

## Questions & Answers for Overseas Youth of Chinese Ethnicity Studying in Taiwan 2025

Compiled by: Ministry of Education

No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
<b>1. General questions</b>			
1	What is the ROC policy on education for overseas students of Chinese ethnicity?	Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC)  Ministry of Education (MOE)	<p>1. The principle aims of education for overseas students of Chinese ethnicity (“overseas compatriot students”) are to nurture the nation’s cultural roots and heritage and to serve as a foundation for maintaining and developing ties with overseas ethnic Chinese communities. The government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) has always spared no effort in this education program in order to train and educate outstanding overseas compatriot students, and to expand the state's substantive relations with foreign countries and extend its influence. Preserving traditional Chinese characters and our country’s culture are also key tasks. Advice and supplementary assistance are positively provided for developing overseas school programs, training Mandarin Chinese language teachers, provision of teaching materials, promoting cultural and social education activities, and encouraging overseas compatriot students to come to Taiwan for further studies.</p> <p>2. The education program for overseas students of Chinese ethnicity has been fruitful in many aspects. They include providing support for overseas school programs and nurturing the next generation of overseas compatriot students. The government values this education program and will therefore continue to keep it as a priority program. The government will also continue its outreach efforts among overseas ethnic Chinese communities by funding education programs for overseas compatriot students, with the aim of engaging future generations and enhancing Taiwan’s international visibility.</p>
2	What is the difference	MOE Department of	<p>1. Overseas Compatriot Students: According to the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Compatriot Students in Taiwan, an overseas compatriot student refers</p>

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	between overseas compatriot students, students from Hong Kong or Macao, and international students?	International and Cross-strait Education	<p>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 has documentary evidence that they have obtained permanent or long-term residency 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 compatriot student status must be validated by the Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC).</p> <p>2. Student from Hong Kong or Macao:</p> <p>(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 the Taiwan Area 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; and the person must satisfy the provisions of Article 4 of the Act Governing Relations with Hong Kong and Macao.</p> <p>(2) An individual with a Hong Kong or Macao passport, or permanent residency document.</p> <p>(3) An individual applying to study in Taiwan in accordance with the Regulations for Hong Kong and Macao Residents Studying in Taiwan.</p> <p>(4) Students from Hong Kong and Macao are entitled to the same study and counseling assistance and general life counseling as “overseas compatriot students” while they are studying in Taiwan.</p> <p>(5) Whether an individual has “student from Hong Kong or Macao” status is determined by</p>

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			<p>the Ministry of Education.</p> <p>3. Foreign Student: 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:</p> <p>(1) Foreign nationals who have never held Republic of China (ROC) nationality and meet the following requirements:</p> <p>a. They have never previously undertaken studies in Taiwan as an overseas compatriot student.</p> <p>b. They have not been given a placement by the University Entrance Committee for Overseas Chinese Students in accordance with the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Compatriot Students in Taiwan in the current academic year.</p> <p>(2) Those who hold ROC nationality and meet the following requirements:</p> <p>a. Any person who at the time of their application also holds dual ROC nationality must have never had household registration in Taiwan.</p> <p>b. Any person who previously held dual ROC nationality but no longer does at the time of their application must have renounced their ROC nationality at least eight full years before making their application, with the approval of the Ministry of the Interior.</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>

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			<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. They have never had household registration in Taiwan; and</li> <li>b. They have resided in a foreign country for at least six consecutive years in the immediate past (or at least eight years if planning to apply to study in a department of medicine, dentistry, or Chinese medicine).</li> </ol>
3	What is the University Entrance Committee for Overseas Chinese Students?	University Entrance Committee for Overseas Chinese Students (UECOCS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The University Entrance Committee for Overseas Chinese Students (UECOCS) was jointly formed, in accordance with the University Act, by all universities and colleges in Taiwan to handle the recruitment of overseas compatriot students who want to study in Taiwan. Since its formation in the 1995 academic year, the UECOCS has been responsible for the joint recruitment, testing, and placement of overseas compatriot students (including those from Hong Kong and Macao) at a particular university or college. In the 2025 academic year, 130 public and private universities are members of the UECOCS, and the president or his/her designee of National Chi Nan University is responsible for chairing the committee.</li> <li>2. The UECOCS has set up eight divisions to facilitate its overseas compatriot student recruitment work: the Test Preparation, Test Marking, Test Results Review, Testing, Educational Institution Placements, Secretarial, Publicity, and Information Service divisions. National Taiwan University, National Taiwan Normal University, Feng Chia University, and National Chi Nan University separately take responsibility for these.</li> </ol>

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4	Which schools offer cooperative education programs?	OCAC  MOEK-12 Education Administration	<p>1. Since 1996, the OCAC and the MOE have assisted Chung Shan Industrial and Commercial School in Kaohsiung City to offer a senior secondary school cooperative education program for overseas compatriot students. Students were formerly recruited for this program once every three years. Since the 2014 academic year, the recruitment has been held every year, and the range of programs has been expanded, in conjunction with the government's education policies for overseas compatriots and to satisfy overseas compatriot students' education needs.</p> <p>2. In the 2025 academic year, the following thirty-one schools are offering cooperative education programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Chung Shan Industrial and Commercial School; ◆ Juang Jing Vocational High School; ◆ Wan-Neng Senior Industrial &amp; Commercial Vocational School; ◆ San Sin High School of Commerce and Home Economics; ◆ Shu-Te Home-Economics &amp; Commercial High School; ◆ Century Green Energy Vocational Senior High School; ◆ Kao-Yuan Vocational High School of Technology &amp; Commerce; ◆ Private Dong Wu Senior Industrial Home Economics Vocational High School; ◆ Liu-Hsin Senior High School; ◆ Fan Shu Vocational School; ◆ Yung Ping Vocational High School; ◆ Guang Qi Senior High School; ◆ New Taipei Municipal Guang Fu High School; ◆ Youth Senior High School; ◆ Tainan City Asia Senior Hospitality Vocational School; ◆ Tongtex Secondary High School; ◆ Chi-Ying Senior High School; ◆ Huade Vocational High School of Technology &amp; Home Economics; ◆ Tzu-Ming High School; ◆ Yeang-Der Senior High School; ◆ Shu Jen High School of Home Economics &amp; Commerce; ◆ Chih-Yung Senior High School; ◆ Ling Tung High School; ◆ Uh-Der Industrial and Housekeeping .Vocational High School; ◆ Taipei Municipal Datong High School; ◆ Taoyuan Yuda High School; ◆ Daojiang High School of Commerce; ◆ Yu Chang</li> </ul>

