



An Introduction to The Taiwan Scholarship Program

Provided by
The Taiwan Scholarship Program
Steering Committee
January 2009

I. Purpose

In 2004, four government agencies of the Republic of China (Taiwan) --- Ministry of Education (MOE), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA), and National Science Council of the Executive Yuan (NSC) ---jointly established the Taiwan Scholarship Program to encourage outstanding international students to undertake degree programs in Taiwan. While providing study opportunities for a wide range of disciplines, at Taiwan's universities and colleges, this program also aims to:

- a. Promote knowledge, understanding and friendship between people in Taiwan and in countries around the world.
- b. Provide opportunities to increase academic and educational links with international institutions of higher learning.
- c. Develop outstanding professionals and experts to meet the needs of the global society.

II. Funding Government Agencies of Taiwan Scholarships and their focuses

There are four government agencies that fund this program, each with a different focus in terms of recipients' nationalities and study programs:

a. MOFA Scholarship:

- Recipients from countries that have diplomatic relations with the R.O.C. (Taiwan) or countries specified as diplomatically favorable by MOFA.
- Undergraduate and/or postgraduate degree programs.
Embassies of the R.O.C. can also award a pre-degree Mandarin

Language Enrichment Program (LEP) scholarship to recipients to improve their language abilities.

b. MOE Scholarship:

- Recipients from countries other than those specified in the MOFA Scholarship.
- Undergraduate and/or postgraduate programs. R.O.C.'s overseas offices can also designate a pre-degree Mandarin Language Enrichment Program (LEP) to recipients to improve their language abilities.

c. NSC Scholarship:

- Recipients from countries other than those specified in the MOFA Scholarship.
- Postgraduate programs only.

d. MOEA Scholarship:

- Recipients from countries other than those specified in the MOFA Scholarship.
- Postgraduate programs in the areas involving science and technology (such as physics, chemistry, mathematics, engineering, medicine and agriculture science, to name a few)

III. Amount of Scholarships

The amount of each scholarship varies in accordance with the funding government agency's policy:

- MOFA Scholarship:** One economy-class, direct-route roundtrip international airfare, plus a monthly stipend of NT\$30,000 (approximately US\$882).
- MOE Scholarship:** A monthly stipend of NT\$25,000 (approximately US\$735) for undergraduate or LEP study, and NT\$30,000 for a postgraduate degree program.
- NSC Scholarship:** A monthly stipend of NT\$30, 000.
- MOEA Scholarship:** A monthly stipend of NT\$30, 000.

Recipients are responsible for their own expenses.

IV. Duration of Award

Award period in terms of study programs

The award period for each degree/study program is as follows:

- a. **Undergraduate** program: maximum 4 years.
- b. **Master's** program: maximum 2 years.
- c. **Doctoral** program: maximum 3 years.
- d. **LEP**: maximum 1 year.

Maximum duration of combination of awards

Upon completion of a LEP or a degree program, a recipient may apply for a scholarship for a degree program leading to a higher degree. However, the total duration of award for any combination of degree/study programs is a maximum of **five years**.

LEP award

The LEP award is neither mandatory nor automatically granted; it has to be awarded by R.O.C. Embassies or Representative Offices where the applicant submitted his/her application. LEP must be undertaken **in the first year if it is included in the total award period**.

Annual Award Period

Annual award periods are **from September 1 through August 31 of the following year**. Recipients must matriculate within the award period unless approved by the receiving institution and the scholarship funding government agency. If recipients fail to arrive in Taiwan to study during this period, their award status will be cancelled and cannot be extended for another year.

If recipients begin their study after the intended study term/quarter has started, their award period will become effective from the month they matriculate at their universities/colleges or Mandarin training centers in Taiwan.

Expiration of Award

No matter if a recipient begins undertaking the language training courses in September or later, **the LEP award period expires on August 31**, even if its duration may be less than the designated one year period.

All awards will end by the last month of their specified award period. However, if recipients graduate, drop out, are expelled from their institutions, violate R.O.C. laws, are given any major demerits, or their scholarships are revoked, whichever comes first, the award will be terminated.

V. Eligibility

An applicant must meet all of the following criteria:

- a. Be a high school graduate or above, have an excellent academic performance in his/her most recent formal educational study experience, be of good moral character and does not have any criminal records.
- b. Is not an R.O.C. (Taiwan) national.

Selection priority for these scholarships will be given to those who intend to undertake a degree program and have successfully received admission to a university/college.

VII. Re-Applying

Upon completion of **a degree program**, recipients may re-apply for a Taiwan Scholarship to undertake **another degree program**, by following the **application process as specified above**. The maximum duration of each recipient's total award period is 5 years.

