
The 16th e-ICON World Contest

– Guidelines for International Participants –

March, 2026



Ministry of Education

KEFA 한국디지털교육협회
Korea Digital Education Frontiers Association

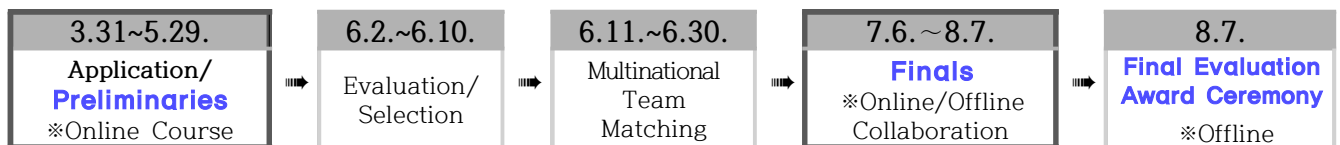
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e-ICON World Contest? **International AI-SW Competition** to **develop web apps** to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs) with **multinational teams** from Korea and partner countries

※ Web App: An application that runs in a web browser without installation

- **Title:** The 16th e-ICON* World Contest
- **Host:** Ministry of Education, Republic of Korea
- **Organizer:** Korea Digital Education Frontiers Association (KEFA)
- **Official language:** English
- **Eligibility:** Any middle and high school students and teachers from the developing countries
 - ※ Team should consist of two students and one teacher
 - ※ Developing Countries: Countries classified in 'DAC List of ODA Recipients'
- **Theme:** App Development to Achieve **SDGs*3 "Good health and well-being"**
 - ※ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): the 17 goals set by the UN and the international community aim to create a sustainable world by 2030
- **Method:** Online and Offline collaboration
- **Documents:** ① Application ② Project Proposal ③ Consent to the Collection and Use of Personal Data
 - ※ Documents should be submitted via website (e-icon.or.kr/en/)
 - ※ From 2026, deliverables must be web applications and a **web application development proposal must be submitted.**
- **Application Period:** **March 31(Tue) ~ May 29(Fri), 2026/ 17:00(KST)**
 - ※ Application will not be accepted after May 29 (Fri) 2026/ 17:00 (KST)
- **Contest Procedure and Schedule :** ※ Schedule and method may change



- **Rewards**
 - **(Teams in Preliminaries)** Complimentary online course on AI-SW and SDGs
 - **(Teams in Finals)** Teams in Finals will be invited to Korea
Mentoring(Communication and Technology) will be provided
 - **(Final Winners)**
 - 1st place : Award of the Minister of Education (Korea) and Prize
 - 2nd & 3rd place : Award Certificate and Prize

2 Main Activities

○ (Preliminaries)

- Participants learn about SDGs and web application development through online courses provided on the e-ICON website. (<http://e-icon.or.kr/en/>)
- Develop project proposal on the theme (**SDGs 3 “Good health and well-being”**)

○ (Finals)

Finalist teams will be grouped into multinational teams to carry out international collaborative activities, including developing a web application and preparing a presentation.

- Teams advancing to the Finals will be invited to Korea to complete web application development, project proposal and presentation materials

3 Schedule

※ Detailed schedule and activities may change.

Process	Contents	Schedule
Preliminaries	<p>(Online Training) Participants learn about SDGs and web application development through online courses provided on the e-ICON website (http://e-icon.or.kr/en/)</p> <p>(Documents) ① Application, ② Project Proposal, ③ Consent to the Collection and Use of Personal Data</p>	<p>March 31(Tue) ~ May 29(Fri)</p>
↓		
Selection	<p>(Evaluation) Teams will be selected for the Finals based on the evaluation of their Project Proposals.</p>	<p>June 2(Tue) ~ June 10(Wed)</p>
↓		
Multinational Team Matching	<p>(Announcement) The result of Multinational Team Matching will be posted at e-ICON website (http://e-icon.or.kr/en/) ※ Multinational Team: 1 Korean Team + 1 International Team</p> <p>(Documents) ① Recommendation Letter</p>	<p>June 11(Thu) ~ June 30(Tue)</p>
↓		
Finals	<p>(Online) July 6(Mon)-31(Fri) : 4 weeks - Team activity via online collaboration</p> <p>(Offline) August 3(Mon)-August 7(Fri) : 1 week - Complete the web application development and prepare presentation materials for the final evaluation</p> <p>(Final Evaluation) August 7(Fri) - Each team will present the results ※ 1st Round: poster session/ Final Round: presentation session</p> <p>(Award Ceremony) August 7(Fri) - Announcement of result of the final evaluation and awarding ceremony</p> <p>(Results) ①Poster ②Team Project Proposal ③Presentation Materials ④Web App Demonstration Video ⑤Completed Web App</p>	<p>July 6(Mon) ~ Aug 7(Fri)</p>

