

Questions & Answers Regarding Education for Young Overseas Chinese Studying in Taiwan 2015

Compiled by: Ministry of Education

No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
1. General questions			
1	What is the ROC policy on education for overseas Chinese?	Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC) Ministry of Education (MOE)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ROC government policy on education for overseas Chinese has been formulated in accordance with the country's history, ethnic sentiments, culture, the spirit of the Constitution, and the country's overall long-term development. The overseas Chinese policies have been developed strongly based on the concepts that "overseas Chinese are the mother of revolution" and that "if there were no education for overseas Chinese, then there would simply be no overseas Chinese affairs". 2. The objective of the overseas Chinese education policies is to train overseas Chinese to become professionals with a Chinese cultural background and global perspective. The Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan have therefore been formulated to encourage young overseas Chinese to study in Taiwan and to use the knowledge and skills they gain to serve and increase prosperity within their communities. 3. The education of overseas Chinese students in Taiwan over the years has been very successful, especially the result of the efforts made to promote overseas Chinese students' identification with the ROC and to solicit their help to expand the ties between Taiwan and their respective overseas communities. The Government will therefore continue to value and prioritize its overseas Chinese education policies, steadfastly maintain its policy intention of looking after overseas Chinese students, and continue the measures which confer preferential status on overseas Chinese students, thereby showing how much it values and cares about young overseas Chinese. This also provides impetus to making Taiwan's education more international.

2	What is the difference between overseas Chinese students, students from Hong Kong or Macao, and international students?	MOE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. According to the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan, the term "overseas Chinese student" refers to a student of Chinese descent who has come to Taiwan to study who was born and lived overseas until the present time, or who has been living overseas for six or more consecutive years in the immediate past and obtained permanent or long-term residency status overseas. Please note that a minimum of eight consecutive years of overseas residency is required for applying to study in the departments of medicine, dentistry, or Chinese medicine at a university in Taiwan. A person's overseas Chinese student status must be validated by the Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC). 2. The term "student from Hong Kong or Macao" refers to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A Hong Kong or Macao resident who has resided in Hong Kong, Macao, or a foreign country for at least the last six years, and who has not stayed in Taiwan for more than 120 days of each calendar year. Please note: a minimum of at least eight consecutive years of overseas residency is required by those applying to study in a university department of medicine, dentistry, or Chinese medicine. (2) An individual with a Hong Kong or Macao passport, or permanent residency document. (3) An individual applying to study in Taiwan in accordance with the Regulations for Hong Kong and Macao Residents Studying in Taiwan. (4) Students from Hong Kong and Macao are entitled to the same study and counseling assistance and general life counseling as "overseas Chinese students" while they are studying in Taiwan. (5) Whether an individual has "student from Hong Kong or Macao" status is determined by the Ministry of Education. 3. The Regulations Regarding International Students Undertaking Studies in Taiwan set out the following four categories of students from overseas who are permitted to apply to study in Taiwan: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Foreign nationals who have never held ROC nationality and do not have the status of an overseas Chinese student at the time they apply; (2) Those who hold ROC nationality and meet the following requirements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Never having previously undertaken studies in Taiwan as an overseas Chinese student and not having accepted a placement by the University Entrance Committee for Overseas Chinese
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			<p>Students in the current academic year;</p> <p>b. Having previously held ROC nationality but renounced their ROC nationality before lodging their application. Renouncing their ROC nationality must have been done with the approval of the Ministry of the Interior at least eight years before making their application.</p> <p>(3) Foreign nationals who have also acquired permanent residency of Hong Kong or Macao or meet the eligibility requirements to do so;</p> <p>(4) Foreign nationals who were previously a citizen of mainland China;</p> <p>Those meeting the requirements set forth in (2) to (4) must also meet the following conditions:</p> <p>a. Never having had household registration in Taiwan; and</p> <p>b. Having resided in a foreign country for at least six consecutive years (or at least eight years if planning to apply to study in a department of medicine, dentistry, or Chinese medicine).</p>
3	What is the University Entrance Committee for Overseas Chinese Students?	University Entrance Committee for overseas Chinese students (UECOCS)	<p>1. The University Entrance Committee for Overseas Chinese Students (hereinafter referred to as “UECOCS”) was jointly formed by all universities and colleges in Taiwan to handle the recruitment of overseas Chinese students who want to study in Taiwan, in accordance with the University Act. Since its formation during the 1995 academic year, UECOCS has been responsible for the joint recruitment, testing, and placement at a particular university or college of overseas Chinese students (including those from Hong Kong and Macao). During the 2015 academic year, 146 public and private universities were members of UECOCS, and the president of National Chi Nan University was the chair of the committee.</p> <p>2. UECOCS has set up seven divisions to facilitate its overseas Chinese student recruitment work: Test Preparation, Test Marking, Test Results Review, Testing, Educational Institution Placements, Secretarial, and Publicity. National Taiwan University, National Taiwan Normal University, Feng Chia University, and National Chi Nan University separately take responsibility for these.</p>
4	Which schools offer cooperative education programs?	MOE Overseas Community Affairs	<p>1. Since 1996 the OCAC and the MOE have assisted Chung Shan Industrial and Commercial School in Kaohsiung City offer a Cooperative Education program for Overseas Chinese Students, in order to promote cooperative vocational education projects with countries in Southeast Asia and look after disadvantaged overseas Chinese students by providing opportunities to further their education. The school formerly only recruited students for this program once every three years, as a result of several</p>

		Council (OCAC)	<p>issues: the general economic environment affected the willingness of businesses in the industrial sector to play their essential part; questions regarding how the school was to administer it; and the cultural and lifestyle adjustments overseas Chinese students had to make.</p> <p>2. In conjunction with the Government's overseas Chinese policies and to satisfy overseas Chinese students' education needs, the school changed its recruitment schedule and since the 2014 academic year it has been recruiting students for this program once a year.</p> <p>3. For the overseas Chinese students cooperative education programs for the 2015 academic year, in addition to this school being approved to enroll 200 students in 2 programs in its electronic department, Wan-Neng Senior Industrial & Commercial Vocational School in Chiayi County was given approval to enroll 96 students in one program in its information department, and Zhuang Jing Vocational School, a high school in New Taipei City, was given approval to enroll 90 students into its Food and Beverage Management Department, 80 students into its Information Department, and 50 students into its Cosmetics and Beauty department. These three schools expect to recruit a total of 516 overseas Chinese students.</p>
5	What is the Overseas Youth Vocational Training School's vocational training program for young overseas Chinese?	OCAC	<p>1. The OCAC operates the Overseas Youth Vocational Training School (OYVTS) program in conjunction with the MOE to give young overseas Chinese the practical knowledge and skills they need to develop agricultural, industrial, and commercial businesses, and increase prosperity within their communities.</p> <p>2. The OYVTS program was established in 1963. In the more than 50 years since then, 28 universities, including National Ping Tung University of Science and Technology, have joined in offering courses for this program 17,727 students from 39 countries and regions, including Malaysia, had been trained.</p> <p>3. The 33rd training session offered a total of 23 courses that were conducted at the Chinese Culture University and 12 other universities for students graduating in December, 2015. The 34th training session includes 29 courses operated by Ming Chuan University and 16 other universities and will finish in December, 2016. Recruitment for the 35th training session is currently underway. It is scheduled to begin in March, 2016, and students will graduate in December, 2017. The courses will be conducted by 48 departments at Feng Chia University and 26 other universities.</p> <p>4. Key points about the OYVTS program:</p>