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			Technical & Commercial Vocational Senior High School; ♦ Miaoli County Hsing Hua Senior High School; ♦ Yi-feng Senior High School.
5	What's the status of four-year bachelor's degree program of industry-academy cooperation?	OCAC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To better align with national population and immigration policy, the OCAC has begun transitioning Overseas Youth Vocational Training School (OYVTS) programs from non-degree to degree-offering, starting from the implementation of two-year associate degree programs in 2022. Since 2024, the focus has shifted to offering four-year bachelor's degree programs in industry-academia cooperation. With innovative curriculum design and strengthened academic support, these four-year programs cover majors in manufacturing, construction, agriculture, e-commerce, institutional care, and other service industries, providing diverse study opportunities for overseas compatriot students coming to Taiwan.</li> <li>2. All the OYVTS training programs are classified by a profession to prepare students to enter different vocational fields and equip them with appropriate skills. All programs aim at teaching students professional, practical skills, and schools design their programs abiding to related regulations. The principle is to ensure that when students graduate, they have acquired the skills required for their particular fields and gained an advantage by New Scoring Criteria for Foreign and Overseas Chinese Students, should they choose to work in Taiwan. Detailed program and implementation information can be found in the enrollment brochures of each school.</li> <li>3. Expenses: During the academic period, the OCAC allocates budget to subsidize tuition, work-study grants, learning assistance funds, scholarships, among others, from the first year to the</li> </ol>

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			second year. However, medical insurance fees or National Health Insurance premiums, miscellaneous fees, meal expenses, accommodation fees, internship materials fees, and round-trip airfare expenses are to be borne by the students themselves
<b>2. Admission, transferring to another institution &amp; study counselling and assistance</b>			
1	How do overseas compatriot students apply for admission to schools at each level, including colleges and universities?	MOE Department of International and Cross-strait Education  MOE K-12 Education Administration	<p>1. In accordance with Article 6 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Compatriot Students in Taiwan, overseas compatriot students may apply for admission to study in Taiwan in the following ways during the annual recruitment period:</p> <p>(1) Apply to a Republic of China overseas mission, or to an overseas application-handling unit designated by the OCAC, to come to Taiwan to study. The OCAC will 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 at which the OCAC is offering the applicant a place. 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 compatriot students or that offers special programs for overseas compatriot 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 compatriot student status. If their status is confirmed and the applicant has passed the university or college selection procedures or entrance examination, then the university</p>

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			<p>or college will issue them an admission notice.</p> <p>2. Overseas compatriot students who, in accordance with Article 9 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Compatriot 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 compatriot students applying to undertake a general course at a public comprehensive senior high school are restricted to attending the National Overseas Chinese Senior High School (NOC SH). Important matters to note:</p> <p>(1) Overseas compatriot students are not permitted to apply to study at a supplementary education school or center at any level, or at a college (institute) of continuing education; at an open university or distance education junior college; or to undertake a continuing education bachelor's degree program, master's degree program for working professionals, or other program offered by a university or college under the recurrent education umbrella that is only available in the evening or on weekends.</p> <p>(2) Those applying for a place at a private school or college must acquire a letter of agreement from the school or college they plan to attend beforehand.</p> <p>(3) Those planning to attend a vocational senior secondary school, a vocational division of a</p>



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			<p>general senior high school, a vocational program at a comprehensive high school, or a junior college must complete the necessary procedures no later than one-third of the way into the teaching semester; if at least one-third of the scheduled semester classes have already been conducted, the student must be assigned to be admitted the next academic year.</p> <p>3. Any overseas compatriot student who is studying in Taiwan at an educational institution at junior high school level or higher, in accordance with any of the regulations outlined above, who receives a preferential score calculation certificate from the OCAC in the year that they graduate is entitled to receive preferential treatment when they are entering the next level of their education. This preferential treatment can only be taken advantage of one time.</p>
2	How can overseas compatriot students apply to be placed in a different university, college, or school after arriving in Taiwan?	UECOCS  MOE	Overseas compatriot students may apply to the authorized office that arranged their placement in a particular educational institution to change their placement to another educational institution before they register and begin their studies. Only one such application 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).

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3	What regulations govern the student status of overseas compatriot students while they are studying in Taiwan?	MOE Department of Higher Education  MOE Department of Technological and Vocational Education  MOE K-12 Education Administration	In accordance with Article 28 of the University Act, the regulations on student status (including overseas compatriot students) shall be formulated by each university and college.  1. The student status of senior secondary school students (including overseas compatriot students) is handled in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations Governing Management of Senior Secondary School Student Enrollment, and the provisions of the Regulations Regarding the Assessments of Student Performance and Achievements at High School.  2. 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.
4	What are the regulations governing overseas compatriot students transferring to another university, college, or	MOE Department of International and Cross-strait Education  MOE K-12	In accordance with Article 12 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Compatriot Students, an overseas compatriot student who has not registered and begun their studies at the school, college, or university where they have been given a placement may apply to the authorized office that arranged their original placement to have their placement changed.  If an overseas compatriot student who has registered and begun their studies finds that the school, college, or university is incompatible with their interests or unsuitable for them, they may transfer to a different department or different program with the assistance of the school, college, or university that they are attending.

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	school?	Education Administration	<p>If an overseas compatriot student plans to transfer to a different university or junior college during the time they are undertaking their program, their transfer will be handled in the same way as a transfer by an ordinary domestic student. Details are given below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An overseas compatriot student who has already been given a placement in a university or junior college: A student who finds the university or junior college incompatible with their interests or unsuitable for them and would therefore like to transfer to a different university or junior college must independently arrange to take the transfer examination of the other university or junior college. The enrollment method will be the same as for ordinary domestic students.</li> <li>2. An overseas compatriot student who has already been given a place at a senior secondary school: A student who finds the school incompatible with their interests or unsuitable for them and therefore wants to transfer to a different school may consult directly with the two schools to arrange a transfer. Such a student is not permitted to transfer to an institution for continuing education or to an evening program.</li> <li>3. A student who has been given a placement in an elementary school or junior high school: A transfer to another school because of inconvenient transportation or because the school was found to be unsuitable must be handled in accordance with the regulations established by the special municipality, county or city government concerned.</li> </ol>
5	If an overseas compatriot	MOE Department	According to Article 2, Paragraph 3 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Compatriot Students in Taiwan, an overseas compatriot student who has received

