

ACRC Korea Transparency Newsletter (Dec. 2025)

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ACRC Announced Results of 2025 Comprehensive Integrity Assessment of Public Institutions

- *Seoul Gwangjin District and Boseong County in Jeollanam-do have achieved top grade for 3 consecutive years*
- *The overall integrity score for administrative agencies/public service related organizations (81 points) has increased compared to the previous year...Complainants' corruption experience rate (0.49%) has also risen, indicating a need for continuous anti corruption efforts that the public can feel*
 - *Among national and public universities, research fund embezzlement/misappropriation experience rate (2.38%) was relatively high*
- *The overall integrity score (74.9 points) and integrity effort score (87.4 points) for local councils have increased compared to the previous year... However, integrity perception score (67 points) has decreased, indicating that continuous efforts to improve the integrity awareness in local fields are necessary*

(Dec. 23rd, 2025, ACRC)

The Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC, Chairperson Ryu Chul Whan) announced the results of the '2025 Comprehensive Integrity Assessment of Public Institutions', which comprehensively measures and evaluates the integrity levels of 709 public institutions.

* Originally, 721 institutions were to be evaluated for 2025, but the number was reduced to 709 due to exemptions for special disaster areas (8 institutions), liquidation of an institution (1 institution), and insufficient valid samples (3 institutions).

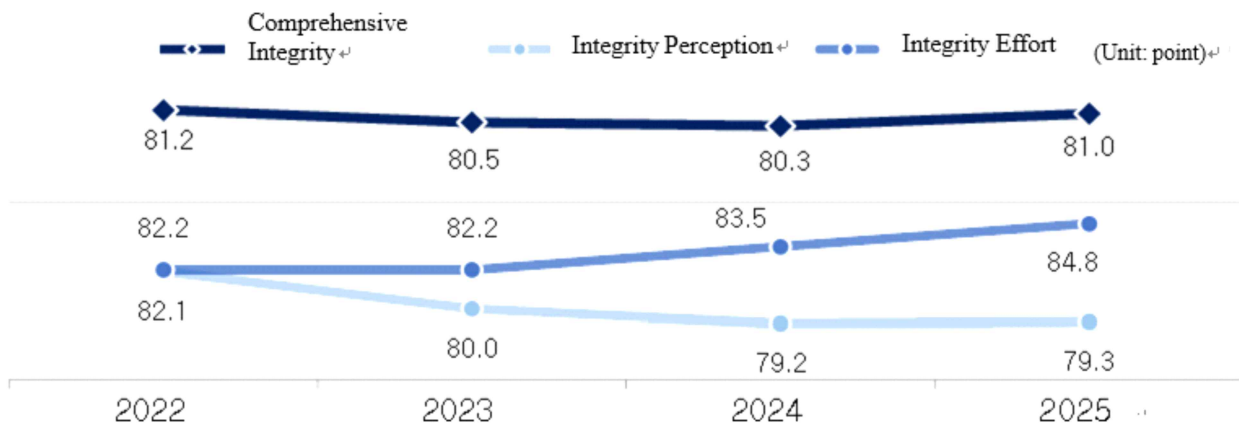
The comprehensive integrity assessment results were derived from the cumulative results of the following: a survey involving about 300,000 participants, including 220,000 citizens with service experience with public institutions and 80,000 internal staffs, which reflects the 'integrity perception'; the 'integrity effort score' that evaluates the anti-corruption efforts undertaken by institutions over one year; and the 'corruption status evaluation' that reflects the occurrence of corruption events in terms of deductions.

Assessment Results of Administrative Agencies and Public Service-Related Organizations

First, the integrity scores for all five categories - central administrative agencies (48), metropolitan governments (17), local governments (218), education agencies (17), and related organizations (150) - have increased compared to the previous year.

The average integrity score of 450 public institutions for the year 2025 was 81 points, which is an increase of 0.7 points from a year earlier, marking the first upward trend since the comprehensive integrity assessment system was reformed in 2022.

**< Changes in Comprehensive Integrity
(Integrity Perception and Effort) Scores (2022-2025) >**



※ Since 2022, the integrity assessment system and the anti-corruption initiative assessment system were integrated into the current comprehensive integrity assessment system [integrity perception score + integrity effort score - corruption reality assessment (deduction of 10 points in maximum)]

By type of institution, while the integrity effort scores increased across all types of public institutions, the integrity perception scores declined in central administrative agencies and metropolitan local governments, particularly with the largest drop in the metropolitan local governments (▼0.5 points).