			<p>(1) Goal: To give young overseas Chinese the practical knowledge and skills to help them develop agricultural, industrial, and commercial businesses, and increase prosperity within their communities.</p> <p>(2) Features: all OYVTS training courses are designed to prepare students to enter a particular vocational field. Practical training makes up 70% of the program for the industrial and agricultural courses, and classroom lectures make up 30%. Classroom lectures and practical training are both given equal importance for the commercial and business courses. The principle is to ensure that students acquire the skills required to succeed in their particular field.</p> <p>(3) Training period: all courses consist of a two-year program, conducted over four semesters (including practical training on campus).</p> <p>(4) Eligibility details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Overseas Chinese under 40 years of age who have completed at least second-year of senior secondary school; this age limit may be extended for female applicants with children by two years for each child, with a maximum age limit of 45. Documentary evidence of their number of children must be attached. b. People born overseas who are citizens or permanent residents of their country of birth or who have an “Overseas Chinese” stamp in the ROC passport which they held when they left Taiwan. c. People who are physically sound, of good character, and without harmful indulgences. d. People who are able to speak Mandarin and take notes in Chinese. <p>Those who meet the above criteria may apply for consideration. The best-qualified applications will be offered a place until all quotas are filled.</p> <p>(5) Units which Forward Applications: ROC embassies and consulates, representative offices, liaison offices, or other organizations with authorization from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or overseas Chinese community associations authorized by the OCAC.</p> <p>(6) Expenses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Applicants who are accepted into a program are responsible for their own medical insurance, ROC National Health Insurance fees, miscellaneous fees, food and accommodation, practical training material costs, and airfare transportation expenses incurred while they are studying.
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2. Admission, transferring to another institution, and study counselling and assistance

1	How do overseas Chinese students apply for admission to schools at each level, colleges, and universities?	MOE	<p>1. In accordance with Article 6 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan, overseas Chinese students may apply for admission to study in Taiwan in the following ways during the annual recruitment period:</p> <p>(1) Apply to an ROC embassy or consulate, or to an overseas application-handling unit designated by the OCAC, to come to Taiwan to study. The OCAC will then first evaluate each application and then forward it to the MOE, the Education Bureau (Division) of the local government, or to the university, college, or school that the OCAC is offering the applicant a place at. Applicants must carefully read the details of what is required that are set out in the student enrollment information material for that year.</p> <p>(2) Apply directly to a university or college that has MOE authorization to independently recruit overseas Chinese students or that offers special programs for overseas Chinese students. After examining each application and related documents, the university or college must immediately forward the application to the OCAC for confirmation of the applicant's overseas Chinese student status. If their status is confirmed and the applicant has passed the university or college selection procedures or entrance examination, then the university or college will issue them an admission notice.</p> <p>2. Overseas Chinese students who in accordance with Article 9 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan independently return to Taiwan planning to study at an elementary school, junior high school, senior secondary school, or junior college may apply within 90 days from the day after they arrive in Taiwan. They must submit the relevant documents to the OCAC which will check such applications and forward them to the competent education administrative authority for validation and to arrange placements, based on each applicant's situation. Please note that overseas Chinese students applying to attend a public comprehensive senior high school are restricted to attending National Overseas Chinese Senior High School (NOCSH).</p> <p>Important matters to note:</p> <p>(1) Overseas Chinese students are not permitted to apply to study at any cram school or college (institute) of continuing education; an open university or distance education junior college; or to</p>
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2	How can overseas Chinese students apply to be placed in a different university, college, or school after arriving in Taiwan?	UECOCS MOE	Overseas Chinese students may apply to the authorized office that arranged their placement in a particular educational institution to change their placement to another before they register and begin their studies. Only one such change is permitted. Applicants originally assigned to a university are restricted to changing to a placement in the National Taiwan Normal University Division of Preparatory Programs for Overseas Chinese Students. Applicants originally assigned to a 5-year program at a junior college or to a senior secondary school are restricted to changing to a placement at the National Overseas Chinese Senior High School (NOCHS).
3	What regulations govern the student status of overseas Chinese students while they are studying	MOE	<p>1. Each universities, colleges, and junior colleges has been authorized to prescribe its own regulations governing the student status of its students (including overseas Chinese students) and the standards governing their dismissal if their results are not satisfactory.</p> <p>2. The student status of senior secondary school students (including overseas Chinese students) is handled in accordance with the Management Directions Regarding Student Enrollment at Senior High Schools, and the Regulations for Evaluation of the Academic Performance of Senior Secondary and Vocational</p>

	in Taiwan?		<p>High School Students.</p> <p>3. In accordance with the National Education Act, special municipalities and county and city governments formulate their own regulations governing the administration of the student status of elementary and junior high school students.</p>
4	What are the regulations governing transfers to another university, college, or school by overseas Chinese students?	MOE	<p>In accordance with Article 12 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students, overseas Chinese students who have received assistance when being assigned to an educational institution will not be given preferential treatment if they undertake an examination to transfer to another.</p> <p>1. An overseas Chinese student already assigned to a university or junior college who finds it incompatible with their interests or unsuitable for them and would therefore like to transfer to a different university or junior college must take the transfer examination of the other university or junior college. They will not receive any extra points towards their transfer examination scores.</p> <p>2. Those already given a place at a senior secondary school who find it incompatible with their interests or unsuitable for them and therefore want to transfer to a different school may consult directly with the schools to arrange a transfer. Such students are not permitted to transfer to an institution for continuing education or an evening program.</p> <p>3. If a student has been given a placement in an elementary school or junior high school but a transfer to another school is wanted because of inconvenient transportation or because it was found to be unsuitable, an application for a transfer must be made in accordance with the regulations established by the special municipality, county or city government concerned.</p>
5	If an overseas Chinese student who is studying in Taiwan has to discontinue their education, and	MOE	<p>1. The provisions of Article 2 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan state that an overseas Chinese student who received assistance to study in Taiwan who studied for less than one year and had to voluntarily discontinue their studies to return to their country of residence may go through the application process again but only one such reapplication is permitted.</p> <p>2. In the Regulations referred to in the previous paragraph, the term “voluntarily discontinue their studies”</p>

	return to their country of residence, are they allowed to apply to come back to Taiwan to study?		refers to any overseas Chinese student who leaves the educational institution where they were studying and discontinues their studies of their own accord for some personal reason, but not because they were dismissed by the educational institution as a result of unsatisfactory academic performance or conduct; or a serious violation of its regulations; or because they were convicted for a criminal offense in a court of law.
6	How do overseas Chinese students apply for admission to a master's degree or higher program in Taiwan after they complete an undergraduate or graduate program in Taiwan or overseas?	MOE	<p>1. Those who have graduated from a university overseas: in accordance with Article 6 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan, these students should apply for admission to undertake a program at master's degree level or higher in Taiwan during the annual recruitment period, in the following way:</p> <p>(1) Apply to an ROC embassy, consulate, or overseas representative office, or to an overseas application-handling unit designated by the OCAC, to come to Taiwan to study. The OCAC and the educational institution that an applicant indicated that they want to attend will evaluate each applicant's eligibility, and if they pass this stage UECOCS will then undertake the placement and admission of the overseas Chinese students into a particular educational institution.</p> <p>(2) Apply directly to a university or college that has MOE authorization to independently recruit overseas Chinese students or that offers special programs for overseas Chinese students. After examining each application and related documents, the university or college must immediately forward the application to the OCAC for confirmation of the applicant's overseas Chinese student status. If their status is confirmed and the applicant has passed the university or college selection procedures or entrance examination, then the university or college will issue them an admission notice.</p> <p>2. Those who graduate from a university or college in Taiwan: In accordance with Article 14 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan, such students may apply through UECOCS for admission to a university program at master's degree level or higher each year during the recruitment period. The university that an applicant indicated that they want</p>