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	student who is studying in Taiwan has to discontinue their education and return to their country of residence, are they allowed to apply to come back to Taiwan to study?	of International and Cross-strait Education	assistance to study in Taiwan and voluntarily discontinues their studies or loses their student status after studying for less than two years can reapply, but only once. However, if the educational institution in Taiwan where the overseas compatriot student was studying considers that the student's conduct or academic performance was unsatisfactory, or if the student violated any ordinance or the regulations of the educational institution and the circumstances were serious, and as a result, in accordance with the provisions of its regulations governing student awards and penalties, the person had to discontinue their studies or forfeited their status as a registered student, that person is not permitted to re-apply for admission based on the provisions of Article 2, Paragraph 3 of the Regulations mentioned in the first line above.
6	How do overseas compatriot students apply for admission to a master's degree or higher program in Taiwan after	MOE Department of International and Cross-strait Education	<p>1. Students who have graduated from a university overseas: In accordance with Article 6 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Compatriot Students in Taiwan, these students should apply for admission to undertake a program at master's degree level or higher in Taiwan using one of the following ways, during the annual recruitment period:</p> <p>(1) Apply to a Republic of China overseas mission, 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, the UECOS will then process the placement and admission of the overseas compatriot student into the educational institution.</p> <p>(2) Apply directly to a university or college that has MOE authorization to independently recruit</p>

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	they complete an undergraduate or graduate program in Taiwan or overseas?		<p>overseas compatriot students or that offers special programs for overseas compatriot 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 compatriot 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. Students who have graduated from a university or college in Taiwan: In accordance with Article 14 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Compatriot Students in Taiwan, such students may apply through the UECOCS for admission to a university program at master's degree or higher level each year during the recruitment period. The university that the applicant indicated that they want to attend will evaluate their application, and if they pass this stage the 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 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>

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7	Are overseas compatriot students allowed to take teacher education programs and teacher's qualification assessment (including teacher's qualification examinations and a half-year, full-time teacher training internship)?	MOE Department of Teacher and Art Education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Admission channels: overseas compatriot students may enroll in universities in Taiwan that offer teacher education programs through various admission channels (the term “universities that offer teacher education programs” abbreviated below to “teacher education universities” refers to normal universities, universities of education, and universities which have a teacher education-related department or departments, or a teacher education center).</li> <li>2. Taking pre-service teacher education courses: In accordance with the provisions of Article 8 of the Teacher Education Act, overseas compatriot students who are currently studying in relevant department with teacher training qualifications, or students who are currently in the second or higher year of a bachelor’s degree program or in a master’s degree or PhD program at the university and have been selected by the university from among its current students to become teacher education students, may undertake a pre-service teacher education program. Those who complete their pre-service teacher education program of their subject area(s) with satisfactory results will be issued a Pre-service Teacher Education Completion Certificate by their teacher education university.</li> <li>3. Teacher qualification examinations: As outlined in the provisions of Article 10 of the Teacher Education Act and in the provisions of Article 3 and Article 7 of the Regulations Governing the Qualification Examinations to be an Elementary School, Secondary School, or Preschool Teacher, persons who have obtained a Pre-service Teacher Education Completion Certificate and who have a bachelor’s degree or higher degree may register to take the teacher qualification examination for the subject area(s) recorded on the certificate.</li> </ol>

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			<p>4. Practical education training: As outlined in the provisions of Article 10 of the Teacher Education Act, a person who has passed the above-mentioned teacher qualification examination(s) may apply to a teacher education university to undertake a half year of full-time practical education training which includes practice teaching, being a class teacher, administrative aspects, and research and study activities. The overseas compatriots must submit documentary evidence issued by the teacher education university and receipts for fees paid to the National Immigration Agency of the Ministry of the Interior (at any service center) and apply for a half-year extension of stay for the practical education training period. They must leave Taiwan when the extension expires.</p> <p>5. Issuing of a Teacher's Certificate: As outlined in the provisions of Article 11 of the Teacher Education Act, each teacher education university will compile a list of the students who have obtained a bachelor's degree or a higher degree, and a Pre-service Teacher Education Completion Certificate, have passed a teacher qualification examination, and have completed the practical education training with satisfactory results and submit the list to the central competent authority for each of the listed students to be issued a Teacher's Certificate (for non-ROC nationals, their country or region of origin is noted on the certificate).</p> <p>6. Working as a teacher: In accordance with the associated provisions of the Enforcement Rules of the Teachers' Act, an overseas compatriot student who has not obtained an ROC national ID card is still not permitted to teach in a secondary school, elementary school, or preschool in Taiwan. They may only hold a teaching post in certain educational institutions, in accordance with regulations of Article 46 of the Employment Service Act, to serve as teachers in the</p>

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			<p>following posts:</p> <p>(1) Teacher at a public or registered private college/university or school established especially for foreign residents.</p> <p>(2) Qualified foreign language teacher at a public or registered private high school (or lower tier school).</p> <p>(3) Teacher in the bilingual program of a public or registered private experimental high school; or subject specialty teacher in a bilingual school.</p> <p>If they return to their country of residence or nationality, their obtaining a teaching qualification must be handled in accordance with the local regulations.</p>
8	What assistance is available for overseas compatriot students who are performing poorly academically?	MOE Department of International and Cross-strait Education	<p>In accordance with the MOE Subsidy Directions for Senior High Schools and Institutions of Higher Learning to Provide Study Counseling for Overseas Compatriot Students, if a senior secondary school or institution of higher education determines that it has current overseas compatriot students who need academic assistance or need to take remedial classes during the winter or summer recess, it 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 compatriot students who are taking a particular subject who require assistance with that subject.</p> <p>(3) An overseas compatriot student may take academic assistance classes for a maximum of four subjects.</p>



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			<p>(4) Each class must be taught for at least 12 weeks of the semester and, in principle, for two to four hours each week.</p> <p>(5) Academic assistance is provided for: basic subjects such as Mandarin Chinese, the ROC Constitution and founding principles, 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 a maximum of two sessions in any one academic year.</p> <p>(2) A class may be organized if there are six overseas compatriot students requiring assistance for a particular subject. If there are relatively small numbers of overseas compatriot students, individual tutoring may be conducted. If another educational institution nearby is providing remedial classes, it may be requested to permit students requiring academic assistance to attend those classes.</p> <p>(3) In principle, academic assistance for an overseas compatriot student is limited to a maximum of three subjects each semester, and such classes are not permitted to account for more than 9 credits.</p> <p>(4) At least 18 hours of teaching is required for each credit; and 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 who have failed and need to retake a required subject, and in subjects that are pre-requisites for required subjects.</p> <p>(6) A financially disadvantaged overseas compatriot student receiving an MOE full scholarship or</p>