2 Preliminaries

1 Preliminaries

- **(Preliminaries Period)** **March 31(Tue) ~ May 29(Fri), 2026/ 17:00(KST)**
- **(Eligibility)** Any middle and high school students and teachers from the developing countries
 - Access to a reliable online environment to participate throughout the entire contest
 - Ability to communicate in English
 - Availability during the preliminaries (April-May) and the Finals (July-August)

<NOTICE>

- ★ Teams must consist of **two students and one teacher**.
- ★ Finalist teams **will be invited to Korea** for the Finals in August.

○ **(Roles and Responsibilities)**

	Roles & Responsibilities
Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Contribute to developing the app for the multinational team contest- Preliminaries: complete the online course on SDGs & App development- Finals: collaborate to complete the three output (team project proposal, completed app, and presentation material & video)
Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Coach and guide students in international collaborative activities- Monitor and evaluate the students' contribution to the project- Manage communication between KEFA and students

○ **(Online Training)**

- Training courses about SDGs and App development will be posted at the e-ICON website (<http://e-icon.or.kr/en/>)

- **(Application Period)** All required documents should be submitted via e-ICON website **by May 29 (Fri), 2026/ 17:00(KST)**

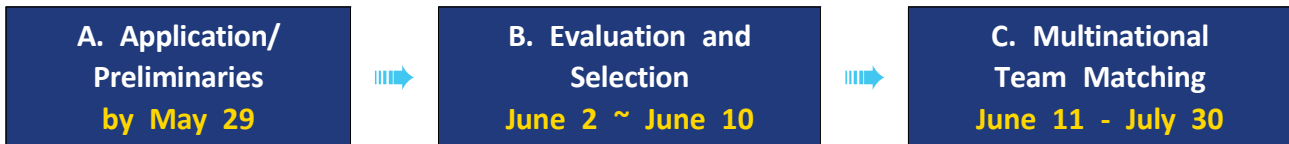
※ Application will not be accepted after May 29(Fri) 2026/ 17:00(KST)

Required Documents

- ① **Application**
- ② **Project Proposal**
- ③ **Consent to the Collection and Use of Personal Data**

※ Beginning with the 2026 competition, the contest deliverables will be **transitioned to web application development**.

2 Method



A. Application / Preliminaries

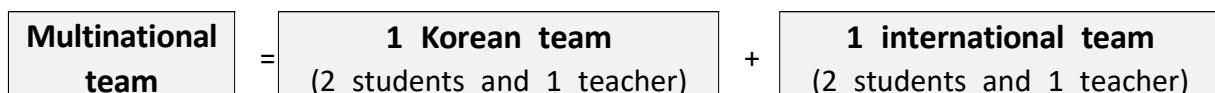
- **(Period)** March 31 (Tue) ~ May 29 (Fri), 2026
- **(Online Training)** Taking learning courses posted at <http://e-icon.or.kr/en/>
- **(Team)** Team should consist of two students and one teacher
 - ※ Each team should submit one project proposal
- **(Apply)** All documents should be submitted through **online application system**
 - ※ Each team (two students and one teacher) must submit **individual applications**, along with **one project proposal per team**.

