

Prospectus for the OCAC Scholarship to Reward Top and Outstanding Overseas Compatriot Students for Studying at Universities in Taiwan

The Midwest Region of the United States (including Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, etc.)

- I. In order to reward top and outstanding overseas Compatriot students studying in Taiwan for a bachelor's degree, based on the "Medium and Long-term Individual Social Development Project 2023 to 2026- Expanding the Cultivation and Retention of Overseas Compatriot Students" approved by the Executive Yuan's document Yuan Tai Wai Zi No.110024110 on August 31, 2022, the Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC) specifically stipulates the "OCAC Directions for Approval of Scholarships for Top and Outstanding Overseas Compatriot Students to Study at Universities in Taiwan.”
- II. Scholarship amount and quota:
 1. **Top Overseas Compatriot Students Scholarship:** NT\$260,000 per academic year (same below), totaling NT\$1.04 million over four years. The Midwest region of the United States (including Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, etc.) Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago (TECO in Chicago) shall plan the selection process and select the best candidates.
 2. **Outstanding Overseas Compatriot Students Scholarship:** NT\$100,000 per academic year, totaling NT\$400,000 over four years. The Midwest region of the United States (including Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, etc.), TECO in Chicago shall plan the selection process and select the best candidates.
- III. The application eligibility is as follows:
 1. Overseas compatriot students who have graduated from a high school or above, have achieved excellent academic performance, demonstrated good conduct, and meet the requirements of Article 2 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan to study for a bachelor's degree in Taiwan.
 2. Before the application deadline, the applicant's average academic performance is equivalent to that of all domestic senior secondary schools and above. The top scholarship score is 3.5 points as the lowest score or within the top 5% of the class, and the outstanding scholarship score is 3.3 points as the lowest or within 10% of the whole class, and the overall average conduct score is above 3 points; if there are no conduct grades, multiple factors shall be used for performance evaluation.
 3. Any of the following circumstances are not allowed to apply:
 - (1) Retaining their student status at a domestic university or have registered to attend a domestic university in Taiwan.
 - (2) Having studied in Taiwan at the same level as the degree program you are applying for.

- (3) While studying in the Academy of Preparatory Programs for Overseas Compatriot Students of National Taiwan Normal University and domestic public and private senior high schools (including vocational high schools) in Taiwan or after graduation, enrolling in domestic university/college after graduation.
- (4) Students are exchange students or dual/joint degree students recruited by Taiwan's universities based on academic cooperation agreements signed with foreign schools.
- (5) Revokation of this scholarship.
- (6) While studying in Taiwan, also receiving tuition and miscellaneous fee subsidies, exemptions, or scholarships and bursaries set by our government agencies (institutions); however, this does not include tuition and miscellaneous fee subsidies, exemptions, or scholarships and bursaries provided by the school where the student is a scholarship recipient.

IV. Scholarship duration:

1. The maximum scholarship period is four years.
2. From September 1 of the current school year to August 31 of the following year.
3. If a student is suspended from school for any reason, his/her eligibility will be revoked and the scholarship will be stopped. The scholarships received during the year of suspension shall be paid back in full if the amount is less than one-half according to the period of study before suspension; if the scholarship is more than one-half but less than three-quarters, half shall be paid back; if more than three-quarters has been received, there is no need to return it.
4. Scholarship recipients should arrive at the school on time to register. Those who fail to come to Taiwan to study within the time limit will be deemed to have given up their eligibility to receive the scholarship and it will not be retained.
5. When a scholarship student is approved to transfer by the current school and the school to which he/she intends to transfer, the original school should state the category of the scholarship received, the start and end year of the award, and the month and year of transfer, and notify the recipient and the school to which he/she is transferring in a letter. The school to which the student transfers should state the month and year it agrees to transfer the scholarship recipient in an official letter to the scholarship recipient and the school he/she is transferring from. Official Letters from the school the student transfers from and to school should be copied to the OCAC relevant overseas missions or designated units by the OCAC.

V. **Applicants should submit the following documents from now until March 20, 2025:**

1. Scholarship application form (as an attachment)
2. A copy of the permanent or long-term residence permit for the place of residence.

3. Copy of highest academic qualification certificate and results transcript (If it is in a language other than Chinese or English, a Chinese translation should be attached. The photocopy and translation should be verified by overseas missions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROC or Culture Centers of Taipei Economic and Cultural Offices or a sponsoring unit designated by the OCAC.
 4. Two recommendation letters from a principal, teacher, or tutor, sealed and signed by the recommender.
 5. Autobiography (including study plan).
 6. Submit documents as set in the prospectus and documents stipulated in the selection regulations announced by the overseas mission in the place of residence or the unit designated by the OCAC.
 7. Please send relevant application documents (by registered mail or email) to the following address:(Culture Center of TECO in Chicago, 55 East 63rd Street, Westmont, IL 60559, Attn : Gina Tsao, TEL (630)323-2440 Ext. 5013, Email : ccc103@sbcglobal.net)
- VI. Applicants should apply to the overseas embassy office in their place of residence or the designated unit of the OCAC. Duplicate applications will not be accepted; the application forms must be complete, and the application documents provided will not be returned.
- VII. The selection principles for scholarship recipients of overseas missions and units designated by the OCAC receiving applications are as follows:
1. In addition to the written preliminary review, the best candidates will be selected for interviews or video interviews to select recipients and those on the reserve list.
 2. Priority will be given to scholarship applicants who have passed the Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL) and obtained an intermediate or above test certificate.
- VIII. After the award recipients are selected and approval by the OCAC, the approved recipient will be notified and receive an official letter by an ROC representative offices or culture center or sponsoring unit designated by an OCAC.
- IX. Those who fail to obtain admission will be lose scholarship eligibility. The overseas ROC representative offices and designated units handling applications should report any vacancies resulting from award recipient relinquishing their eligibility to the OCAC within the specified deadline. The OCAC will then arrange for replacement as needed.
- X. The procedures for initial scholarship receipt, continuing receipt, and application review are as follows:
1. Initial receipt: Students who have received the award at the beginning of the first academic year should submit the official letter from the OCAC approving the award and other documents proving the award to the school after registration in the first academic year.
 2. Eligibility for continuing receipt:

- (1) Recipients who meet the above criteria should study for more than nine credits per semester during their studies. Top scholarship recipients should have an overall average academic grade of A or above 85 points, and an overall average academic grade of 80 points (or equivalent) or above; Outstanding Scholarship recipients should have an overall academic average of A- or 80 points or above, and an overall conduct average of 80 points (or same grade) or above; if they become exchange students during their studies, their foreign credits and study grades must be recognized by the domestic school first.
 - (2) Those whose grades in the previous school year did not meet the current benchmark will not be allowed to apply. However, if grades in subsequent academic years reach the current benchmark, they may apply again.
3. After the second academic year, award recipients should submit transcripts that meet the provisions of the preceding paragraph and apply to the school for renewal; the school should review the award recipient's eligibility to renew the award, submit the renewal review results to the OCAC for review, and then notify the award recipient. The school the recipient attends will handle scholarship applications in accordance with regulations.
- XI. If the scholarship recipient's application documents are found to be forged or false, or if he or she drops out, the OCAC will revoke his or her eligibility and pursue related legal liability depending on the seriousness of the situation.