

Information for Overseas Chinese Students

No.	Topic	Details
1	Legal basis	<p>In order to assist overseas Chinese students with their studies in Taiwan, the Ministry of Education has formulated the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan.</p> <p>These are the regulations governing the review and approval, assignment to an educational institution, preferential treatment, on-campus counseling, and graduation of overseas Chinese students who apply to and then study in Taiwan.</p>
2	Eligibility Criteria for Overseas Chinese Student Status	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The term “overseas Chinese student” refers to a student of Chinese descent who comes to Taiwan to study. To be eligible to apply for a school as an overseas Chinese student, the student must have been born and lived overseas until the present time; or have 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 for those applying to study in a department of medicine, dentistry, or Chinese medicine at any university in Taiwan, the overseas residency requirement extends to a minimum of eight consecutive years. 2. An overseas Chinese student who received assistance applying to study in Taiwan, and studied for fewer than two years, then discontinued their studies for some reason, or forfeited their student status, may lodge another application to study in Taiwan. Only one such re-application is permitted. However, if the educational institution in Taiwan where the overseas Chinese student was studying considers that the student’s conduct or academic performance was unsatisfactory; or if a student has had to discontinue their studies or lost their registered student status due to serious breaches of any ordinance or the rules of the educational institution, then regulations do not permit that person to re-apply to study in Taiwan. 3. The consecutive years of overseas residency referred to in point 1 means calendar years in each of which an overseas

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		<p>Chinese student has not spent more than 120 days in Taiwan. When calculating the number of consecutive years spent overseas, if the initial or final year of the period is not a complete calendar year, any time spent in Taiwan in the initial or final year must not exceed 120 days. However, a person to whom any of the circumstances listed in Article 3, Paragraph 2 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan is not subject to this restriction, and the time that they spent in Taiwan is not included when calculating the period of time they spent overseas.</p> <p>4. An overseas Chinese student is not permitted to change their visa status while they are studying in Taiwan unless the provisions of some other ordinance permit them to do so.</p>
3	Scholarships	<p>1. The Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC) provides:</p> <p>(1) OCAC Scholarship for Overseas Chinese Students with Outstanding Academic Performance and Conduct:</p> <p>This is available to overseas Chinese students in their second year or higher at a college or university; or in their fourth year or higher for those in a five-year junior college. To qualify, students must have achieved a GPA of at least 80 points for the previous academic year and scored grade A in Conduct for two consecutive semesters.</p> <p>(2) OCAC Scholarship from Donations:</p> <p>Open to overseas Chinese students currently enrolled in a junior college, or pursuing undergraduate or postgraduate studies at a college or university. Eligibility requires a GPA of at least 75 points from the previous academic year and meeting criteria specified by the donating party, such as coming from a particular region or studying in a particular department.</p> <p>(3) OCAC Award for Outstanding and Elite Students:</p> <p>Based on the Guideline for Awarding Outstanding and Elite Overseas Chinese Student Studying in Taiwan, this scholarship is open to students pursuing a bachelor's degree. Eligible applicants must have a senior high school or higher</p>

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		<p>degree, with commendable academic performance and good conduct, and who also meet the criteria in Article 2 of Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan.</p> <p>(a) Elite Scholarship: Applicants must have a GPA higher than or equal to 88, or rank in the top 5% of their class, and achieve an average conduct score above 80.</p> <p>(b) Outstanding Scholarship: Applicants must have a GPA higher than or equal to 85, or rank in the top 10% of their class, and achieve an average conduct score above 80.</p> <p>(c) If an applicant's overseas grade has different grading system, conversions will be based on the standards set by the ROC overseas mission that accepts the application in conjunction with OCAC.</p> <p>2. The Ministry of Education provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Outstanding Overseas Chinese Student Scholarships, ➤ Elite Overseas Chinese Student Scholarships, ➤ Grants for Overseas Chinese Students in Financial Need, and ➤ Outstanding Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship for Graduate Students. <p>To encourage outstanding overseas Chinese students to pursue higher education in Taiwan, overseas Chinese students who meet the requirements for a Ministry of Education scholarship for overseas Chinese students with an outstanding academic performance may apply to the Ministry of Education for an Elite Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship, or for an Outstanding Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship.</p> <p>Any overseas Chinese student at a senior secondary school or an institution of higher education who is in financial need may apply to the educational institution that they are attending for a Ministry of Education Grant for Overseas Chinese Students in Financial Need.</p>