			<p>to attend will evaluate their application, and if they pass this stage UECOCS will conduct their university placement. A student who has been given a placement at a university, in accordance with the provisions of Article 14 of the Regulations mentioned above, and has registered and enrolled there is not permitted to subsequently apply for admission to another program at the same level in accordance with those Regulations. In other words, each individual is allowed to successfully apply for a master's degree program just once. Anyone choosing to independently take the entrance examinations will be treated in accordance with the admission criteria for domestic students.</p> <p>3. Applicants must carefully read the details of what is required that are set out in the student enrollment information material for that year.</p>
7	Can overseas Chinese students take teacher education programs (including a half-year full-time teacher training internship)?	MOE	<p>1. In accordance with Article 5, Paragraph 1, and Article 9, Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Teacher Education Act; and Article 9, Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Regulations for Establishing Teacher Education Centers by Universities, teacher education in Taiwan is primarily undertaken by teacher education universities (i.e. universities that offer teacher education programs). Students begin teacher education programs in first year, after being selected through one of various entrance channels, or they are selected from currently enrolled bachelor's degree students in second year or higher, master's degree students, and Ph.D. candidates to take pre-employment teacher education courses. These students must complete the prescribed associated courses and a half-year full-time practical training internship with satisfactory results and acquire certification as a qualified teacher to be eligible to obtain a Republic of China teaching certificate.</p> <p>2. The MOE has issued written notice to all teacher education universities stating that overseas Chinese students, students from Hong Kong and Macao, and international students at their university (but not students from the Chinese mainland) may, just like local students, take part in entrance selections in line with each university's internal regulations governing pre-employment teacher education course entrance selections and half-year full-time teacher training internships. If they pass these, they may be included in the quota for teacher education programs, including the half-year full-time teacher internship program. Each university shall issue a Pre-employment Teacher Education Certificate of Completion to those completing the courses and program with satisfactory results.</p>

			<p>3. Summarizing the above, an overseas Chinese student attending a teacher education university who passes the selection procedures in accordance with their university's regulations governing entrance selections for education programs and teacher training may undertake a pre-service teacher education program which includes six months of full-time practical training. If a student definitely needs to undertake the half-year full-time teacher training internship after their graduation, they must present a certificate that they are doing so issued by their university and their payment receipt to the National Immigration Agency (any local office) and apply for a half-year extension of their stay. They must leave Taiwan when the extension expires.</p> <p>4. In addition, in accordance with the Enforcement Rules of the Teachers' Act and the Regulations Regarding Preschool and K-12 Teacher Qualification Assessment, overseas Chinese students who have not obtained ROC citizenship are not permitted to undertake any teacher qualification review procedures to obtain an ROC teaching certificate. They will have to comply with the local regulations governing teacher qualifications to acquire a teaching certificate after returning to their overseas country of residence or nationality.</p>
8	What assistance is available for overseas Chinese students who are performing poorly academically?	MOE	<p>In accordance with the MOE Subsidy Directions for Senior High Schools and Institutions of Higher Learning to Provide Study Counseling for Overseas Chinese Students, overseas Chinese students confirmed by senior secondary school or institution of higher education as needing academic assistance or needing to take remedial classes during the winter or summer recess may submit a plan of action to the MOE and apply for funding:</p> <p>1. Academic assistance:</p> <p>(1) During the regular semester, academic assistance may be provided outside class hours or on weekends or holidays.</p> <p>(2) A class may be organized if there are six overseas Chinese students requiring assistance for the same subject.</p> <p>(3) An overseas Chinese student may take an academic assistance classes in a maximum of four subjects.</p> <p>(4) Each class each semester must be taught for at least 12 weeks and, in principle, for two to four hours</p>

			<p>per week.</p> <p>(5) Academic assistance shall be provided for: basic subjects such as Mandarin Chinese, the constitution and national spirit, history, geography, English (or other foreign languages), mathematics (including calculus), physics, chemistry, and biology.</p> <p>2. Remedial classes during the winter or summer recess:</p> <p>(1) These classes shall be limited to two sessions per academic year.</p> <p>(2) A class may be organized if there are six overseas Chinese students requiring assistance for the same subject. If there are relatively small numbers of overseas Chinese students individual tutoring may be conducted, or if another educational institution nearby provides remedial classes, it may be requested to permit students requiring academic assistance to attend such classes.</p> <p>(3) In principle, academic assistance for each overseas Chinese student is limited to three subjects each semester at the most, and it is not permitted to account for more than 9 credits.</p> <p>(4) At least 18 hours of teaching is required for each credit; at least 32 hours of teaching is required for each credit for practical training internships and for lab classes.</p> <p>(5) Remedial classes are organized in required subjects for students that have failed and need to retake and in pre-requisites for required subjects.</p> <p>(6) A financially disadvantaged overseas Chinese student receiving an MOE full scholarship or MOE financial aid may be given a fee exemption or reduction for credits earned in classes during the winter or summer recess, depending on their personal circumstances.</p>
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3. Recognition and verification of academic records and credentials

1	Are academic records and credentials from ROC universities recognized by other countries?	MOE	Each country's government has set different criteria and standards for the recognition of academic records and credentials, in line with their own education policy regulations. The ROC government respects the legislative and administrative authority of each country and takes the position of not demanding that other countries recognize such diplomas issued in the ROC.
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2	Does the Hong Kong government recognize academic records and credentials from ROC universities?	MOE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hong Kong does not currently have any mechanism for automatic recognition of academic records and credentials from outside Hong Kong; local academic records and credentials are used as the benchmark. Assessment of the overall educational level of applicants for government work who have academic records and credentials from outside Hong Kong is principally based on the applicants' academic performance at each stage from senior secondary level onward, and the number of credits or units taken. This assessment is, however, for reference only; it has no legal binding force. When necessary, applicants with academic records and credentials issued in all non-British Commonwealth states (including those issued by universities and colleges in the US, ROC, and China) must apply to the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (AAVQ) to have them assessed and/or verified. The system is different from that in Taiwan, but this does not mean that academic records and credentials from the ROC are not recognized. 2. Individual with an academic record and credential(s) from the ROC who intend to apply for civil service work or a teaching position at a public secondary or elementary school in Hong Kong must have their record and credentials assessed on a case-by-case basis by the Civil Service Bureau, or it commissions the AAVQ to do so. People whose credentials have been assessed and approved may be employed in positions requiring employees to have Hong Kong academic credentials of equivalent status. For employment in private elementary and secondary schools receiving government funding, in each case the school principal will decide whether an applicant's credentials require assessment. 3. Professionals such as practitioners of Western medicine, dentists, lawyers, engineers, and accountants must undergo assessment after obtaining a certification of their qualifications from their professional association (such as the Law Society, or the Hong Kong Medical Association) in order to be eligible to obtain a license to practice. The assessment comprises taking a public examination and completing one or more professional training programs.
3	Does the ROC government provide verification of the	MOE	<p>Universities may confer degrees at all levels, in accordance with Article 2 of the Degree Conferral Law. Any party wanting to authenticate that a degree awarded to an overseas Chinese student is genuine must contact the university or college from which the student has graduated and request verification.</p>

	academic records and credentials that overseas Chinese students obtain in Taiwan?		
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4. Part-time work while studying and employment