< Comprehensive Integrity Scores and Each Subfactor Score (Points, Change from Previous Year) >

Category	Comprehensive Integrity	Integrity perception	Integrity Effort
All Institutions (450)	81.0 (▲0.7)	79.3 (▲0.1)	84.8 (▲1.3)
Central Administrative Agencies (48)	81.4 (▲0.5)	80.8 (▼0.3)	84.6 (▲1.8)
Metropolitan Local Governments (17)	79.5 (▲0.8)	77.0 (▼0.5)	84.1 (▲1.1)
Basic Local Governments (218)	78.2 (▲1.1)	75.9 (▲0.3)	83.1 (▲2.0)
Educational offices (17)	83.5 (▲0.1)	79.4 (-)	90.1 (▲0.7)
Public Service-Related Organizations (150)	84.9 (▲0.3)	84.1 (▲0.1)	86.8 (▲0.1)

By institution, there are 24 institutions (5.3%) that have achieved a Grade 1, an increase of six institutions from the previous year, and among them, two institutions, Seoul Gwangjin District and Boseong County in Jeonnam, have maintained the Grade 1 for three consecutive years. In the Integrity Perception area, the Administrative City Construction Agency received Grade 1 for three consecutive years, while in the integrity effort area, Seoul Gwangjin District and the National Health Insurance Corporation received Grade 1 for three consecutive years.

Among 450 public institutions evaluated this time, 131 institutions (29.1%) achieved higher integrity grades than those they received in the previous year while 113 institutions (25.1%) received lower grades. Among these, 22 institutions

(4.9%), including the Intellectual Property Office and Gyeongnam Changnyeong County, have seen their grades rise by two stages while Gunsan City and Jangsu Country in Jeonbuk province have improved their grades by three places from the previous year.

The average integrity perception score of all evaluated institutions was 79.3 points, an increase of 0.1 points from a year earlier. By type of institution, integrity perception scores of central administrative agencies (▼0.3points) and metropolitan local governments (▼0.5 points) declined, while basic local governments (▲0.3 points) and public service-related organizations (▲0.1 points) saw their scores improve, contributing to the overall average rise in integrity perception.

In the survey on integrity perceptions among the public during their dealings with public institutions, a high number of negative responses were recorded for the items "low transparency in operations" and "passive work behaviors such as nonfeasance or neglect of duty." Meanwhile, the survey on integrity perceptions by public officials revealed vulnerabilities in areas related to "providing privileges based on relationships or private interests" and "unreasonable demands, directives, and abuses of power," indicating the need for anti-corruption measures that consider vulnerabilities both within and outside the organization.

Additionally, the proportion of the public experiencing corruption was 0.49%, which has increased (▲0.09 percentage points) compared to the previous year, indicating that the experience rate of traditional corrupt practices such as bribery, gifts, and favors remains high. This suggests that efforts to combat corruption in the public sector that are perceptible to the public should continue to be made.

The integrity effort score rose to 84.8 points, an increase of 1.3 points compared to the previous year, reflecting the systematic implementation of anti-corruption policies based on thorough adherence to assessment indicators across various institutions. Notably, basic local governments showed the largest increase (▲2.0

points) for the second consecutive year, maintaining a steady upward trend.

*In the year 2022: 75.9 points →2023: 78.5 points → 2024: 81.1 points → 2025: 83.1 points

Furthermore, to promote the task of "mandatory integrity education for future generations" related to National Policy Task No. 16 "Anti-Corruption Reform Aimed at Realization of Civil Rights and Interest," a new assessment indicator for "Expansion of Integrity Education" was established. As a result, integrity education has been conducted for 21,300 students across 17 city and provincial educational offices and 176 Offices of Education nationwide.

As for the corruption reality assessment, 390 corruption cases have been identified across 153 institutions, showing a decrease* in both the number of institutions subject to deductions and the number of cases compared to the previous year.

In terms of corrupt behavior types, management positions reported the highest rates of abuse of power (47.3%), middle management had the highest rates of bribery (31.7%), and lower-level positions had the highest rates of embezzlement or misappropriation of public funds (25.3%), suggesting the need for tailored anti-corruption measures that consider the occurrence patterns of corruption cases by job position.

* In 2024, 199 institutions and 490 cases were subject to deductions.

Meanwhile, among the 27 institutions that received integrity consulting* from the ACRC, 18 institutions (66.7%) saw their comprehensive integrity scores increase. Notably, Jangsu County in Jeonbuk State jumped three grades, while Namyangju City in Gyeonggi Province, Pyeongtaek City in Gyeonggi Province, Hampyeong County in Jeonnam, Gyeryong City in Chungnam, the Korea Asset Management Corporation, and the Sangcheon County Council in Gyeongnam all achieved an increase of two grades.