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			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.
<b>3. Recognition &amp; verification of academic records and credentials</b>			
1	Are academic records and credentials from ROC universities recognized by other countries?	MOE Department of International and Cross-strait Education	<p>Each country's government handles the recognition of academic records and credentials issued in Taiwan in accordance with its own national conditions and regulations. The main forms adopted are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Direct recognition of academic records and credentials issued in Taiwan.</li> <li>2. Recognition of academic records and credentials issued in Taiwan in accordance with an agreement regarding academic records and credentials entered into with the country.</li> <li>3. Verification of academic records and credentials by an agency designated by the country.</li> <li>4. Academic records and credentials are recognized after being verified by the country's overseas mission in Taiwan.</li> <li>5. Academic records and credentials are recognized after the associated documents have been authenticated by our Ministry of Foreign Affairs.</li> </ol>
2	Does Hong Kong recognize academic records and credentials	Mainland Affairs Council (MAC)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hong Kong does not currently have any mechanism for automatic recognition of academic records and credentials from outside of Hong Kong; local academic records and credentials are used as the benchmark. For government job applicants, the assessment of their non-Hong Kong academic records focuses on their academic performance from senior secondary level onward and the number of credits or units they have completed. This assessment is, however, for</li> </ol>

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	from ROC universities?		<p>reference only; it has no legal binding effect. 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.</p> <p>2. Any individual with an academic record and credential(s) from the ROC who needs to apply for civil service work or a teaching position at a public secondary or elementary school in Hong Kong will need to have their records and credentials assessed on a case-by-case basis by Hong Kong's Civil Service Bureau, or it may request 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.</p> <p>3. According to the 2023-2024 annual report of the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications, the approval rate for applicants with academic credentials from Taiwan is 99.7%.</p>
3	Does the ROC government provide verification of	MOE Department of Higher Education	Universities may legally confer degrees at all levels, in accordance with the provisions of the Degree Conferral Law. To verify the authenticity of a diploma issued in Taiwan to an overseas compatriot student, contact the issuing university or college and request verification.

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	the academic records and credentials that overseas compatriot students obtain in Taiwan?		
<b>4. Part-time work while studying and employment</b>			
1	What are the income tax rates for overseas compatriot students who work part-time outside of their college or university?	Ministry of Finance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overseas compatriot students who have resided 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 (hereunder 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\$42,885 from January 2025).</li> <li>Overseas compatriot 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 compatriot students must file an income tax return. The tax which has been withheld may be deducted from the amount of</li> </ol>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
			<p>income tax that must be paid.</p> <p>Withholding agents may inspect the period(s) of residency details recorded in the passport or resident certificate of an overseas compatriot student to determine whether they are a resident. Those with permission to reside in the ROC who have done so 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 show that 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, will have income tax withheld in accordance with the rates for non-residents. Overseas compatriot students who actually reside in the ROC for 183 days or more during a tax year must file an income tax return in accordance with the law, and the total amount of income tax that they must pay may be reduced by the tax already withheld by a withholding agent, referred to in the previous sentence.</p>
2	What administrative procedures do students from Hong Kong and Macao need to go through to remain in Taiwan and work after	Ministry of Labor	<p>1. Paragraph 1 of Article 13 of the Act Governing Relations with Hong Kong and Macao 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 if their employer has not yet applied for and obtained a permit for them to do so.” In accordance with these provisions, 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.</p>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
	their graduation?		<p>2. Separately, the provisions of Subparagraphs 1 to 6, Paragraph 1 of Article 46 of the Employment Services Act indicate that unless other provisions of this Act apply, employers are restricted to only engaging a foreign worker to undertake six categories of work, all of a professional or technical nature. The provisions of Article 46 of this Act indicate that prior to employing a foreign worker to undertake work, the employer must submit the relevant documents and apply to the Ministry of Labor for an employment permit. If an employer wants a professional from Hong Kong or Macao to come to Taiwan to work, the employer's qualifications, the foreigner's qualifications, the work to be undertaken, and the salary must satisfy the criteria set out in the Qualifications and Criteria Standards for Foreigners undertaking the Jobs Specified under Article 46.1.1 to 46.1.6 of the Employment Service Act (referred to below as the "Criteria Standards").</p> <p>3. In accordance with the provisions of Article 5-1 of the Criteria Standards, students from Hong Kong or Macao who have graduated from a university in Taiwan and been awarded a bachelor's degree or a higher-level degree or graduated from a college in Taiwan and been awarded associate degree in relevant departments of manufacturing, construction, agriculture, institutional care, or ecommerce can also use the Ministry of Labor's points-based quota system for overseas compatriot students and international students. An employer may apply to employ any overseas compatriot student or international student to undertake work of a professional or technical nature in Taiwan if that student scores 70 points or higher (out of a possible 200 points) based on eight criteria. These criteria encompass their academic achievements, proposed salary, work experience, job qualifications, proficiency in Mandarin Chinese, foreign language skills or</p>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
			experience living abroad, alignment with government policies, and any scholarships or exceptional academic performance during their studies. The ordinances and regulations governing overseas compatriot students and international students who have graduated and foreign professionals working in Taiwan, application forms, the application process and other information needed to lodge an application can be found on the EZ Work Taiwan website ( <a href="https://ezworktaiwan.wda.gov.tw">https://ezworktaiwan.wda.gov.tw</a> ).
3	Does the government encourage overseas compatriot students to stay in Taiwan to undertake an internship or work after they graduate?	Ministry of Labor MOE Department of International and Cross-strait Education	<p>Overseas compatriot students who come to Taiwan to study enjoy the education resources invested in by Taiwan and gain an understanding of Taiwan's culture, language, and lifestyle. Having outstanding overseas compatriot students stay in Taiwan and enlisting their services will enhance the international links of Taiwan's business and industry sector and assist Taiwan's overall development. The specific measures adopted are outlined below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Staying in Taiwan after graduation to do an internship: In June, 2011, the MOE established a mechanism for overseas compatriot 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 a 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.</li> <li>2. Staying in Taiwan after graduation to work: Since July 3, 2014, the Ministry of Labor has used</li> </ol>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
			a points-based quota system for overseas compatriot students and international students, under which an applicant scoring 70 points or higher is eligible to be employed in Taiwan. Points are given for eight criteria, comprising 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. Any international student, overseas compatriot 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 by points-based quota system 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 two years of work experience after graduating from a university or tertiary college.
<b>5. Student loans, scholarships &amp; other assistance with living requirements and finances</b>			
1	What are the eligibility criteria for overseas compatriot students to apply for	MOE Department of Higher Education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The provisions of Article 3 of the MOE Regulations Regarding Academic Loans to Students at Senior High School and Higher Levels indicate that these student loans are only available to ROC citizens who have a household registration in Taiwan and who are officially enrolled and undertaking studies at a senior secondary school or higher-level educational institution in Taiwan.</li> <li>2. Student loans are loans specifically designed to assist our country's citizens by lightening the burden of education expenses. The government uses part of the country's tax revenue to help</li> </ol>