1	What are the income tax rates for overseas Chinese students who work part-time outside their college or university?	Ministry of Finance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Overseas Chinese students who reside in the ROC for less than a total of 183 days in a tax year are classified as individuals who are not residents of the ROC (hereinafter referred to as “non-residents”) in accordance with the provisions of the Income Tax Act. The personnel responsible for withholding tax (hereinafter referred to as “withholding agents”) must withhold 18% from their gross income received for part-time work at the time they are paid; but the income tax to be withheld is 6% for a monthly gross wage not exceeding 1.5 times the monthly baseline wage, as determined by the Executive Yuan (NT\$28,170 for 2012 to March 2013; NT\$28,571 for April 2013 to June 2014; NT\$28,910 from July 2014; and NT\$30,012 from July 2015). 2. Overseas Chinese students who reside in the ROC for a total of 183 days or more in a tax year are classified as individuals who are residents of the ROC (hereinafter abbreviated to “residents”). When they are paid, withholding agents must withhold tax from their pay in accordance with the rates for residents and such overseas Chinese students must file an income tax return. The tax which has been withheld may be deducted from the amount of income tax that must be paid. 3. Withholding agents may inspect the period(s) of residency details recorded in the passport or resident certificate of overseas Chinese students to determine whether they are residents. Those with permission to reside in the ROC for 183 days or more in a tax year will have income tax withheld in accordance with the rates for residents; those whose passport or residency certificate records their period of residence in the ROC as 183 days in a tax year or less, and those who have not shown evidence that they have resided in the ROC for 183 days or more in a tax year, must have income tax withheld in accordance with the rates for non-residents. Overseas Chinese students who actually reside in the ROC
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			for 183 days or more must file an income tax return in accordance with regulations and any withholding tax withheld by a withholding agent, as described above, may be deducted from the total amount of income tax that they must pay at the time of filing.
2	What administrative procedures do students from Hong Kong and Macao need to go through to remain in Taiwan and work after their graduation?	Ministry of Labor	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Paragraph 1 of Article 13 of the Act Governing Relations with Hong Kong and Macao (referred to in the paragraph below as “the Act”) states: “The provisions of Chapters 5, 6, and 7 of the Employment Services Act pertaining to the employment, supervision, and punishment of foreign workers shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to employment in the Taiwan Area of Hong Kong or Macao residents.” And Article 43 of the Employment Services Act states: “No foreign worker may engage in work within the territory of the Republic of China should his/her Employer have not yet obtained a permit via application therefor.” Employers wanting to appoint workers who are residents of Hong Kong or Macao must apply to the central competent authority for a permit to do so. 2. Paragraph 2 of Article 13 of the Act states “Employment in the Taiwan Area of those residents of Hong Kong or Macao specified in Paragraph 3 of Article 4 of the Act shall be subject to special regulations, which shall be formulated by the Council of Labor Affairs in conjunction with other relevant agencies and submitted to the Executive Yuan for approval and subsequent promulgation.” The Ministry of Labor (previously the Council of Labor Affairs of the Executive Yuan) then formulated the Management and Approval Regulations for Hong Kong or Macao Residents with Overseas Chinese ID in accordance with the provisions mentioned above. Under these Ministry of Labor regulations, employers of Hong Kong and Macao residents who obtained overseas Chinese status and ROC residency before the end of British rule and Portuguese rule respectively, and such individuals themselves may apply to the Ministry of Labor for a work permit.
3	Does the government encourage overseas Chinese students to stay in Taiwan to	Ministry of Labor	<p>Overseas Chinese students who come to Taiwan to study enjoy the education resources invested in by and gain an understanding of Taiwan’s culture, language, and life style. Having outstanding overseas Chinese students stay in Taiwan and enlisting their services will assist both the international connections of Taiwan’s business and industry and Taiwan’s overall development. The specific measures adopted are outlined below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staying in Taiwan after graduation to do an internship: In June, 2011, the MOE established a mechanism

	undertake internships or work after they graduate?		<p>for overseas Chinese students and international students to stay in Taiwan and undertake an internship after they graduate from a university or tertiary college in Taiwan, and since then many of the eligibility criteria for an internship application have been eased. A student who has graduated with a bachelor's degree with an overall average score of at least 70; or with a master's degree, or higher degree; or who received an award in a skills competition or technology exhibition is eligible to file an application. An internship may last at most until one year after graduation.</p> <p>2. Staying in Taiwan after graduation to work: Since July 3, 2014, the Ministry of Labor has used a points-based quota system for overseas Chinese students and international students, under which an applicant scoring 70 or higher is eligible to be employed in Taiwan. Points are given for eight criteria, including the applicant's academic record and credentials; work experience; the salary level of the position offered; qualifications for the position; Chinese and other language(s) proficiency; having experience growing up in a foreign country; and fitting current government policies. Any international student, overseas Chinese student, or other overseas students of Chinese descent who has graduated from a public or accredited private junior college, tertiary college, or university in Taiwan and applies to stay in Taiwan to engage in work that requires professional or technical expertise or skill is not subject to the appointment restrictions that the monthly salary must be higher than NT\$47,971 and that the person appointed must have had 2 years of work experience after graduating from a university or tertiary college.</p>
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5. Student loans, scholarships, and other assistance with living requirements and finances

1	What are the eligibility criteria for overseas Chinese students to apply for student loans?	MOE	<p>1. The MOE's Regulations Regarding Academic Loans to Students at Senior High School and Higher Levels stipulate that these student loans are only available to ROC citizens who have a household registration in Taiwan and are officially enrolled undertaking studies at a senior secondary school or higher-level educational institution in Taiwan an officially registered through the competent authority. Most overseas Chinese students do not have an ROC national ID or household registration in Taiwan, so these regulations do not apply to them.</p> <p>2. If you are an overseas Chinese student with a household registration and an ROC national ID and you</p>
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			would like to apply for a student loan, please refer to the Regulations Regarding Academic Loans to Students of Senior High School and Higher Levels for details of how to do so.
2	What scholarships are available for overseas Chinese students?	MOE	<p>Scholarships provided by the MOE for outstanding overseas Chinese students to study at universities and colleges in Taiwan:</p> <p>(1) Those eligible to apply for an Outstanding Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship:</p> <p>a. The top five students at each round of selections each academic year of those applying for a place in each of the three discipline groups who have been assessed by UECOCS and offered a place to study at a university in Taiwan. Their GPA must be in the top one percent of the students in their broad category. (<i>Note: the three groups of disciplines are: 1. Art and Humanities, including Law; 2. Science; and 3. Medicine</i>)</p> <p>b. Students who have represented their country and won one of the top three places at an international mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, earth sciences, or information Olympiad or been awarded one of the top four prizes at the US International Science and Engineering Fair and who have been offered a place at a university by UECOCS.</p> <p>(2) Those eligible to receive an Elite Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship:</p> <p>a. Students who are eligible to receive an Outstanding Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship who were awarded a Unified Education Certificate with an A1 level result in every subject for the Malaysian Independent Chinese Secondary Schools Unified Examination (MICSSUE); or students who attended a high quality senior high school (with an excellent reputation) within their country of residence and achieved the highest academic performance in all subjects. These achievements must be confirmed by an ROC embassy or consulate. The successful applicants will be selected and then notified by the MOE.</p> <p>b. A student who has represented their country and won one of the top three places at any international mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, earth sciences, or information Olympiads, or won one of the top four prizes at the US International Science and Engineering Fair, and who has been offered a place by each of the top three educational institutions they would prefer to attend when UECOCS forwarded the student's applications to them.</p>