* This consulting was conducted among 27 organizations that received Grade 4 or 5 in the

previous year, focusing on diagnosing vulnerable areas and finding improvement measures to enhance integrity.

Results of Assessments for Public Universities and Local Councils

Public universities (16) and local councils (243) were evaluated using a separate assessment model due to the different characteristics and nature of their work compared to administrative agencies and public service-related organizations.

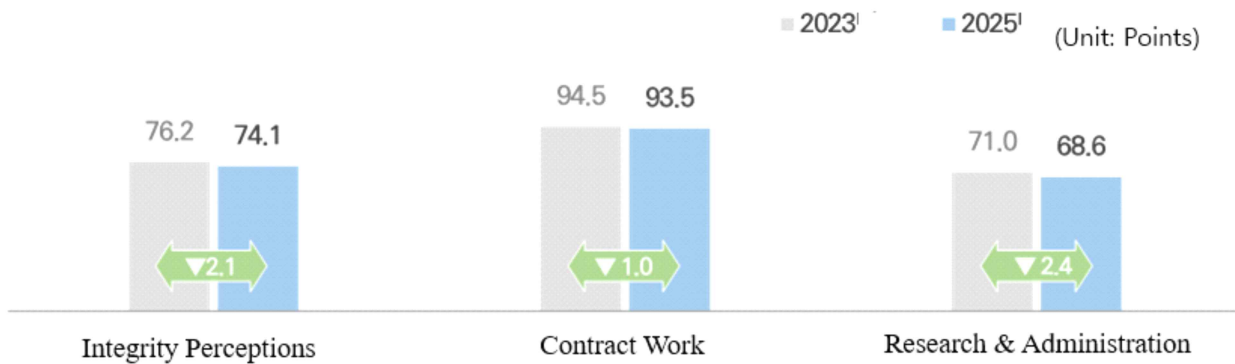
[Assessment Results for Public Universities]

As a result of the comprehensive integrity assessment for the 16 public universities with an incoming student capacity of more than 2,500, they received a score of 78.0 points, which is an increase of 0.4 points compared to 2023, but still lower than the comprehensive integrity score of administrative agencies and public service-related organizations (81 points).

* Public universities were not subject to the 2024 comprehensive integrity assessment, so this is a comparison with the 2023 assessment results.

The integrity perception score for public universities was 74.1 points, a decrease of 2.1 points compared to 2023. This decline is attributed to lower integrity perception scores reported by the general public who have experience in contract work (93.5 points, ▼1.0 point), as well as by internal members such as faculty, researchers, and graduate students involved in research and administrative tasks (68.6 points, ▼2.4 points).

[Integrity Perception Scores by Area and Changes Compared to 2023]



In particular, internal members perceived that the research and administrative areas were relatively more vulnerable to corruption in terms of "provision of privileges" and "abuse of power." Additionally, the experience rate of corruption showed that the rate of experiencing research fund embezzlement or misappropriation (2.38%) was relatively high compared to the experience rate of traditional corrupt practices such as bribery and favors (2.08%). This highlights the urgent need for measures to enhance transparency and integrity in the research sector, which is a specialized area for public and national universities.

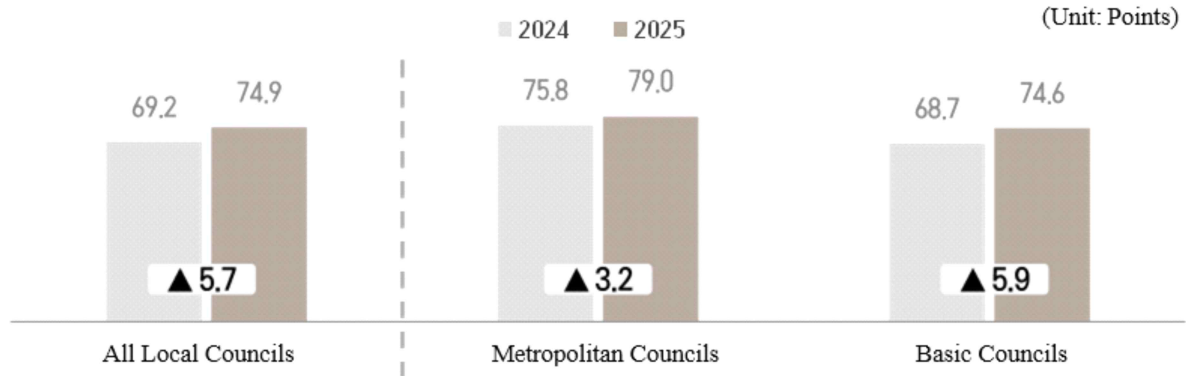
Meanwhile, the integrity effort score for public universities was 86.7 points, slightly higher than the average of administrative agencies and public interest organizations (84.8 points). Notably, in line with the newly introduced "expansion of integrity education" indicator aimed at enhancing integrity awareness among future generations, 14 of the 16 universities are implementing integrity education as part of their formal curriculum or conducting special lectures on integrity, thereby laying the groundwork for integrity education for future generations.

