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## Universities Poised for Global Research Leadership with G-LAMP Initiative

- Building on the success of the existing LAMP initiative, now G-LAMP expands research horizons through global collaboration
- Six new universities will be selected, reaching 14 by 2024 in total, with 5 billion won annual commitment

The Ministry of Education (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Lee Ju-Ho) unveiled the 2024 G-LAMP\* plan on March 20.

\* G-LAMP: Global-Learning & Academic research institution for Master's-PhD students, and Post-docs

G-LAMP is a project with a focus on global collaboration, which was formally known as the LAMP project, that supports universities in establishing autonomous research institute management systems. Its goals include: 1) bolstering universities' research capabilities; 2) establishing and operating key priority thematic research centers that foster collaboration across disciplines; 3) cultivating collaborative research led by young scholars, including post-doctoral fellows.

Building on the project's existing foundation, the 2024 iteration rebrands as G-LAMP. This shift reflects a renewed emphasis on strengthening university autonomy in managing their operations, and fostering conditions that enable world-class, global collaborative research.

### 2023 LAMP project

- Coordinate, evaluate, and manage on-campus research institutes
- Foster budding researchers
- Establish and operate priority-centered research institutes for conducting large-scale joint research in basic sciences.



### 2024 G-LAMP project

- In line with the current policy directions, support for domestic and international joint research and on-campus research institutes will be strengthened.

\* Roadmap for the Development of Priority-centered Research Institutes, and joint research proposals (portfolios) are included.

Participating universities will select one of the ten designated basic science fields to establish a center of excellence. Researchers from these centers will conduct research by developing a joint research plan (portfolio). This portfolio will emphasize collaboration with overseas researchers (or research institutions) within the chosen field.\*

\*Mathematical and statistical sciences; atomic sciences; astroparticle and space sciences; molecular sciences; nanoscience; matter and energy sciences; DNA and RNA biology; evolution and biodiversity; earth, ocean, and atmospheric sciences; brain, neuroscience, and basic medicine.

Additionally, a shift is being made in how universities support research institutions. Previously, universities provided grants (incentives) based on self-evaluation results, primarily to institutions aligned with priority themes. Moving forward, universities will support a wider range of research revitalization programs, with a focus on restructuring institutions to enhance overall research activity.

The G-LAMP is expanding its reach in 2024, selecting six additional universities to bring the total to fourteen. Notably, four of these new selections will come from non-metropolitan institutions, fostering a more geographically balanced approach to research. The final selection will be conducted by a dedicated evaluation team. They will assess universities based on four key criteria: 1) project group composition and operation plan; 2) on-campus research institute management and support plan; 3) key theme research institute support plan; 4) financial investment and performance management plan. Selected universities will receive significant financial backing. During the five-year project period, they will be awarded an average of KRW 5 billion per year (total budget of KRW 516.7 billion in 2024).

\*Newly selected universities in 2024 will receive an average of 2.5 billion won per university, taking into account the project period (6 month).

Important note for new applicants:

Universities interested in joining the G-LAMP can submit applications through

a two-step process:

-Preliminary submission (April): This initial stage allows universities to express their interest.

-Main Proposal Submission (May): Detailed plans outlining the proposed research will be submitted during this stage.

Specific deadlines and application procedures will be announced soon.

Underscoring the importance of universities in driving basic science research, Shim Min-chul, Director General of Human Capital Development Policy Planning Bureau of the Ministry of Education, stated, "We are committed to making the G-LAMP a springboard for propelling our universities' basic science research to world-class standing.

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