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	student loans?		to bear all of the interest charged for loans to students in senior secondary schools, colleges, and universities during the course of their studies and for one year after they graduate. These loans were established for citizens of the Republic of China for the purpose of helping our country's citizens to successfully undertake formal education. Only overseas compatriot students who have Republic of China citizenship and household registration may apply for such a loan.
2	What scholarships are available for overseas compatriot students?	MOE Department of International and Cross-strait Education	<p>Scholarships provided by the MOE for outstanding overseas compatriot students to study at universities and colleges in Taiwan:</p> <p>(1) Students in the following categories are eligible to apply for an Outstanding Overseas Compatriot Student Scholarship:</p> <p>a. Students who are in the top five of their discipline group—arts and humanities (including law), science, and medicine—in each round of selections each academic year, and who have applied and assessed by the UECOCS to enter a university in Taiwan. Their GPA must also be in the top one percent in their discipline group.</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.</p> <p>(2) The following students are eligible to receive an Elite Overseas Compatriot Student Scholarship:</p> <p>a. Students who are eligible to receive an Outstanding Overseas Compatriot Student Scholarship who were awarded a Unified Education Certificate with an A1 level result in</p>

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			<p>every subject for the Malaysian Independent Chinese Secondary Schools Unified Examination (MICSSUE); or students who attended a high quality senior secondary 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 overseas mission. The successful applicants will then be selected and 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 the UECOS forwarded the student's applications to those educational institutions.</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.</p> <p>(4) What the scholarships provide:</p> <p>a. The Outstanding Overseas Compatriot Student Scholarship: NT\$12,500 per month for the initial academic year and NT\$10,000 per month for continuing recipients.</p> <p>b. The Elite Overseas Compatriot Student Scholarship: NT\$25,000 per month for both first-time and continuing scholarship recipients.</p> <p>(5) Application procedure: Applicants must submit the following documents to the university,</p>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
			<p>college, or school they are attending in the first semester, within two weeks from the day that they enroll.</p> <p>a. First-time recipients in their first year must submit a photocopy of their admission notice to the university or college where they have given a placement by the UECOS and submit documentary evidence of any awards or prizes they have won.</p> <p>b. Starting in the second year, students who wish to continue receiving a scholarship must submit a transcript of their results from both semesters of the previous academic year.</p> <p>2. The MOE-subsidized Outstanding Overseas Compatriot Graduate Student Scholarships set up by individual universities and colleges:</p> <p>(1) Eligibility criteria: A university or college which has admitted five or more overseas compatriot students for postgraduate studies (whether their admission was the result of being offered a place or passing an entrance examination) may send details of the number of overseas compatriot 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 Compatriot Graduate Student Scholarships.</p> <p>(2) What these scholarships provide: Each student will receive NT\$10,000 per month.</p> <p>(3) Application procedure: Universities and colleges shall submit their applications by October 15 and March 15 of each year, and shall submit a request for fund with the MOE by November 30 and April 30 of each year based on the approved amount of subsidies.</p>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
		OCAC	<p>The OCAC offers Scholarships for Overseas Compatriot Students with Outstanding Academic Performance and Good Conduct, and it accepts donations to fund scholarships for overseas compatriot 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 Compatriot Students with Outstanding Academic Performance and Good Conduct:</p> <p>(1) Overseas compatriot students in their second year or higher at a college or university (fourth 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 will then make the decision.</p> <p>(2) Overseas compatriot 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 the UECOCS may also apply if they meet the eligibility requirements set out in the preceding paragraph.</p> <p>(3) Overseas compatriot students currently in their second or third year 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</p>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
			<p>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 will then make the decision.</p> <p>2. Apply for the OCAC Award for Outstanding and Elite Students:</p> <p>(1) Based on the Guideline for Awarding Outstanding and Elite Overseas Compatriot 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 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 Compatriot 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, 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) To Apply: Applications are to be submitted based on the announcements and application forms provided by the Overseas Community Affairs Division of each overseas mission or designated units of the OCAC. After the overseas missions and designated units of the OCAC conduct initial reviews and publish the preliminary list, it will be submitted to the OCAC for approval and making it public.</p>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
			<p>(3) Receiving Award: After the award-winning students register and report to the school in Taiwan, the school will submit the student's information to the OCAC, which will allocate the scholarship to the school for disbursement. Awardees must arrive on campus and register on time; those who fail to enroll in Taiwan within the specified period will be deemed to have forfeited their award eligibility and will not be able to retain it.</p> <p>An overseas compatriot student enrolled in a junior college, college, or university at any level, with a GPA of at least 75 from the previous academic year and meeting specific scholarship criteria (such as being from a particular region or studying in a particular department), may apply for the scholarship. The student must not have received any other scholarship from the OCAC or other sources during the academic year, repeated a year, retaken courses, or deferred graduation. Applications should be submitted to their college or university at the beginning of the second semester, which will then forward them to the OCAC for a decision.</p>
3	What measures are available to assist overseas compatriot students with living requirements and financial	MOE Department of International and Cross-strait Education	<p>MOE aid for financially disadvantaged overseas compatriot students:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Eligibility to apply: In accordance with the MOE Directions for Providing Financial Aid for Financially Disadvantaged Overseas Compatriot Students at Senior Secondary School, College or University, an overseas compatriot student currently studying at a senior secondary school or higher level educational institution (not including graduate students, students who have been granted an extension to the period in which to complete their program, or students repeating any preparatory studies or a Mandarin Chinese language course at National Taiwan Normal University in the Division of Preparatory Programs for Overseas Chinese Students) may submit</li> </ol>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
	aid?		<p>official overseas documentation of their financial circumstances or proof of being financially impoverished and apply for financial aid. A student currently in the second year or higher year of their program must have had a passing GPA throughout the previous academic year, and a college or university student must have not received any disciplinary warning or have been subject to any more serious disciplinary measure; and a senior secondary school student must not have been disciplined for any minor or any more serious violation of rules.</p> <p>2. Determination of financial aid quotas: The MOE will determine the number of people who may receive financial aid and the standard monthly amount available based on annual budgets and will determine a financial aid quota for each educational institution, based on its proportion of the total number of overseas compatriot 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.</p> <p>3. Financial aid categories: Financial aid is available for financially disadvantaged overseas compatriot students:</p> <p>(1) in the first three years of a five-year junior college program, or at a senior or vocational high school; 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 compatriot students from</p>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
			<p>particular areas who were not able to obtain financial aid.</p> <p>4. Application and review process: overseas compatriot 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. Each educational institution will set up an evaluation team to review the applications received each academic year, and the applications confirmed as meeting the requirements will then 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 Compatriot 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 compatriot 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 Compatriot Students program (abbreviated below to “HAMIOCS”), if the student is in one of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A student who was given a placement by the UECOCS or by the MOE and has enrolled;</li> <li>b. A student who has come to Taiwan on their own and received a placement from the competent education administration authority to which the OCAC forwarded their application;</li> <li>c. An overseas compatriot student who was recruited by and is studying at a university,</li> </ul>