[Assessment Results of Local Councils]

Following last year, a comprehensive integrity assessment was conducted for all 243 local councils this year. The comprehensive integrity score is 74.9 points, showing an increase (▲5.7 points) compared to last year, with both metropolitan

councils (▲3.2 points) and basic councils (▲5.9 points) experiencing score increases.

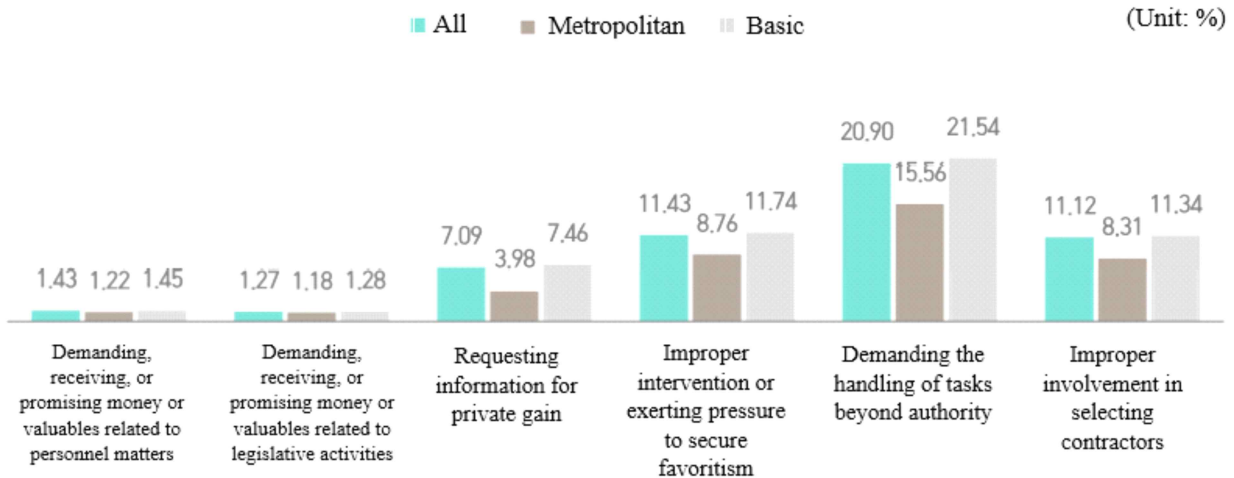
< Comparison of Comprehensive Integrity Scores by Type of Local Council >



However, the integrity perception score evaluated by local government officials, employees of affiliated organizations, and local residents was 67.0 points, which is a decrease of 0.4 points from the previous year. In particular, the score in the "Legislative Activities" area, which measures the extent to which work is conducted fairly without solicitation or requests, was 65.8 points, a decline of 0.7 points from the previous year.

The corruption experience rate in the legislative activities area has also increased for both metropolitan and basic councils compared to the previous year. High corruption experience rates were reported in both types of councils for items such as "unreasonable demands for work beyond authority" (metropolitan: 15.56%, basic: 21.54%) and "improper interference or pressure for privileges" (metropolitan: 8.76%, basic: 11.74%). Additionally, for all items, the corruption experience rate in basic councils was higher than that in metropolitan councils.

< Status of Corruption Experience Rates by Item in the Legislative Activities Area >



The integrity effort score for the 243 local councils was 87.4 points, which is an increase of 9.6 points compared to last year, with a more pronounced rise in basic councils (▲10.2 points) compared to metropolitan councils (▲1.6 points).

In particular, high compliance rates were noted in key indicators such as establishing regulations for fair hiring of non-government employees (97.3 points), integrity training for high-ranking officials (92 points), and curbing unreasonable payment practices for legislative expenses while enhancing transparency in decision-making (88.9 points).