			<p>(3) Conditions for continuing to receive a scholarship: Students must take at least 9 credits each semester (except in their graduation year), and each academic year their GPA must rank in the top 10% of their cohort or be at least 85 points.</p> <p>(4) What the scholarships provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Outstanding Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship: NT\$12,500 per month for the initial academic year and NT\$10,000 per month for continuing recipients. b. The Elite Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship: NT\$25,000 per month for both first-time and continuing scholarship recipients. <p>(5) Application procedure: Applicants must submit the following documents to the university, college, or school they are attending in the first semester, within two weeks from the day that they enroll.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Those in first year applying for the first time must submit a photocopy of their admission notice to the university or college where they have given a placement by UECOCS and submit documentary evidence of any awards or prizes they have won. b. Students in second year or above who continue receiving a scholarship must submit a transcript of their results from both semesters of the previous academic year. <p>2. The MOE-subsidized Outstanding Overseas Chinese Graduate Student Scholarships set up by individual universities and colleges:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Eligibility criteria: A university or college which has admitted five or more overseas Chinese students for postgraduate studies (whether their admission was as a result of being offered a place or passing an entrance examination) may send details of the number of overseas Chinese students undertaking a postgraduate degree in the first or second semester of that academic year (not including any student already receiving a government subsidy) to the MOE to verify and allocate subsidy funds for its Outstanding Overseas Chinese Graduate Student Scholarships. (2) What these scholarships provide: In principle, each student will receive no less than NT\$10,000 per month. (3) Application procedure: Each university and college must apply to the MOE for the approved and allocated amount of subsidy funds with the appropriate documentation before October 31 and
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			March 31, each year.
		OCAC	<p>To encourage currently studying overseas Chinese students with an excellent academic record and good conduct, the OCAC offers Scholarships for Overseas Chinese Students with Outstanding Academic Performance and Good Conduct, and it accepts donations to fund scholarships for overseas Chinese students. Students who meet all the eligibility criteria may apply to their university or college.</p> <p>1. How to apply for an OCAC Scholarship for Overseas Chinese Students with Outstanding Academic Performance and Good Conduct:</p> <p>(1) Overseas Chinese students in their second year or higher at a college or university (4th year or higher for those attending a five-year junior college) who have had a GPA of at least 80 points for the previous academic year and exemplary behavior in both semesters may fill out an application form at the beginning of the first semester of the academic year and submit it together with their transcript from the previous academic year to their university or college to be forwarded to the OCAC which makes the decision.</p> <p>(2) Overseas Chinese students from Hong Kong and Macao who are studying at a college or university in Taiwan after taking the University Entrance Examination; or after studying in the Division of Preparatory Programs for Overseas Chinese Students at National Taiwan Normal University; or after being given a placement by UECOCS may also apply if they meet the eligibility requirements set out in the preceding paragraph.</p> <p>(3) Overseas Chinese students currently in their second or higher year of study at a secondary school (or vocational school) who had a GPA of at least 85 points in the previous academic year, and who have not been subject to any warnings or other more serious disciplinary measures from their school may fill out an application form at the beginning of the first semester of the academic year and submit this and a transcript of their results for the previous academic year to their school. Each school will forward the applications to the OCAC which makes the decision.</p> <p>2. Apply for an OCAC Donation Scholarship:</p> <p>Overseas Chinese students currently undertaking a program at a junior college, or at a college or university at undergraduate or postgraduate level who had a GPA of at least 75 during the previous</p>

			<p>academic year and who meet all the eligibility criteria for one of these scholarships (for example special criteria, such as coming from a particular region, or studying in a particular department) may apply. If a student has not received any other scholarship from the OCAC or any other source during the academic year and has not had to repeat a academic year, retake any courses, or defer their graduation, then they may submit an application to their college or university at the beginning of the second semester of the academic year to be forwarded to the OCAC which makes the decision.</p>
3	<p>What measures are there to assist overseas Chinese students with living requirements and financial aid?</p>	MOE	<p>MOE aid for financially disadvantaged overseas Chinese students:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eligibility to apply: In accordance with the MOE Directions for Providing Financial Aid for Financially Disadvantaged Overseas Chinese Students at Senior Secondary School, College or University, an overseas Chinese student currently in second year or a higher year at a senior secondary school or higher educational institution (not including graduate students, students who have been granted an extension to the period to complete their study, or students repeating any preparatory studies or Chinese language course at National Taiwan Normal University in the Division of Preparatory Programs for Overseas Chinese Students who had a passing GPA throughout the previous academic year, and who did not receive any disciplinary warning and was not subject to any more serious disciplinary measure (at a college or university) or who was not disciplined for any minor or more serious violations of rules (at a senior secondary school) who submits official overseas documentation of their financial circumstances or proof of being financially impoverished may apply for financial aid. 2. Determination of financial assistance quotas: The MOE will determine the number of people who may receive financial assistance and the standard monthly amount available based on annual budget constraints and will determine a financial assistance quota for each educational institution, based on its proportion of the total number of overseas Chinese students throughout the country. Each educational institution will undertake a further review and allocate the financial aid in accordance with its own application review regulations. 3. Financial aid categories: Financial aid is available for financially disadvantaged overseas Chinese students: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) in the first three years of a five-year junior college program, or at a senior or vocational high school;

			<p>or</p> <p>2) in the last two years of a five-year junior college program, or undertaking a two-year junior college, tertiary college or university program. Their educational institution will disburse the financial aid each month for a maximum period of one year for any one grant, from the beginning of the academic year (September) to August 31 of the following year, or until June of the following year for graduating students. Part-time work subsidized by the OCAC will be preferentially given to financially disadvantaged overseas Chinese students from particular areas who were not able to obtain financial aid.</p> <p>4. Application and review process: overseas Chinese students must submit their application with all the necessary documents to their school, college, or university within two weeks after they register in the first semester each academic year. It will set up an evaluation team to review the applications received each academic year and those confirmed as meeting the requirements will be sent to the MOE for approval.</p>
		OCAC	<p>Funding assistance available from the OCAC:</p> <p>1. Hospital Accident and Medical Insurance for Overseas Chinese Students (HAMIOCS):</p> <p>(1) To protect their health and to ensure that they can get medical care if they get sick or are injured while they are studying in Taiwan, the OCAC subsidizes coverage for overseas Chinese students who do not yet qualify for National Health Insurance (students who have been in Taiwan less than six months) under the Hospital Accident and Medical Insurance for Overseas Chinese Students program (abbreviated below to “HAMIOCS”), if they are in one of the following categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Students given a placement by UECOCS or the MOE who have enrolled; b. Students who have come to Taiwan on their own and received a placement from the competent education administration authority to which the OCAC forwarded their application; c. Overseas Chinese students who were recruited by and are studying at a university, college, or special program for overseas Chinese students that has MOE authorization to independently recruit overseas Chinese students; d. Students given a placement at the OYVTS. <p>(2) Overseas Chinese students taking out HAMIOCS coverage must pay the insurance premium at the</p>