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			<p>college, or special program for overseas compatriot students that has MOE authorization to independently recruit overseas compatriot students;</p> <p>d. A student who has been given a placement at the OYVTS;</p> <p>e. Pre-intern and a student who is undertaking a prerequisite internship before beginning an Industry-Academia Cooperative Education Program for Overseas Compatriot Students course at a university of science and technology.</p> <p>(2) Overseas compatriot students taking out HAMIOCS coverage must pay the insurance premium at the 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 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. There is also a maximum daily limit of NT\$1,000, including the registration fee, and a maximum limit of NT\$7,000 for any outpatient department surgery.</p> <p>(5) An insured overseas compatriot student who requires hospitalization because of an accident</p>

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			<p>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>In accordance with the provisions of Article 9 of the National Health Insurance Act and Paragraph 2 of Article 8 of its Enforcement Rules, all overseas compatriot students who have a resident permit 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 compatriot 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 concentrate on their studies, an overseas compatriot student whose family is in financially disadvantaged 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 50% of each such student's monthly NHI premium (NT\$413) after checking and confirming their</p>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
			<p>eligibility.</p> <p>3. Apply for financial help through the part-time work subsidies fund for overseas compatriot students, and the study assistance fund for overseas compatriot students:</p> <p>(1) The part-time work subsidies fund and the study assistance fund are both designed to assist overseas compatriot students who came to Taiwan to study at a senior secondary school, college, or university in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Compatriot Students in Taiwan and they are limited to being used to assist overseas compatriot students who are in poverty, or who need to be hospitalized for treatment because of injury or illness, or are experiencing unforeseen circumstances, thereby resulting in a significant economic burden.</p> <p>(2) Each year, the OCAC coordinates the allocation of quota for part-time work and study assistance for overseas compatriot students for each school, college, and university, and the corresponding subsidies. The funds are appropriated to each school, college, and university in advance, once or twice a year, and they must attach receipts and inventories when the payments are subsequently audited. Each school, college, and university must verify the use of the funding; it may not be used for other purposes. Each school, college, and university must also ensure that the part-time work and learning assistance measures do not interfere with any student's academic activities and may formulate its own implementation rules and send a copy to the OCAC for reference.</p> <p>4. Funding for emergency relief and assistance in the event of family misfortune or bereavement:</p> <p>(1) The OCAC has established the Directions of Medical, Emergency and Funeral Assistance for</p>

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			<p>Overseas Compatriot Students Studying in Taiwan to sympathetically look after overseas compatriot students 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.</p> <p>(2) An application may be made to the OCAC for assistance if an overseas compatriot student studying in the Taiwan Area needs to be hospitalized because of injury or illness, thereby causing major financial difficulties; or if their family meets some unforeseen event that cuts off the financial support that the family has been providing and this has created immediate difficulties for the student; or if the student encounters a force majeure event or natural disaster that causes them major financial loss; or if a student dies.</p> <p>(3) Those applying for medical care assistance must submit documentary evidence of the diagnosis that was issued by the hospital or clinic that provided the medical care and the original copy of the receipt for the medical expenses incurred. They must also provide corroborating evidence that family poverty is creating a heavy economic burden. 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 and provide corroborating evidence that family poverty is creating a heavy economic burden. 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 enrolled 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>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
		National Health Insurance Administration, Ministry of Health and Welfare	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In accordance with the provisions of Article 9 of the National Health Insurance Act and Article 8, Paragraph 2 of its Enforcement Rules, all overseas compatriot students who have a resident permit must join the National Health Insurance program as soon as they have been living in Taiwan for 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 compatriot 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.</li> <li>2. The current monthly compulsory National Health Insurance premium for covered overseas compatriot students and international students is NT\$826, but an overseas compatriot 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. The OCAC will pay NT\$413, half of the monthly premium, for an overseas compatriot student found to be eligible by the OCAC, and the student must pay the remaining NT\$413.</li> </ol>
		Ministry of Labor	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In accordance with Article 50 of the Employment Services Act, overseas compatriot students or international students who do part-time work are permitted to do so outside the limited categories of work stipulated in Paragraph 1 of Article 46 of that Act, but they are restricted to</li> </ol>

