to get a job early.
- In universities and junior colleges, courses that guarantee job placement will be provided to students to allow them to fully

concentrate on their studies without having to worry about their future.

□ Post-employment education system will be established to secure further educational opportunities for all workers, and lifelong education will be provided to all citizens to allow them to learn whenever they want to.

□ Infrastructure will be established to bring about an individual competency-based society including learning modules of the National Competency Standard and the National Qualification Framework.

Progress Index	2014	2015	2016	2017
Job placement rates of Specialized and Meister High School	44.2%	47.0%	48.5%	50.0%
No. of Swiss-style Apprenticeship Vocational Schools	9	19	30	41
No. of beneficiaries of literacy	190,000	230,000	390,000	520,000

education				
No. of developed NCS Learning Modules (cumulative)	230	544	797	797

4. Safe Schools, Fair Education Opportunities Leveling the Playing Field

Go

From kindergarten to college, schools will become much safer, and a level playing field will be achieved for all students as college tuition will depend on different income levels.

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Key Points

- All teachers and students are to raise their awareness on safety. School facilities safety inspections and drills will be carried out on a regular basis.
- Education environment, which can prevent and address school violence and student suicide, will be created, as well as a school culture which fosters active communication, thoughtful consideration, deep empathy and mutual respect.
- Educational expenses of households will be reduced, and customized support will be provided to vulnerable students living in

rural areas, those from multicultural families, those with disabilities, as well as North Korean defectors.

□ The quality of early childhood education will be improved, and it will be integrated with child-care services. Municipal education systems will readily be monitored and revised for improvement.

Progress Index	2014	2015	2016	2017
Drop-out rates	0.93%	0.90%	0.85%	0.80%
Tuition reduction rates	48%	50%	50%	50%
Surveillance video installation rate at Kindergartens	68%	80%	90%	more than 90%
Satisfaction rate of parents on primary school daycare centers	92.5%	95%	95.5%	96%