			<p>time of their enrollment. The OCAC subsidizes 50% of the premium, and each student must pay the remaining 50%.</p> <p>(3) HAMIOCS coverage takes immediate effect the day the insurance premium is paid and lasts for six months. A student's insurance remains effective until the six-month period expires, even if they need to take a leave of absence or withdraw from their studies.</p> <p>(4) During the six-month period, a student policyholder may go to any contracted NHI hospital or clinic anywhere in Taiwan that for medical services. The student must first pay the outpatient expenses and then present the original receipt and the outpatient insurance claim form to their insurance company to receive a reimbursement. Please note that only the expenses for one outpatient visit for a particular health problem on any one day will be reimbursed, and there is also a maximum daily limit of NT\$1,000, including the registration fee.</p> <p>(5) An insured overseas Chinese student who requires hospitalization because of an accident or illness is entitled to a bed in a class-3 ward. If no class-3 bed is available, they may be admitted to a class-2 ward until a class-3 bed becomes available if they have the consent of their insurance company. A student who chooses to upgrade to a better ward is responsible for paying the related additional costs. The insured student must first pay for the medical expenses incurred during their hospitalization and then present the receipt and a medical certificate regarding their treatment there to their insurance company to receive a reimbursement. There is a maximum reimbursement of NT\$120,000 for each hospitalization.</p> <p>2. National Health Insurance</p> <p>All overseas Chinese students who meet the conditions set out in Article 9 of the National Health Insurance Act and Paragraph 2 of Article 8 of its Enforcement Rules must join the National Health Insurance (NHI) program as soon as they have been living in Taiwan for six consecutive months, or as soon as the total time they have actually spent living in Taiwan amounts to six months, not including any days when they have been out of Taiwan, once only, for a period of less than 30 days during that period. To ensure that financially disadvantaged overseas Chinese students can receive proper medical care if they become sick or are injured while they are studying in Taiwan, and let them set their mind at ease and</p>
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			<p>concentrate on their studies, the OCAC will subsidize 50% of their monthly NHI premium if the student has provided evidence of their financially disadvantaged status to the educational institution that they are attending which their educational institution has checked and confirmed it. However, all Overseas Chinese students who came to Taiwan to study and became eligible for NHI coverage before December 31, 2013 may also receive an OCAC subsidy for 50% of their monthly NHI premium, based on the principle of trust and protection.</p> <p>3. Application for subsidies for part-time work for overseas Chinese students:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) These subsidies are designed to assist overseas Chinese students who came to Taiwan to study who are currently studying at a senior secondary school, college, or university in accordance with the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan, with priority given to those in financially difficult circumstances. (2) The OCAC determines the part-time overseas Chinese students work quota for each school, college, and university and the corresponding subsidies in December each year. The funds are appropriated to each school, college, and university in advance, twice or four times a year, and they must attach receipts and inventories when the payments are audited. Each school, college, and university must verify the use of the funding; it may only be used for this specific purpose. They must also ensure that the part-time work does not interfere with students' academic activities and is in an appropriate environment, and may formulate its own implementation rules and send a copy to the OCAC for reference. <p>4. Funding for emergency relief and assistance in the event of family misfortune or bereavement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The OCAC has established the Directions of Medical, Emergency and Funeral Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students studying in Taiwan to sympathetically look after overseas Chinese students studying in Taiwan in the event they need medical care, meet disaster, or a death occurs. These directions also apply to students currently studying at a school, college, or university in Taiwan in accordance with the Regulations for Hong Kong and Macao Residents Studying in Taiwan. (2) In the event that an overseas Chinese student studying in the Taiwan region needs to be hospitalized
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			<p>because of injury or illness, thereby causing major financial difficulties; or their family meets some unforeseen event that cuts off the financial support it has been providing and this has created immediate difficulties for the student; or encounters a force majeure or natural disaster that causes them major financial loss: or if a student dies an application may be made to the OCAC for assistance.</p> <p>(3) Those applying for medical care assistance must submit documentary evidence of the diagnosis and medical expenses incurred issued by the hospital or clinic that provided the medical care. Those applying for emergency relief must submit proof that their family has met some unforeseen event or that they have personally been caused major financial loss. Those applying for consolation in the event of a death must submit a copy of the death certificate. The school, college, or university where the student is studying will verify details and then forward the applications to the OCAC to evaluate and then issue the funding. The OCAC may determine the provision of such funding on a case-by-case basis.</p>
		<p>National Health Insurance Administration - Ministry of Health and Welfare</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In accordance with Article 9 of the National Health Insurance Act and Article 8, Paragraph 2 of its Enforcement Rules, all foreign nationals who have a residency certificate must join the National Health Insurance Program after living in Taiwan for at least six consecutive months or when the total time they have actually spent living in Taiwan amounts to six months, not including any days when they have been out of Taiwan, once only for a period of less than 30 days during that period. The objective of this legislation is to ensure that overseas Chinese students and international students who reside in Taiwan can receive proper medical care if they become ill, are injured, or encounter difficulties after giving birth while they are studying in Taiwan. 2. The current monthly compulsory National Health Insurance premium for covered overseas Chinese students and international students is NT\$749, but an overseas Chinese student whose family is in financially disadvantaged circumstances may submit a completed application form and documentary evidence of their financially disadvantaged status to the educational institution that they are attending and apply for a reduction in the NHI premium they are responsible for paying. The OCAC will pay NT\$375, half of the monthly premium, for an overseas Chinese student found to be eligible, and the student must

			pay the remaining NT\$374.
		Ministry of Labor	The MOL regulations governing overseas Chinese students' part-time work outside of school: In accordance with Article 50 of the Employment Services Act, employers may not employ overseas Chinese students or other overseas students of Chinese descent who are currently undertaking studies in a public or legally registered private senior secondary school, college, or university for more than 20 hours a week, except in the winter and summer breaks. And Article 48 of the same Act stipulates that an employer wanting to employ such students must apply to the central competent authority (MOL) for permission in advance.
4	What actions does the ROC government take for overseas Chinese students?	MOE	The MOE undertakes the following for overseas Chinese students: 1. Subsidizing the counseling and remedial classes for overseas Chinese students at each educational institution. The funding criteria provide NT\$600 for each overseas Chinese student. A further NT\$1,000 to NT\$5,000 may be available. Approval is given on a case by case basis, depending on the implementation plan and content of the proposed activity, and the amount of funding being provided by the educational institution. Arranging joint delegations of people from central government units to attend overseas Chinese student activities at each educational institution. 2. Celebration of the national festivals of the overseas Chinese students at each educational institution (including paying respects to ancestors and celebration parties during Chinese New Year).
		OCAC	The OCAC holds the following activities for overseas Chinese students in Taiwan: 1. Discussion forums and receptions for newly arrived overseas Chinese students. 2. On-campus guidance and funding for overseas Chinese student clubs. 3. Workshops for outstanding office-bearers of overseas Chinese student clubs on campuses throughout Taiwan. 4. Spring social activities for overseas Chinese students in northern, central, southern, and eastern Taiwan. 5. Ceremonies for overseas Chinese students to pay respects to ancestors, and teacher-student luncheons and dinner parties during Chinese New Year. 6. Career planning workshops for students graduating from universities and colleges. 7. Farewell parties for students graduating from universities and colleges.