On the other hand, to address corruption vulnerabilities such as inadequate evaluation of overseas business trips and improper expense execution by local councils, the assessment criteria included "improvement of regulations for official overseas trips." As a result, it was found that only 159 councils (65.4%) had established standards and procedures for evaluating overseas trip requests. This indicates a need for ongoing efforts to establish a systematic foundation to enhance transparency in the management of overseas trips by local councils.

The results of the comprehensive integrity assessment will be made public to citizens through the ACRC websites and the evaluated institutions. Additionally, customized improvement measures for the corruption vulnerabilities identified

through the evaluation should be swiftly developed and implemented for each institution.

Lee Myung-soon, Vice Chairperson of the ACRC Anti-Corruption Bureau, stated, "The continuous anti-corruption efforts pursued in the public sector have resulted in an increase in the comprehensive integrity score. However, we must be vigilant regarding the rising experience rates of traditional corruption types, such as bribery, gifts, and favors, and strive for ongoing anti-corruption efforts that citizens can perceive."

He further emphasized, "As the central agency for anti-corruption, the ACRC will actively support the promotion of autonomous integrity policies by public institutions at all levels and ensure the implementation of anti-corruption reforms that realize the rights and interests of citizens."

ACRC Announced Its 2025 Achievements in Commemoration of International Anti-Corruption Day (Dec. 9)

- Marking the International Anti-Corruption Day on Dec. 9, ACRC announced key anti-corruption policy achievements ... Strengthening integrity education for future generations, solidifying the Conflict of Interest Prevention Act, hosting the APEC anti-corruption meeting, etc.

(Dec. 4th, 2025, ACRC)

The Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC, Chairperson Ryu Chul Whan) announced its 2025 anti-corruption performance on December 9 to mark International Anti-Corruption Day.

* December 9 is designated as International Anti-Corruption Day, commemorating the UN's 2003 signing ceremony for the UN Convention against Corruption in Mérida, Mexico.

In February 2025, Transparency International (TI) published the 2024 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) in which Korea scored 64 out of 100, ranking 30th out of 180 countries-its highest score and rank to date.

Beyond being merely a score or ranking, CPI is a key indicator affecting national competitiveness and economic growth, requiring whole-of-government management and improvement efforts.

Accordingly, as the lead anti-corruption agency, the ACRC has since early this year focused on five key policies to improve CPI: building a foundation to strengthen integrity education for future generations; ensuring the stable implementation of the Conflict of Interest Prevention Act for Public Officials; strict handling of corruption cases involving fiscal waste; strengthening whistleblower protection and support systems, including expanded relief payments; and the

successful hosting of the APEC anti-corruption meeting.

① Laying the Groundwork to Strengthen Integrity Education for Future Generations

The ACRC focused its efforts this year on strengthening integrity education for future generations. In August, it established a dedicated task force within the Anti-Corruption Training Institute and has been faithfully implementing the "mandatory integrity education for future generations," a task adopted as a national agenda under the Lee administration.

The ACRC concluded MOUs on integrity education with all 17 metropolitan and provincial offices of education nationwide, as well as with 25 universities.

Based on this cooperation system, the ACRC operated "Visiting Classes for Integrity Experience" at 60 elementary, middle, and high schools, and distributed integrity education content tailored to elementary students through the education offices, enabling about 38,000 students at 142 elementary schools nationwide to learn about integrity.

In addition, integrity special lectures were offered at 20 universities this year, and at four, including Hanyang University, Jeonbuk National University, UNIST, and the Korea National University of Education, integrity courses were opened as credit-bearing regular classes.

② Stable Implementation of the Conflict of Interest Prevention Act

The ACRC worked to ensure that the Conflict of Interest Prevention Act, implemented in 2022, takes firm root in the public sector. The Act was enacted to prohibit public officials from pursuing private interests related to their official duties, thereby preventing conflicts of interest that may arise during duty

performance and ensuring fair execution of duties.

To support public officials' understanding and adaptation in the Act's third year of enforcement, the ACRC: introduced a QR code-based self-diagnosis service to easily check for conflicts of interest; produced and distributed a guideline for preventing conflicts of interest in local councils and quarterly "Get it Right" card news; and held regional briefings for 798 agencies and 1,169 public officials.

③ **Strict Handling of Corruption Cases Involving Fiscal Waste**

The ACRC identified and remedied structural corruption causing significant losses to national finances through systematic fact-finding.

First, it received reports and uncovered public institutions that, in violation of government guidelines, over-allocated about 600 billion won in personnel expenses over the past eight years, and requested audits by supervisory agencies.