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		<p>An overseas Chinese student attending a postgraduate institution with more than five overseas Chinese students may apply for an Outstanding Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship for Graduate Students. These are provided by their institution with subsidies from the Ministry of Education.</p> <p>3. Other scholarships are also provided by individual educational institutions. Overseas Chinese students may consult directly with the educational institution they are attending about applying for such scholarships.</p>
4	Subsidies for Part-Time On-Campus Employment & Study Assistance	<p>The Overseas Community Affairs Council has established subsidies for part-time employment on campus, and study assistance subsidies for overseas Chinese students. The part-time employment subsidies and study assistance subsidies are available for overseas Chinese students who are studying at a senior secondary school or institution of higher education in Taiwan, in accordance with the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan, and who meet one of the following conditions: they are in financial need, they encounter major financial burdens due to large medical expenses incurred from being hospitalized in Taiwan because of injury or illness, or they experience some unforeseen event. Such overseas Chinese students may apply to the educational institution that they are attending for a subsidy.</p>
5	Hospital Accident and Medical Insurance for Overseas Chinese Students (HAMIOCS) and National Health Insurance	<p>1. To ensure that overseas Chinese students have access to health care, all new overseas Chinese students must take out six-months' cover under the Hospital Accident and Medical Insurance for Overseas Chinese Students (HAMIOCS) program when they enroll and register at their educational institution. The Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC) subsidizes half of the premium.</p> <p>2. Overseas Chinese students who have obtained a residency document are required by law to join the National Health</p>

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		<p>Insurance program from the day that they have resided in Taiwan for six consecutive months. An overseas Chinese student who has been outside the country one time only for no more than 30 days is required by law to join the National Health Insurance program from the day that they have spent a total period of six months in Taiwan, not including the time spent outside the country.</p> <p>An overseas Chinese student whose family is in straitened circumstances may submit an application form and documentary proof of their straitened circumstances to the educational institution they are attending. The educational institution will submit a list of all such students to the OCAC, and the OCAC will subsidize each of the students' monthly NHI premium by 50% (NT\$413) after checking and confirming their eligibility. If an overseas Chinese student was already enrolled at an educational institution in Taiwan and was covered by the National Health Insurance scheme before December 31, 2013, the OCAC will similarly pay half of the premium that the student is responsible for. Such students apply through their educational institution and are not required to provide any documentary proof of straitened circumstances.</p>
6	Medical and Emergency Relief Aid for Overseas Chinese Students	<p>The Overseas Community Affairs Council takes care of overseas Chinese students studying in Taiwan if they encounter major financial burdens as a result of large medical expenses incurred being hospitalized in Taiwan because of injury or illness; if some unforeseen event in the family causes a discontinuation of financial support and this immediately affects them badly; or if some force majeure event or natural disaster causes major financial loss. They may apply to the Overseas Community Affairs Council through their educational institution for financial assistance. If a student dies while undertaking studies in Taiwan, their family may apply for financial assistance.</p>