6. Residency and naturalization

1	<p>What essential residency procedures do overseas Chinese students have to go through during their stay in Taiwan?</p> <p>How do they apply for an ARC extension?</p>	NIA	<p>1. Overseas Chinese students entering Taiwan on a foreign passport:</p> <p>(1) Overseas Chinese students entering Taiwan for the first time on a resident visa who have not completed their enrollment procedure must submit their admission notice from the university or school where they will enroll and will then initially receive an Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) valid for 6 months after it has been verified, similar to the procedure for foreign workers. Students who are already enrolled must submit documentary evidence of this in the form of a current certification of enrolment or a student ID card valid for the current semester, and will then be issued an ARC valid for one year.</p> <p>(2) The Alien Resident Certificate for overseas Chinese students is valid for one year. Within one month of its expiry date, overseas Chinese students may submit all required documents to their local NIA service center and apply for an extension of stay.</p> <p>(3) Overseas Chinese students may apply for an Alien Resident Certificate or for an extension of their stay on their own, through an agent, or by providing written authorization to their school or university which will collectively handle matters for all students that request it. Such students are advised to ask their school or university to contact the local NIA service center and check procedures before applying for Alien Resident Certificates or extensions of stay for several students collectively.</p> <p>2. Overseas Chinese students entering Taiwan on an ROC passport:</p> <p>After entering Taiwan, overseas Chinese students holding an ROC passport who have completed their enrollment procedures may submit all required documents and apply to their local NIA service center for a resident certificate for Taiwan. This must be done while their entry visa is still valid. The resident certificate will be valid for three years. If the original reason for their stay still exists when their resident certificate expires, an overseas Chinese student may submit an official document issued by their university or school and apply to the local NIA service center for an extension of stay, one month before their resident certificate expires.</p>
2	Is it possible to	Ministry of	1. Overseas Chinese students entering Taiwan on a foreign passport:

	extend the stay or period of residency for newly arrived overseas Chinese students entering Taiwan before the enrollment time so that they can avoid being fined for overstaying?	the Interior NIA	<p>Overseas Chinese students entering Taiwan for the first time on a resident visa who have not completed their enrollment procedure must submit their admission notice from the university or school where they will enroll and will then initially receive an Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) valid for 6 months after it has been verified, similar to the procedure for foreign workers. Students who are already enrolled must submit documentary evidence of this in the form of a current certification of enrolment or a student ID card valid for the current semester, and will then be issued an ARC valid for one year.</p> <p>2. Overseas Chinese students entering Taiwan on an ROC passport: After entering Taiwan, overseas Chinese students holding an ROC passport who have completed their enrollment procedures may submit all required documents and apply to their local NIA service center for a resident certificate for Taiwan. This must be done while their entry visa is still valid.</p>
3	How do overseas Chinese students with an ROC passport resume their household registration or apply for a resident certificate?	Ministry of the Interior Department of Household Registration (DHR), and NIA	<p>1. Overseas Chinese students who formerly had household registration in Taiwan who have been in Taiwan for at least three months must present: their ROC passport with an entry stamp or documentary evidence of entry; their national ID card; a list of the members of their household; and photographs (for details of the new specifications for photographs for a national ID, please visit the Ministry of the Interior Department of Household Registration website, http:// www.ris.gov.tw/) to the local household registration office for the area where they are residing and undertake new resident registration, and apply for a national ID card (whether for the first time, for a current one, or to replace a lost one).</p> <p>2. Please see item 2. in the answer to question 17 above, regarding application for a resident certificate.</p>
4	Can overseas Chinese students apply for an extension of stay after they graduate or take leave of absence	Ministry of the Interior NIA	<p>Once overseas Chinese students graduate, the reason for their stay no longer exists, and they must leave the country, in accordance with the regulations. In light of the fact that some students may be deciding whether to take examinations for a graduate program and some need time to handle personal matters, September 30 or March 31 of their graduation year has been designated as the uniform final date of stay for all overseas Chinese students. Those who need to stay in Taiwan to seek work can apply to extend their stay by another 6 months from their graduation month. They must submit documentary proof of their graduation with their application.</p>

	or withdraw from their studies?		In addition, a proviso was added to Paragraph 1 of Article 23 of the amended Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan promulgated on January 31, 2011, which stipulates that if an overseas Chinese student is undertaking an internship in Taiwan with the approval of the central competent education administration authority, then their overseas Chinese student status may be extended for a maximum of one year after their graduation. The MOE has also formulated and promulgated the Operation Directions Governing Applications from Overseas Chinese Students, Students from Hong Kong and Macao, and International Students for Internships after Graduating from University/College in Taiwan: and an overseas Chinese student who has graduated and obtained documentary approval from the MOE to undertake an internship may apply to the NIA for an extension of their stay.
5	Can overseas Chinese students taking graduate program admission examinations after completing their undergraduate studies apply for an extension of stay?	Ministry of the Interior NIA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When overseas Chinese students graduate, they no longer have a valid reason to stay and those who do not apply to extend their stay in Taiwan to seek career work must leave the country, in accordance with the regulations. In light of the fact that some students are waiting to take examinations for a graduate program or have personal matters to handle, September 30 or March 31 of their graduation year has been designated the final date of stay for all overseas Chinese students. 2. Overseas Chinese students who are admitted into a graduate program in Taiwan after completing their undergraduate studies while their resident certificate is still valid may take their admission notice from the postgraduate institution to the local NIA service center and apply for an extension to their resident certificate.

6	Can overseas Chinese students apply for permanent residency after staying in Taiwan for seven years?	Ministry of the Interior NIA	In accordance with Paragraph 1 of Article 25 of the Immigration Act, foreign nationals who have resided in Taiwan for five consecutive years, lived in Taiwan for more than 183 days each year, and meet related requirements may apply to the NIA for permanent residency. Please note that time spent in Taiwan pursuing an education or to work with permission from the central competent authority in charge of labor in accordance with Article 46, Paragraph 1, Subparagraphs 8 to 10 of the Employment Services Act, or as a dependent of an individual staying in Taiwan for either of the abovementioned reasons does <i>not</i> count towards permanent residency.
7	Why did the ROC government stop the immediate issuing of national IDs for overseas Chinese students?	Ministry of the Interior (DHR) Ministry of the Interior NIA	In the past, overseas Chinese students were allowed to apply for an ROC national ID in accordance with the Regulations Regarding Household Registration Establishment for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan. These stated that “Overseas Chinese students entering the ROC on an ROC passport or entry permit may establish household registration and apply for a national ID.” As a result, the household registration regulations for overseas Chinese students were less strict than those for overseas Chinese. Because of this inconsistency and for the sake of fairness, the Ministry of the Interior repealed the regulations governing the overseas Chinese students on May 11, 1994. As outlined in Article 15 of the Household Registration Act, an ROC national who has entered Taiwan and been given approval to reside here must establish their initial household registration. Overseas Chinese students who then want to obtain an ROC national ID must first apply to the National Immigration Agency for a residency permit and when this is approved, undertake their initial household registration at their local household registration office and obtain an ROC national ID.
8	How do foreign nationals or stateless people apply for naturalization to become an ROC citizen?	Ministry of the Interior (DHR)	1. In accordance with the Nationality Act, a foreign national or stateless person who wants to apply to be naturalized and become an ROC citizen must have a place of residence in within the territory of the ROC (in other words, have obtained an Alien Resident Certificate or Alien Permanent Resident Certificate); they must have been actually residing in Taiwan legally for a minimum consecutive period of at least 183 consecutive days each year; be at least 20 years of age and have legal capacity to act; be of decent character and behavior and have no criminal record; own enough property or have sufficient professional skills to make a living and support themselves without difficulty; have basic Mandarin Chinese language proficiency and knowledge of the rights and obligations of ROC citizens; and have