It also found improper execution of about 2.5 billion won, such as purchasing expensive personal items as "training expenses" and notified supervisory bodies to recover the funds, while demanding institutional improvements including sanction provisions for improper spending.

In July, a full review of seed release projects in the southwestern seas uncovered bid-rigging worth 10.3 billion won and delivery fraud worth 6.8 billion won-a total of 17.1 billion won-which was referred to the Korea Coast Guard.

Separately, to scrutinize entrenched corrupt practices in education, all 17 metropolitan/provincial education offices were inspected, revealing improper cases totaling 300 million won, including overpayments of overseas travel per diem, execution of ancillary facility costs, and operation of resort facilities.

④ **Strengthening Whistleblower Protection & Support, Including Expansion of Relief Payments**

Whistleblower protection and support systems, including relief payments, were significantly reinforced. Relief payments are monetary support provided to public-interest whistleblowers and their relatives/household members to compensate for damages or costs incurred due to reporting.

This year, the ACRC doubled the outpatient treatment cost limit covered by relief-from 1 million won to 2 million won-and shortened the average processing time for relief applications by 33.6% year-on-year to ensure timely support for whistleblowers.

To promptly and effectively resolve situations where whistleblowers face disadvantages from their organizations due to reporting, the ACRC actively used the settlement recommendation system. While only five recommendations were made over the past five years, six were issued in 2025 alone, helping parties amicably and ultimately resolve conflicts.

To further bolster the foundation of whistleblower protection and support, the Act on the Protection of Public Interest Whistleblowers was revised to introduce a system for temporarily suspending procedures for disadvantageous measures.

For the Act on the Prevention of Corruption and the Establishment and Management of the ACRC, draft amendments were prepared and preannounced to: prohibit claims for damages against whistleblowers; and add attempts to identify whistleblowers, obstruct reporting, or coerce withdrawal of reports as grounds for presuming disadvantageous measures.

⑤ **Successful Hosting of APEC Anti-Corruption Meetings**

In February and July, the ACRC held the 40th and 41st APEC Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group plenaries to discuss the need to strengthen anti-corruption policies in the Asia-Pacific and practical cooperation measures.

From July 31 to August 1, ACRC hosted APEC's first-ever High-Level Anti-Corruption Dialogue in Songdo, Incheon.

Ministers and vice ministers from 20 member economies, along with experts from international organizations and the private sector, attended. They focused on international cooperation to counter corruption crimes for prevention and eradication, strengthening public-private partnerships, and cooperation in international anti-corruption education, while sharing Korea's anti-corruption policies such as the Clean Portal system, Comprehensive Integrity Assessment of Public Institutions, and multinational anti-corruption capacity-building training.

By sharing the outcomes of the APEC anti-corruption meetings with the international community-at the G20 Anti-Corruption meeting in South Africa in October and the Conference of the Parties of the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) in Vienna, Austria, in November-Korea solidified its status as a global leader in integrity.

ACRC Chairperson Ryu Chul Whan said, "Through the 2025 five key anti-corruption policies, the ACRC has worked to spread a culture of integrity not only in the public sector but across society as a whole."

He added, "I thank everyone who has worked to build a clean and fair society this year, and next year we will do our utmost to continuously improve the level of national integrity, strengthen national competitiveness, and deliver results the public can truly feel."

I Was Told to Take a Long Detour to Get to School... Safety Facilities to be Installed for Student Inconvenience Prevention.

- ACRC has made an “Agreement” with LH and relevant agencies to install facilities for student safety in response to the collective grievance from the Gwacheon Juam District residents.

(ACRC, 2025. Dec. 5.)

A collective grievance of parents appealing for solutions regarding the commuting of children living in the Newlywed Hope Town within the Gwacheon Juam Public-Funded Private Rental Housing District (Gwacheon Juam District) in Gyeonggi Province has been resolved through the mediation of the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC).

The ACRC held an on-site mediation on Dec. 5 at Korea Land and Housing Corporation (LH) Gwacheon-Uiwang Business Headquarters. LH, Gwancheon City, Anyang-Gwacheon Office of Education joined for the meeting convened by ACRC chairperson and agreed to install facilities for student safety including public walkway, wooden bridge, and a back entrance for the elementary school.

The town is to house many young families including those in the Newlywed Hope Town. Numerous elementary school children are therefore expected. Parents must accompany them to school and the lack of safety facilities such as a wooden bridge forced them to detour several hundred meters. The parents filed a collective petition regarding this situation to the ACRC in March, asking measures to address the difficulty.

In response, the commission prepared a final mediation proposal agreed upon

by all stakeholders through on-site investigations and multiple consultations with relevant agencies.