B. Evaluation of Project and Selection

- **(Period)** June 2(Tue) ~ June 10(Wed), 2026
- **(Evaluation)** Each team's Project Proposal will be evaluated
- **(Selection)** Teams advancing to the Finals will be selected based on the evaluation results

C. Multinational Team Matching

- **(Period)** June 11(Thu) ~ June 30(Tue), 2026
- **(Team Matching)** Teams consisting of Korean and international participants will be formed based on evaluation results and development plans (e.g., themes, tools)
- **(Structure)**



- ※ Mentoring (language and technology) will be provided for international cooperation
- **(Announcement)** The results of the multinational team matching will be announced on the official website. (<http://e-icon.or.kr/en/>)
- **(Recommendation Letter)** Finalist teams are required to submit a recommendation letter from their school principal

3 Finals

1 Finals

- **(Period) July 6(Mon) ~ August 7(Fri), 2026**
- **(Online Finals : 4 Weeks) July 6(Mon) ~ 31(Fri), 2026**
 - Online collaboration and mentoring (communication and technical support) will be provided to support international cooperation in web application development
- **(Offline Finals : 1 Week) August 3(Mon) ~ August 7(Fri), 2026**
 - Participants will be invited to Korea to finalize their team projects and take part in the Final Evaluation and Award Ceremony
 - ※ Detailed plans will be announced
- **(Main Activities for students)** Web application development, project proposal preparation, and Final Evaluation preparation
- **(Main Activities for teachers)** Site visits and a teachers workshop
 - ※ Schools advancing to the final round will be designated as Digital Education Hub Schools.

2 Final Evaluation

- **(Evaluation schedule) August 7 (Fri), 2026** ※ *Date may change, TBA*
- **(Submission)** All documents for final evaluation should be submitted by **August 6 (Thu), 2026**

Mandatory Documents for Submission

- ① Web Application Development Project Proposal (English)
- ② Poster (English/A0 size)
- ③ Presentation Material (English/ PPT)
- ④ App Demonstration Video (English)
- ⑤ Web Application (English)

3 Award Ceremony

- **(Award Ceremony Schedule) August 7 (Fri), 2026**
 - 1st place : Award from the Minister of the Ministry of Education (ROK) and Prize
 - 2nd & 3rd place : Award Certificate and Prize

4 Notes for Applicants

Online Application System

- **All application should be filled** and **documents should be submitted** via online application system at e-ICON website (<http://e-icon.or.kr/en/>).
 - ※ Applications/documents submitted via email will not be accepted.
- **The project proposal** should be submitted as a **soft copy (PDF format only)** via the online application system.
 - ※ Please refer 'how to apply' on website

Contest Deliverables

- **Web Application** : All entries must be developed as web-based applications, and the final deliverables must be submitted in a web-executable format.

※ Starting from the 2026 competition, contest deliverables will be changed to **web application (web-based application) development**.

Utilization of Winners' Apps

- Based on feedback from experts from relevant organizations and corporations, the winning apps will be published on the e-ICON World Contest website and showcased at EdTech Fair Korea 2026.
 - ※ The winning apps will be published on the e-ICON website.

AI Tool Usage Guidelines

- The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools is permitted in this contest. However, such tools may only be used for reference or assistance, and participants are solely responsible for the planning, design, and implementation of their final submissions.
- If Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools are used, participants must clearly specify the name of the tool, its purpose, scope of use, and details of its contribution.

- The direct submission of AI-generated code, images, or text without modification is discouraged. All outputs must demonstrate the participant's understanding and include meaningful revisions and enhancements.
- Any inappropriate or improper use of AI - such as false disclosure, excessive reliance, or copyright infringement - may result in penalties during the evaluation process, regardless of the intended purpose or necessity of AI use.

Rights to Exhibit Contest Outcomes and Copyright Matters

- Copyright of all entries remains with each team; however, the organizer reserves the right to exhibit them for promotional purposes after the contest.
- Participants are responsible for verifying the usage rights of all sources (e.g., images, photos) used in content development. Prior consultation with the copyright holder of any content used in the app is strongly recommended.
 - ※ *Examples of sources of images/icons to be used: Pixabay, Unsplash, ICONMONSTR, Icons8, etc*
- The use of free fonts distributed online is recommended.

*** Copyright Act Article 46 (Authorization to Use Works)**

- ① The holder of an author's economic rights may grant authorization to another person to use the work.
- ② A person who has obtained such authorization pursuant to paragraph (1) may exploit the work only in accordance with the terms and within the scope of such authorization.
- ③ The right of exploitation granted under paragraph (1) may not be transferred or assigned to a third party without the consent of the holder of the author's economic rights.

※ Examples of usable fonts: DAUM fonts, NAVER Nanum Eco, Jeju fonts, fonts developed by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, KoPub, etc.

Appendix 1-1. Application

Appendix 1-2. Project Proposal

Appendix 1-3. Recommendation Letter