		<p>renounced their original nationality. The abovementioned “actually residing in Taiwan legally for a minimum consecutive period” refers to three or more consecutive years if the applicant is the spouse of an ROC citizen; five or more consecutive years for an ordinary foreigner; and ten or more consecutive years for a person who has legally been residing in ROC territory.</p> <p>2. Also, in accordance with Paragraph 2 of Article 5 of the Enforcement Rules of the Nationality Act, if an applicant has stayed in Taiwan for one of the following reasons, the length of time that they had an Alien Resident Certificate or Alien Permanent Resident Certificate to do so will not count toward the period residing legally in Taiwan:</p> <p>(1) with MOL approval, to undertake work in accordance with Article 46, Paragraph 1, Subparagraphs 8 to 10 of the Employment Services Act (approval was formerly given by the);</p> <p>(2) to undertake studies; or</p> <p>(3) as a dependent of any individual in either of the categories above.</p> <p>3. If a foreigner who meets the key criteria set out above plans to apply for evidence that they have renounced their original nationality, in accordance with Article 10 of the Enforcement Rules of the Nationality Act, they may complete a written application and submit all associated documentary evidence to their local household registration office and apply for an ROC naturalization candidacy certificate. The application will be forwarded through the municipality or county/city government to the Ministry of the Interior. After obtaining an ROC naturalization candidacy certificate, a foreign national must attach documentary proof of having renounced their original nationality and submit the documents to their local household registration office and apply for naturalization. The office will then check whether the applicant has a criminal record, then send the documents to the municipality or county/city government which will forward them to the Ministry of the Interior. If any of the key criteria stipulated in the Nationality Act has not been met, the Ministry of Interior cannot approve naturalization.</p> <p>4. For information regarding naturalization to become an ROC citizen, please visit the website of the Department of Household Registration of the Ministry of the Interior at www.ris.gov.tw and look in the Related Laws and Regulations area.</p>
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7. Military service for overseas Chinese students and students from Hong Kong and Macao

1	What are the regulations on the mandatory military service for overseas Chinese students?	Conscription Agency of the Ministry of the Interior	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Related legislation: Conscription Regulations for Naturalized Aliens & Returning Overseas Chinese. 2. Mandatory military service does not apply to those who have never had household registration in Taiwan. 3. All naturalized males of military service age must report to a recruitment office in accordance with regulations one year after they establish their household registration in Taiwan. 4. All overseas Chinese males of military service age who formerly had household registration in Taiwan must report to a recruitment office one year after their return to Taiwan, in accordance with regulations. Overseas Chinese males of military service age without household registration in Taiwan must report to a recruitment office one year after they establish household registration in Taiwan in accordance with regulations. Determination of the status of an individual overseas Chinese males will be based on their applying for and obtaining an Overseas Chinese Identity Certificate for Military Service issued by the competent authority in charge of Overseas Chinese affairs (the OCAC), or on their holding a passport bearing endorsement of their Overseas Chinese status. 5. The provisions of the Conscription Regulations for Naturalized Aliens & Returning Overseas Chinese that apply to overseas Chinese are applicable to male overseas Chinese who enter Taiwan on a foreign passport who are of military service age. 6. The period of time that male overseas Chinese of military service age who come to Taiwan to study are eligible to defer military service (i.e. while they are studying) is not counted toward the one-year period of residency after which they must register, mentioned above. 7. Male overseas Chinese students of military service age who entered Taiwan on a foreign passport and who have ever had household registration while holding ROC nationality, and who do not have the status of an overseas Chinese person who may defer military service must report to a recruitment office in accordance with regulations as soon as they graduate, or suspend or give up their studies.
2	Which overseas Chinese students	Conscription Agency of	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In accordance with Article 20 of the ROC Constitution and Articles 1, 3, and 32 of the Act of Military Service System, male citizens of the Republic of China who have ever held household registration in

	<p>studying in Taiwan are not eligible for deferral of military service?</p>	<p>the Ministry of the Interior</p>	<p>Taiwan have a legal duty to be available for military service from January 1 of the year following the year that he turns 18 until December 31 of the year in which he reaches the age of 36.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The military service requirement status of an overseas Chinese is determined in accordance with their having obtained an Overseas Chinese Identity Certificate for Military Service or having an Overseas Chinese status stamp in their passports. A person meeting the conscription eligibility who has ever established household registration in Taiwan is classified in the same category as all males required to do military service and must apply for draft deferral through the college or university that he is attending. He must be drafted in accordance with the law when he graduates or if he withdraws from his university or college. 3. In accordance with Article 15 of the Enforcement Regulations for Draft Exemption, Restriction, Deferred Call & Draft, male students attending a university or college that is not registered or individuals without student status are not allowed to defer military service. Those who have graduated from a senior secondary school or higher level educational institution who are retaking studies at the same level or at a lower level institution without prior approval from the Ministry of the Interior, those aged over 28 who are attending a non-tertiary level college of continuing education and have not yet graduated, or those aged over 33 who have not yet graduated from any other educational institution are also not allowed to defer military service. For example, a person who has already obtained a bachelor's degree overseas and then undertakes another bachelor's degree, or a post-undergraduate course in medicine or in law in Taiwan is not eligible to defer military service. 4. In conjunction with the Government's education policies for overseas Chinese and in accordance with the provisions of the Ministry of the Interior document Tai-Nei-Zi No. 0930094390 issued on February 6, 2004, the time that overseas Chinese males of military service age spend undertaking studies at the National Overseas Chinese Student University Preparatory School (now the National Taiwan Normal University Division of Preparatory Programs for Overseas Chinese Students) may be not considered part of their time of residency in Taiwan. But if a student has already obtained a bachelor's degree, the period that they have spent studying at the National Taiwan Normal University Division of Preparatory Programs for Overseas Chinese Students must be counted toward their total residency time in Taiwan.
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3	Are students from Hong Kong and Macao legally required to do military service if they stay in Taiwan for another year after graduation?	Conscription Agency of the Ministry of the Interior	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hong Kong and Macao residents who have never had household registration in Taiwan are not required to do military service. 2. Hong Kong residents who established their initial household registration in Taiwan after July 1, 1997 and Macao residents who did so after December 20, 1999 must report to a recruitment office in accordance with regulations one year after establishing their household registration. Those who are still undertaking studies at that one-year time may apply for a deferral of their military service until they graduate or leave their university or college. 3. The provisions of the Conscription Regulations for Naturalized Aliens & Returning Overseas Chinese that apply to overseas Chinese who return to Taiwan are applicable to overseas Chinese males from Hong Kong and Macao who are in either of the following categories and who have certification from the OCAC: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Those who established their initial household registration in Taiwan as overseas Chinese from Hong Kong before July 1, 1997, or from Macao before December 20, 1999, and satisfied the requirements for local permanent residency in either place. (2) Those who were born in Taiwan and established household registration there, and who resided for four years or more in Hong Kong before July 1, 1997 or in Macao before December 20, 1999 and satisfied the requirements for local permanent residency in either place.
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