<N.B. Upon completion of their LEP study, LEP award recipients may be granted another award period for **a degree program through the universities/colleges they will be attending**. Required documents include a photocopy of admission to a university/college and of certificates of English proficiency or TOP for their degree studies. >

VIII. Renewal

To review recipients' award qualifications for the next academic year, individual universities/colleges will conduct an evaluation process regarding the Taiwan Scholarship award status for renewal by February 28 of each year.

Each educational institution may set their own grading criteria for the required passing minimum academic average for each semester, or may employ the current grading criteria, which is 60 out of 100 for undergraduates and 70 for postgraduates.

For recipients in the 3rd year of their doctoral programs, this evaluation should be conducted in accordance with the regulations of their individual institutions, since systems vary from discipline to discipline, in terms of requirements for session credits and scheduling of the writing of their dissertations.

IX. Suspension and Revocation

(I) Suspension

A. Degree Programs:

If a recipient fails to achieve a specified minimum academic average for a semester, his/her stipends will be suspended for one month.

If a recipient fails to achieve a specified minimum academic average for two consecutive semesters, he/she will be permanently disqualified from receiving any Taiwan Scholarship awards, effective from September, of the next academic year.

B. LEP Program:

a. Attendance Records:

Except for a serious illness or accident, if a recipient is absent from his/her required language sessions for 12 hours or more during a single month, his/her stipends will be suspended for one month.

b. Academic Performance:

Beginning from the second study term/quarter in Taiwan, if a recipient's academic average for each study term/quarter is less than 80 out of 100, his/her stipends will be suspended for one month .

c. TOP Rating:

- A one-month-stipend suspension will be imposed if a recipient fails to submit to his/her Mandarin training center, a photocopy of a TOP (Test of Proficiency---Huayu) certificate with results rated at the level *For Beginners* or above, **by June 30**. Registration fees for this TOP test are the full responsibility of the recipient.
- However, LEP award recipients who are subsequently granted a Taiwan Scholarship for a degree program can ask for a reimbursement of the suspended one-month stipend as stated above, through the university/college that they attend for the degree programs, if they succeed on the TOP test during the first 18 months of their total award periods.

(II) Revocation:

A recipient may be permanently disqualified from receiving a Taiwan scholarship and the remaining stipends will be cancelled, if one of the following situations arises:

A. Degree Programs:

- a. Failure to submit at the time of matriculation for each study term/quarter, **an Alien Resident Certificate (ARC)** with the reason **“Pursuing Studies,”** by the deadlines as specified by his/her university/college.
- b. Failure during the annual renewal evaluation of his/her Taiwan scholarship.
- c. Failure to submit a photocopy of from acceptable English /TOP proficiency certificate to the university/college, depending on the language of instruction, when transferring to a new program of study.
- d. Dropping out, being expelled from school, violating R.O.C. laws, or being imposed with any major demerits.
- e. Being simultaneously in receipt of another scholarship or subsidy offered by the Taiwan government or educational institutions.

B. LEP Program:

- a. Failure to submit at the time of matriculation for each study term/quarter, **an Alien Resident Certificate (ARC)** with the reason “**Pursuing Studies,**” by the deadlines as specified by his/her Mandarin training center.
- b. Failure to achieve an average academic score of 80 or above out of 100 for two consecutive terms/quarters of study, beginning from the second term/quarter of his/her study in Taiwan.
- c. Missing a final achievement score for any study term/quarter, with the exception of a serious illness or accident.
- d. Dropping out, being expelled from school, violating R.O.C. laws, or being imposed with any major demerit.
- e. Being simultaneously in receipt of another scholarship or subsidy offered by the Taiwan government or educational institutions.

X. Transfer

After studying for a semester/term/quarter at a university/college or a Mandarin training center, a recipient may be allowed to transfer **once** during the course of a degree/LEP program if the pertinent educational institutions approve this request.

Degree pursuers asking for a transfer to a new institution or program of study must submit to the new institution a photocopy of their English proficiency/TOP certificates, depending on the language of instruction in class.

XI. Scholarship Granting

In principle, stipends are granted by the 5th day of each month, through the universities/colleges or Mandarin training centers which the recipients attend, and following methods specified by the individual institutions.

Health Insurance

It is mandatory that recipients, who carry an award period for a period of six months or more, participate in Taiwan’s National Health Insurance Plan and purchase policies for Student Accident Insurance during the period of their residence and study in Taiwan. The recipients’ educational institutions will deduct fees for these insurance plans from the recipients’ stipends, before processing and distributing funds to them.

As a requirement for matriculation, at their intended educational institutions, recipients must prepare medical/health insurance policies before their departure to Taiwan, and these documents must be valid for a minimum of 4 months, beginning from the date of their arrival in Taiwan. These policies must bear the authentication of a Taiwan Embassy or overseas Representative Office.