

Top Korean University Uses TOEIC® Test Scores for its Scholarship and Training Programs



"Local universities need to improve their students' competitiveness in order to raise their employment rates and the university's competitiveness itself. English is the most important focus for achieving this goal."

Suh Chae-Hong
President, Chosun University

Chosun University Success Story Snapshot

According to Suh Chae-Hong, President of Chosun University, English-language proficiency is the most important factor in achieving the goal of raising the competitiveness of the university and of its students. Because of this, the university requires students to submit a TOEIC® test score when applying for a scholarship or study abroad program.

By requiring students to submit TOEIC test scores, along with outstanding high school grades and achievements, Chosun University is able to select the best and brightest students.

Chosun University believes that with all of its scholarship and study abroad programs, their students' competitiveness in the job market will rise, and in turn, the university will become more competitive.

University Snapshot: Chosun University

Chosun University is one of the most prestigious universities in South Korea. Founded in 1946, the university offers bachelors degrees in over 15 academic departments, including Law, Business, Engineering, Medicine, Foreign Studies and General Education, among others. Additionally, the university maintains relationships with many universities abroad, allowing students and professors to take part in exchange programs.

Quick Facts

- **Founded:** 1946
- **University President:** Suh Chae-Hong
- **Campus Location:** Gwangju, South Korea
- **Undergraduate Students:** 23,700+
- **Number of Instructors:** 802

Source: Chosun University website (<http://eng.chosun.ac.kr/>)

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TOEIC® Test Success Story

Chosun University, South Korea

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Challenge

Founded in 1946, Chosun University is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in South Korea, and is comprised of over 23,700 students, 802 instructors, and 305 faculty members. In 2014, the university marks the 68th anniversary of its founding. Along with being one of the best universities in South Korea, Chosun University also maintains relationships with overseas universities and is quickly becoming a central university for international exchange.

However, Suh Chae-Hong, President of Chosun University, believes the school must do more in order to remain competitive. "Universities are fighting to survive during the global economic downturn. Local universities need to improve their students' competitiveness in order to raise their employment rates and the competitiveness of the university itself. English is the most important focus for achieving this goal."

Solution

According to President Suh Chae-Hong, English proficiency is the most important factor in achieving the goal of raising the competitiveness of the university and of its students. In addition to outstanding high school grades and accomplishments, the university also requires students to submit a TOEIC® test score when applying for scholarships or for a study abroad program. Additionally, they are required to submit new TOEIC test scores after each year of enrollment in the school. Among the scholarships awarded by Chosun University is the Outstanding Freshmen Scholarship, which is awarded to incoming freshmen with high grades and an above-average TOEIC score. In order for a student to continue receiving funds from the Outstanding Freshmen Scholarship, they are required to earn a TOEIC test score higher than 650 before they begin their sophomore year. Another scholarship for which Chosun University considers TOEIC test scores is the Pride CU Baek-Ak Scholarship, which is awarded to students who demonstrate excellent foreign language ability.



In order to be selected as a scholarship recipient, students are required to achieve a TOEIC test score of at least 620 if a freshmen, 710 if a sophomore, 760 if a junior, and 850 if a senior, as well as demonstrate a self-improvement plan and participate in various cultural activities. Chosun University also requires students to submit a TOEIC test score to be considered for one of its short- or long-term overseas study programs. To apply for study in the United States, students must score higher than 550, and to study in the Philippines, they must score at least 400. When selecting students who want to participate in their International Volunteer Program, the school asks for a score of at least 550 on the TOEIC test.

Results

By requiring students to submit TOEIC test scores to be considered for one of its scholarships or study abroad programs, along with outstanding high school grades and achievements, Chosun University is able to select the best and brightest students from South Korea. According to the university president, the school's goal is to improve the English proficiency of its student body as a whole, rather than just a few select students. Chosun University believes that with all of its scholarships and study abroad programs, its students' competitiveness in the job market will rise, and in turn, the university will become more competitive.

About the TOEIC Tests

For more than 30 years the TOEIC tests have been the global standard for measuring workplace English-language communication skills. The TOEIC tests are used by nearly 14,000 businesses, organizations, and government agencies in 150 countries.