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			<p>working for a maximum of 20 hours a week, except during the winter and summer breaks, in accordance with the provisions of Article 54 of the Regulations on the Permission and Administration of the Employment of Foreign Workers, and a student's work permit will be for a maximum period of one year.</p> <p>2. To coordinate with the semester calendar, overseas compatriot students and international students who are studying in Taiwan can apply for a work permit on the EZ Work Permit website (<a href="https://ezwp.wda.gov.tw/">https://ezwp.wda.gov.tw/</a>) after the beginning of each semester. After their educational institution verifies their registration status, the Ministry of Labor will issue overseas compatriot students and international students with a work permit and they may then engage in part-time work during the semester, outside of class times.</p>
4	What support programs does the ROC government provide for overseas compatriot students?	MOE Department of International and Cross-strait Education	<p>The MOE provides the following for overseas compatriot students:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each educational institution receives NT\$600 for each overseas compatriot student to support counseling and remedial classes. The educational institution may receive an extra NT\$1,000 to NT\$5,000 per project based on the proposed implementation plan and content, as well as the funding provided by the institution. Approval is determined on a case-by-case basis.</li> <li>2. The MOE organizes joint delegations from central government units to participate in overseas compatriot and international student activities at each educational institution.</li> </ol>
		OCAC	<p>The OCAC holds the following activities for overseas compatriot students in Taiwan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Receptions for newly arrived overseas compatriot students.</li> </ol>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Guidance and funding for on-campus overseas compatriot student clubs.</li> <li>3. Workshops for leaders of overseas compatriot student clubs on campuses throughout Taiwan.</li> <li>4. Spring networking activities for overseas compatriot students in northern, central, southern, and eastern Taiwan.</li> <li>5. Teacher-student luncheons and dinner parties during the Lunar New Year.</li> <li>6. Overseas compatriot student employment fair.</li> <li>7. Employment Information Sessions Tour for Overseas Compatriot Students.</li> <li>8. Cultural and academic activities for overseas compatriot students.</li> </ol>
<b>6. Residency &amp; naturalization</b>			
1	What essential residency procedures do overseas compatriot students have to go through during their stay in Taiwan?	National Immigration Agency (NIA) of the Ministry of the Interior (MOI)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All applications for an ARC made by overseas compatriot students must be submitted online. Overseas compatriot students should apply for an ARC using the National Immigration Agency's Students Online Application website: <a href="https://coa.immigration.gov.tw/coa-frontend/student/entry">https://coa.immigration.gov.tw/coa-frontend/student/entry</a>. Anyone who has any questions about how to use it can ring the NIA at 02-2796-7162, ring the Advisory Service Hotline for Foreigners in Taiwan at 1990 (this provides services in 7 languages), or contact the NIA service center in their special municipality, county, or city for assistance.</li> <li>2. The procedure for applying for residency is outlined below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Overseas compatriot students entering Taiwan on a foreign passport: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Overseas compatriot students who enter the country with a Visitor Visa for study purposes and have not yet completed enrollment must submit their admission notice via the online system before</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
	How do they apply for an ARC extension?		<p>the expiration of their authorized stay, in order to apply for and be issued an Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) valid for an initial period of six months.</p> <p>Students who have completed enrollment shall submit proof of enrollment or a student ID card valid for the current semester via the online system to apply for and be issued an ARC with a validity period ranging from one to three years</p> <p>b. Overseas compatriot students who enter the country with a Resident Visa, or who have obtained a Resident Visa after changing visa status within the country, and have not yet completed enrollment, shall apply via the online system for an Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) within 30 days of entry or within 30 days of the date of visa conversion. An ARC valid for an initial period of six months will be issued accordingly.</p> <p>Students who have completed enrollment shall submit proof of enrollment or a valid student ID for the current semester via the online system to apply for an ARC, which will be issued with a validity period of one to three years.</p> <p>c. Individuals from Mainland China who have resided abroad and whose status has been converted to a foreign national shall comply with Article 7 of the Enforcement Rules for the Act Governing Relations between Peoples of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area.</p> <p>Applicants must meet the requirement of having resided abroad for at least four years. For the purpose of calculation, the four-year period begins on the day following the date of arrival abroad. Any stay in the Mainland Area during this period must not exceed 30 days per visit; if any single stay exceeds 30 days, that particular year shall not be counted toward the four-year period.</p> <p>Applicants are also required to submit required documents verifying that they are not registered as household residents in the Mainland Area and do not hold a Mainland Area passport.</p> <p>d. The maximum validity period of an Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) shall not exceed three years.</p> <p>overseas compatriot students must apply for an extension of their ARC via the online system</p>



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			<p>within three months prior to the expiration of the ARC, and shall submit the required documents, including proof of enrollment or a valid student identification card.</p> <p>(2) Overseas compatriot students entering Taiwan on an ROC passport:</p> <p>After entering Taiwan, an overseas compatriot student holding an ROC passport who has completed their enrollment procedures must apply for a Resident Certificate for the Taiwan Area using the online application system. This must be done while their entry visa is still valid. The maximum validity of resident certificate shall not exceed 3 years. If the original reason for their stay still exists when their resident certificate expires, an overseas compatriot student may apply for an extension of stay, three months before their resident certificate expires using the online application system</p>
2	Is it possible to extend the stay or period of residency for newly arrived overseas compatriot students entering Taiwan before the enrollment time so that they can avoid being	NIA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For applicants requesting an extension of stay, each extension shall not exceed the original duration permitted under the visa, and the total period of stay shall not exceed six months. However, if the applicant meets any of the circumstances specified under Paragraph 2, Article 3 of Regulations Governing Visiting, Residency, and Permanent Residency of Aliens, and submits the relevant required documents, an additional extension of stay may be granted upon review.</li> <li>In accordance with Paragraph 2, Article 22 of the Immigration Act, individuals who have obtained a Resident Visa and entered the country shall apply for an Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) within 30 days of entry. Failure to apply within the prescribed period will result in a fine ranging from NT\$2,000 to NT\$10,000. Therefore, all individuals are required to complete the ARC application process as soon as</li> </ol>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
	fined for overstaying?		possible after entry.
3	How do overseas compatriot students with an ROC passport resume their household registration or apply for a resident certificate?	MOI Department of Household Registration NIA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An overseas compatriot student who previously had household registration in Taiwan and plans to stay for at least three months must, within 30 days of arrival, present their ROC passport with an entry stamp or other entry proof, their national ID card, a copy of the Household Certificate or proof of a new household, and one photograph (physical or digital) to the local household registration office to apply for new resident registration and a national ID card. For details of the specifications for photographs for a national ID, please visit the Ministry of the Interior website <a href="https://www.ris.gov.tw/app/portal/187">https://www.ris.gov.tw/app/portal/187</a>. Overseas compatriot students submitting their photograph in digital form can upload it at this Ministry of the Interior website: <a href="https://www.ris.gov.tw/app/portal/765">https://www.ris.gov.tw/app/portal/765</a>.</li> <li>2. Regarding how to apply for a resident certificate, please see Item 2 in the answer to Question 1 above, regarding overseas compatriot students entering Taiwan on an ROC passport.</li> </ol>
4	Can overseas compatriot students apply for an extension of stay after they graduate, or	NIA	An overseas compatriot student who needs to stay in Taiwan after their graduation to look for work may apply to the NIA service center in their special municipality, county, or city to extend their stay for another one year from the month of their graduation. They must submit documentary proof of their graduation with their application. Those who, before their extension expires, are still looking for work may apply for one further extension. The maximum total extension period is two years.

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
	take leave of absence, or withdraw from their studies?		Separately, if an overseas compatriot student has taken leave of absence from their studies or withdrawn from their studies, they no longer have a valid reason to stay, and they must leave the country, in accordance with the regulations.
5	Can overseas compatriot students apply for permanent residency after staying in Taiwan for five years?	NIA	In accordance with Paragraph 1 of Article 25 of the Immigration Act, foreign nationals who have resided in Taiwan for five consecutive years, living in Taiwan for more than 183 days each year, and meet related requirements may apply to the National Immigration Agency of the Ministry of the Interior for permanent residency. Please note that time spent in Taiwan pursuing an education does not count towards permanent residency. Overseas compatriot students who hold ROC nationality do not need to and are not permitted to apply for permanent residency.
6	Why did the ROC government stop the immediate issuing of national IDs for overseas	MOI Department of Household Registration	In the past, overseas compatriot students were allowed to apply for an ROC national ID in accordance with the Regulations Regarding Household Registration Establishment for Overseas compatriot Students in Taiwan. These stated: “Overseas compatriot 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 compatriot students were less strict than those for overseas compatriots. Because of this inconsistency, on May 11, 1994 the Ministry of the Interior repealed the above-mentioned regulations governing overseas compatriot students, for the sake of fairness. As outlined in Article 15 of the Household Registration Act, an

