

Kentech Teacher Start-up Nowon Behind Secures Government Funding for AI-Powered Education Platform

May 14, 2025



no one behind

Nowon Behind, an innovative edutech start-up originating from a teacher at the Korea Energy Technology University (Kentech), has been selected for the “Strategic Technology R&BD Project in Gangso Special Zone.” This prestigious initiative is organized by the Ministry of Science and ICT and managed by the R&D Special Zone Promotion Foundation.

Nowon Behind is the first teacher-founded company from Kentech to enter a special small and medium-sized enterprise zone. The company develops and operates ‘Active Learning Classroom (ALC),’ an advanced artificial intelligence-based education platform designed to foster direct student engagement through problem-solving, discussion, and collaboration.

The AI-powered ALC system provides real-time feedback to instructors by analyzing diverse learner data, including facial expressions, voice patterns, and behavior. This analysis enables the platform to recommend customized learning paths for individual students, optimizing their educational experience.

As a recipient of national strategic technology funding in the AI sector, Nowon Behind will receive approximately 300 million won in technical commercialization funds over the next year. These funds will be strategically invested in enhancing the ALC platform, with a focus on developing a customized learning support system through precise multimodal learning analytics. The company aims to establish a data-driven learning environment within the educational sector and achieve significant technological competitiveness in the global market.

The “Gangso Special Zone Strategic Technology R&BD Project” is a key national R&D initiative that facilitates the commercialization of Deep Tech-based technologies by connecting leading-edge research

from public institutions with local industrial infrastructure. This year's competition involved eight special small and medium-sized enterprise zones nationwide, with Nowon Behind ultimately being selected as a representative project in the field of Artificial Intelligence.

Kim Kyung, CEO of Nowon Behind, commented, "This selection is a testament to the national recognition of our company's technology and growth potential. We are committed to securing a leading position in the global edutech market by further developing our innovative AI-based education solutions."