According to the mediation plan, LH will build as follows: a public walkway within the block B-4; a wooden bridge to cross the stream; and a pedestrian deck within a nearby park, to provide sports facilities and relaxing areas for residents.

The office of education will communicate with LH while installing the school's back gate to connect it with the newly created walkway. Gwacheon city will cooperate with LH and the office of education to resolve any complaints arising during the project and will take over management of the facilities when the project finishes.

The chairperson stated, “Nothing is more important than making a safe environment for students as children become precious under this demographic crisis. The ACRC will do its utmost best in implementation and management to ensure faithful and thorough mediation.”

Comprehensive Inspection of Hiring Practices at Public Service-Related Organizations Uncovered 832 Cases of Fair Hiring Violations

- *ACRC announced results from an inspection of 931 public service-related organizations*
- *34 hiring corruption cases detected; implicated persons referred for investigation and disciplinary action requested*

(Dec. 29th, 2025, ACRC)

The Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC, Chairperson Ryu Chul Whan) announced the results of a comprehensive inspection of hiring practices, conducted from February to October this year with central ministries including the Ministry of Economy and Finance, local governments, and offices of education, covering 931 public service-related organizations.

Of a total 1,423 organizations, 492 were excluded from this year's inspection because they had no hiring in the previous year or had no hiring corruption in the past three years.

The inspection examined whether new hires conducted by public service-related organizations in 2024 were carried out appropriately in accordance with relevant laws and guidelines, through parallel investigations by each organization's supervisory body and the ACRC.

The inspection revealed 832 cases of violations of fair-hiring regulations across 458 organizations, of which 34 constituted hiring corruption subject to referral for investigation or disciplinary action. This is an 81.3% decrease from 2019, when there were 182 hiring-corruption cases, showing a steady yearly decline.

<Details of the Results from the Comprehensive Inspection of Hiring Practices Over the Past Seven Years>

Category		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Hiring irregularities	Referrals for investigation	36	9	5	4	2	-	1
	Disciplinary actions	146	74	71	43	42	39	33
Negligence	Cautions/Warnings	1,160	862	799	774	823	822	798

In the 34 hiring-irregularity cases uncovered in this inspection, the most common types were in following order: arbitrary selection of successful candidates (8 cases), arbitrary conduct of screening (8 cases), and inadequate verification of eligibility and disqualifying factors (5 cases)

※ Examples of the most frequently detected hiring irregularities:

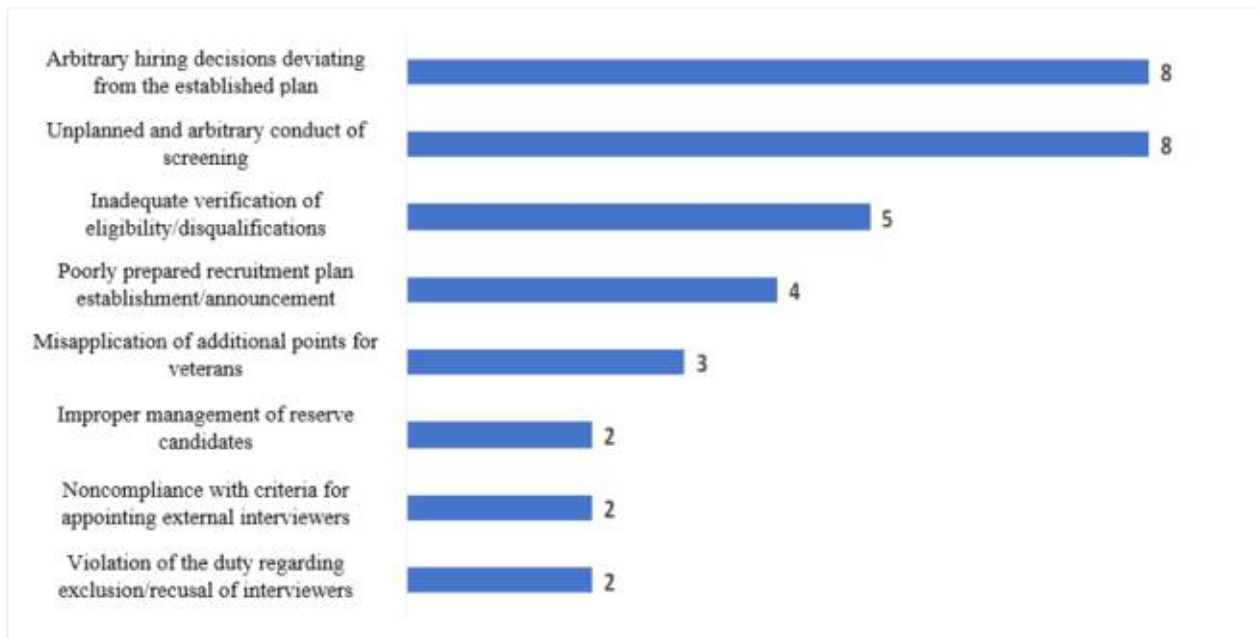
① Arbitrary selection of successful candidates: Upon the establishment and announcement of the hiring plan, it was decided that successful candidates would be selected in order of highest total interview scores, however, during the actual interview process, the criteria for selecting successful candidates were arbitrarily changed, and candidates were selected in a manner that did not even meet the arbitrarily changed criteria.“