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7	Academic Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students	To enhance overseas Chinese students' Mandarin Chinese language and basic learning skills, each educational institution may apply for funding to organize tutorial classes for basic subjects, and for academic tutoring during the summer and winter breaks, in accordance with the Implementation Directions Governing Ministry of Education Subsidies for Senior Secondary Schools or Above to Provide Overseas Compatriot Students Tutorials, formulated by the Ministry of Education.
8	Work Permits for Overseas Chinese Students to do Part-Time Work Off Campus	In accordance with the Employment Services Act, overseas Chinese students are not permitted to undertake part-time work for more than 20 hours each week except during the summer and winter breaks. Overseas Chinese students who wish to apply for a work permit must submit an application to the Workforce Development Agency of the Ministry of Labor, which is the central competent authority. However, overseas Chinese students are advised to seriously concentrate on their studies rather than working, and they must avoid working in any workplace that raises safety concerns, or that is in any way inappropriate.
9	Overseas Chinese Students' Military Service Duty	From January 1st of the year in which they turn 19 years of age, male overseas Chinese students who have previously held a household registration in Taiwan and are of conscript age must act in compliance with the procedures regarding their military service duty that are set out in the Act of Military Service System.
10	Overseas Chinese Students' Residency	Overseas Chinese students who come to Taiwan to study must undertake appropriate residency procedures. An overseas Chinese student who comes to Taiwan with an ROC passport or official entry document who already has household registration in Taiwan must register with the local household registration office. Those without a household registration in Taiwan must apply for a Resident Certificate for the Taiwan Area. Those coming to Taiwan on a foreign passport must apply for an Alien

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		Resident Certificate. ROC passport holders without a household registration in Taiwan should apply for a single-entry permit and a copy of their Alien Resident Certificate through Taiwan's overseas offices. The documents will be issued by the National Immigration Agency. Within three months from the day of entry, they must exchange the copy of the Alien Resident Certificate for the actual Alien Resident Certificate at the National Immigration Agency. For holders of foreign passports, they should apply for a resident visa to enter Taiwan through Taiwan's overseas offices and apply for the Alien Resident Certificate within 30 days after entry using the Foreign Language and Overseas Students Online Application System.
11	Re-entry Permit	Overseas Chinese students may leave and re-enter Taiwan multiple times while their resident visa is valid.
12	Annual Activities for Overseas Chinese Students	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Each year, the Overseas Community Affairs Council collaborates with educational institutions to organize a range of events for overseas Chinese students. These include welcome receptions for new arrivals; teacher-student luncheons and dinner parties during Lunar New Year; expansive spring networking events; workshops specifically for overseas Chinese student clubs across Taiwan's campuses; overseas Chinese student employment fair; as well as farewell parties for those graduating from colleges and universities. For further details, please contact the Overseas Chinese Student Counseling Office at your respective educational institution. 2. The MOE provides funding each year to all educational institutions to conduct counseling services, and it arranges joint delegations of central government officials to attend activities for overseas Chinese and foreign students at educational institutions.
13	Overseas Chinese Students	Outstanding overseas Chinese students who are interested in staying in Taiwan to work may submit an application to the Labor Development Agency of the Ministry of Labor through

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	Staying in Taiwan to Work after They Graduate	their intended employer after they graduate. A point-based quota system for reviewing applications has been implemented since July 2014, to encourage outstanding overseas students to stay in Taiwan and work after they graduate. The assessment considers eight criteria: the applicant's academic achievements, proposed salary, work experience, job qualifications, proficiency in Mandarin Chinese, foreign language skills or experience living abroad, alignment with government policies, and any scholarships or exceptional academic performance during their studies.
14	Stay in Contact after Graduating	Overseas Chinese students who have graduated and returned to their country of residence are encouraged to contact their local alumni association for continued networking and staying in touch.
15	Related Websites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseas Community Affairs Council: https://www.ocac.gov.tw/ • Ministry of Education Department of International and Cross-strait Education: https://depart.moe.edu.tw/ED2500/ • Network for International Student Advisors https://www.nisa.moe.gov.tw/ • University Entrance Committee for Overseas Chinese Students: https://www.overseas.ncnu.edu.tw/ • Ministry of Labor Workforce Development Agency: https://www.wda.gov.tw/ • Ministry of Health and Welfare National Health Insurance Administration: https://www.nhi.gov.tw/ • The National Immigration Agency's Students Online Application System https://coa.immigration.gov.tw/coa-frontend/student/entry