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	compatriot students?		ROC national who has entered Taiwan and been given approval to reside here must establish their initial household registration. Overseas compatriot students who then want to obtain an ROC national ID must first apply to the National Immigration Agency for a Permanent Resident Certificate. Once it is approved, bring the Permanent Resident Certificate, a copy of the Household Certificate or proof of a new household, and one recent photograph (physical or digital, meeting the specifications and taken within the last 2 years) to the local household registration office and apply for initial household registration and obtain an ROC national ID. For details of the specifications for photographs for a national ID, please visit the Ministry of the Interior website <a href="https://www.ris.gov.tw/app/portal/187">https://www.ris.gov.tw/app/portal/187</a> . Overseas compatriot students submitting their photograph in digital form can upload it at this Ministry of the Interior website: <a href="https://www.ris.gov.tw/app/portal/765">https://www.ris.gov.tw/app/portal/765</a> .
7	How do foreign nationals or stateless people apply for naturalization to become an ROC citizen?	MOI Department of Household Registration	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 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. Please note that residence for any of the reasons stipulated in each subparagraph of Paragraph 2 of Article 5 of the Enforcement Rules of the Nationality Act will not count toward the period residing legally in Taiwan. For example, time spent in Taiwan pursuing an education, or working with permission from the Ministry of Labor, in accordance with the provisions of Article 46, Paragraph 1, Subparagraphs 8 to 10 of the Employment Services Act. They also need to have legal capacity to act according

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
			<p>to the law of ROC and national law; be of good moral character, and have no police criminal record regarding any criminal case; own enough property or have sufficient professional skills to make a living and support themselves without difficulty; and have basic Mandarin Chinese language proficiency and knowledge of the rights and obligations of ROC citizens. A person who meets these requirements may apply to their local household registration office for naturalization.</p> <p>The above-mentioned “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. Once the Ministry of the Interior approves the naturalization, a Renunciation of Original Nationality Certificate must be provided within one year from the date that approval for naturalization was given or within one year from the date that the person reaches the minimum age at which they are permitted to renounce their original nationality that is stipulated in the laws and regulations of the person’s original country.</p> <p>2. For information regarding naturalization to become an ROC citizen, please visit the Related Laws and Regulations area on the website of the Department of Household Registration of the Ministry of the Interior: <a href="https://www.ris.gov.tw/app/portal/190">https://www.ris.gov.tw/app/portal/190</a>.</p>
<b>7. Military service for overseas compatriot students &amp; students from Hong Kong and Macao</b>			
1	What are the	MOI	1. Related legislation: Conscription Regulations for Naturalized Aliens & Returning R.O.C. (

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
	regulations on the mandatory military service for Overseas Compatriot Students?	Conscription Agency	<p>Taiwan) nationals residing overseas.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Mandatory military service does not apply to those who have never had household registration in Taiwan.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>4. All overseas compatriots 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 compatriots 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 male will be based on his applying for and obtaining an Overseas Compatriot Identity Certificate for Military Service issued by the competent authority in charge of Overseas Compatriots affairs (the OCAC), or on his holding a passport bearing endorsement of his Overseas Compatriots status.</li> <li>5. The provisions of the Conscription Regulations for Naturalized Aliens &amp; Returning R.O.C. (Taiwan) nationals residing overseas that apply to overseas compatriots are applicable to male overseas compatriots who enter Taiwan on a foreign passport who are of military service age.</li> <li>6. The period of time that a male overseas compatriot person of military service age who comes to Taiwan to study is eligible to defer military service (i.e. while he is studying) is not counted toward the one-year period of residency after which he must register, mentioned above.</li> </ol>

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			7. A male overseas compatriot student of military service age who entered Taiwan on a foreign passport and has had household registration while holding ROC nationality, but does not qualify for military service deferral as an overseas compatriot person, must report to a recruitment office as soon as he graduates, suspends, or gives up his studies, in accordance with regulations.
2	Which overseas compatriot students studying in Taiwan are not eligible for deferral of military service?	MOI Conscription Agency	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In accordance with Article 20 of the ROC Constitution and Articles 1, 3, and 32 of the Act of Military Service System, a male citizen of the Republic of China who has ever held household registration in Taiwan has 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.</li> <li>2. The military service requirement status of an overseas compatriot is determined in accordance with his having obtained an Overseas Compatriot Identity Certificate for Military Service or having an Overseas Compatriot Identity Endorsement status stamp on his passport. 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.</li> <li>3. In accordance with Article 15 of the Enforcement Regulations for Draft Exemption, Restriction, Deferred Call &amp; Draft, a male student attending a university or college that is not registered with the competent education administration authority or a student who has not been enrolled in accordance with the regulations of the competent education administration is not</li> </ol>

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No.	Question	Competent Authority	Answer
			<p>allowed to defer military service. A person who has graduated from a senior secondary school or higher level educational institution who is retaking studies at the same level or at a lower level institution without prior approval from the Ministry of the Interior, a person aged over 28 who is attending a non-tertiary level college of continuing education and has not yet graduated, or a person aged over 33 who has not yet graduated from any other educational institution is 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.</p> <p>4. In conjunction with the government's education policies for overseas compatriots and in accordance with the provisions of the Ministry of the Interior document Tai-Nei-Yi-Zi No. 0930094390, issued on February 6, 2004, the time that an overseas compatriot male of military service age spends undertaking studies at National Taiwan Normal University in the Division of Preparatory Programs for Overseas Chinese Students may be not considered part of his time of residency in Taiwan. But if a student has already graduated from a university, the period that he has spent studying at National Taiwan Normal University in the Division of Preparatory Programs for Overseas Chinese Students must be counted toward his total residency time in Taiwan.</p>
3	Are students from Hong Kong and	MOI Conscription Agency	<p>1. Hong Kong and Macao residents who have never had household registration in Taiwan are not required to do military service.</p> <p>2. Hong Kong residents who established their initial household registration in Taiwan after July</p>



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	Macao legally required to do military service if they stay in Taiwan for another year after graduation?		<p>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 one year after they establish their household registration may apply for a deferral of their military service until they graduate or leave their university or college.</p> <p>3. The provisions of the Conscription Regulations for Naturalized Aliens &amp; Returning R.O.C. ( Taiwan ) nationals residing overseas that apply to overseas compatriots who return to Taiwan are applicable to overseas compatriot males from Hong Kong and Macao who are in either of the following categories and who have certification from the OCAC:</p> <p>(1) Those who established their initial household registration in Taiwan as overseas compatriots 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.</p> <p>(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.</p>