② Arbitrary conduct of screening: Despite knowing that the internal applicant did not meet the hiring qualification standards under the personnel regulations, the applicant was arbitrarily selected.

③ Inadequate verification of eligibility/disqualifications: the decision to hire the prospective employee was made without conducting the required background check for disqualifying factors.

< Cases by Type of Hiring Irregularities >

(Unit: Case)



Among the detected cases, one particularly egregious violation-illegal interference in hiring that severely undermined fairness-was referred for criminal investigation. The remaining 33 cases, which involved serious negligence that could affect candidate rankings, will be subject to disciplinary action.

< Case Referred for Investigation >

◦ In order to bring Applicant B's document screening score up to the passing threshold, HR team leader A gave a new scorecard to Evaluator C and requested a re-evaluation. C re-scored the applicant to meet the passing threshold. A then shredded the original scorecard and submitted the new one received from C.
 * However, upon receiving a protest from an audit staff member, the scores were restored to those on the original scorecard.

Additionally, 798 instances of negligence subject to "cautions or warnings" in the hiring process were identified.

The ACRC will continuously monitor implementation to ensure proper dispositions for 45 individuals involved in the 34 hiring-corruption cases and

remedial measures for the 12 victims.

Lee Myung-soon, ACRC Vice Chairperson, said, “Thanks to consistent, sustained government efforts to eradicate hiring corruption in the public sector and foster a culture of fair hiring, it's encouraging that such corruption is decreasing. However, we cannot yet claim that the public fully feels these results.”

He added, “Going forward, the ACRC will continue to lay the groundwork to ensure that future generations, who will carry our society forward, can receive fair evaluations in the hiring process, which is the first gateway to perform economic activity.”

Anti-Corruption Training Institute renamed as Korea Integrity and Civil Rights Training Institute (KICTI), Enhancing Training Expertise in Integrity and Civil Rights- Senseless recruitment amid sharp decline in school-age population, red-flagged rights and safety of under-aged international students

- The Anti-Corruption Training Institute under the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission will become the Korea Integrity and Civil Rights Training Institute starting from Dec. 30, strengthening education on civil rights and interests protection, and conflict management, along with expanded education for future generations

(Dec. 30th, 2025, ACRC)

The Anti-Corruption Training Institute under the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC) will have a new name of the Korea Integrity and Civil Rights Training Institute (KICTI) from Dec. 30.

The change was to establish the institute's identity as a specialized training institution encompassing not only integrity but also rights and interests protection and conflict management.

The name includes “Korea” to show the commitment to disseminate culture of integrity beyond the public sector to the entire citizen. The word “Civil Rights” is also added to intuitively highlights its functions of training rights and interests protection and conflict management.

KICTI plans to take this renaming as an opportunity to redefine its educational direction for 2026 and focus its capabilities. First, the institute will

significantly strengthen training in rights and interests protection and conflict management. It will also expand practical training for citizens' rights protection, such as handling grievances and administrative appeals, to enhance public officials' problem-solving capabilities.

Moreover, it will implement diverse and timely training programs. The institute will introduce a new integrity leadership program, organize basic courses for communication and empathy to prevent corruption and inter-generation conflicts within the public sector, and expand practical training to strengthen integrity capabilities in the era of AI technology.

Integrity education for younger generation will be also strengthened. Outreach programs to elementary, middle, high school, and university will be expanded, and content for respective age group will be developed and distributed to schools at all levels.

The chairperson of ACRC stated, “By including the words ‘Korea’ and ‘Civil Rights’ for the name of the institute, we would like to show our strong commitment to solidify our status as the nation's representative educational institution and to get closer to the lives of the people.”

He added, “We will do our best and be true to our new name, raise the level of integrity within the public service but also prevent and address conflicts within the society.”