

Information for Overseas Chinese Students		
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1	Legal basis	In order to assist overseas Chinese students with their studies in Taiwan, the Ministry of Education has formulated the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan. These are the regulations governing the review and approval, assignment to an educational institution, preferential treatment, on-campus counseling, and graduation of overseas Chinese students who apply to and then study in Taiwan.
2	Eligibility Criteria for Overseas Chinese Student Status	1. The term “overseas Chinese student” refers to a student of Chinese descent who comes to Taiwan to study. To be eligible to apply for a school as an overseas Chinese student, the student must have been born and lived overseas until the present time; or have been living overseas for six or more consecutive years in the immediate past and obtained permanent or long-term residency status overseas. Please note that for those applying to study in a department of medicine, dentistry, or Chinese medicine at any university in Taiwan, the overseas residency requirement extends to a minimum of eight consecutive years. 2. An overseas Chinese student who received assistance applying to study in Taiwan, and studied for fewer than two years, then discontinued their studies for some reason, or forfeited their student status, may lodge another application to study in Taiwan. Only one such re-application is permitted. However, if the educational institution in Taiwan where the overseas Chinese student was studying considers that the student’s conduct or academic performance was unsatisfactory; or if a student has had to discontinue their studies or lost their registered student status due to serious breaches of any ordinance or the rules of the educational institution, then regulations do not permit that person to re-apply to study in Taiwan. 3. The consecutive years of overseas residency referred to in point 1 means calendar years in each of which an overseas

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

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		degree, with commendable academic performance and good conduct, and who also meet the criteria in Article 2 of Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan. (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. (b) Outstanding Scholarship: Applicants must have a GPA higher than or equal to 85, or rank in the top 10% of their class, and achieve an average conduct score above 80. (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. 2. The Ministry of Education provides: ➤ Outstanding Overseas Chinese Student Scholarships, ➤ Elite Overseas Chinese Student Scholarships, ➤ Grants for Overseas Chinese Students in Financial Need, and ➤ Outstanding Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship for Graduate Students. To encourage outstanding overseas Chinese students to pursue higher education in Taiwan, overseas Chinese students who meet the requirements for a Ministry of Education scholarship for overseas Chinese students with an outstanding academic performance may apply to the Ministry of Education for an Elite Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship, or for an Outstanding Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship. Any overseas Chinese student at a senior secondary school or an institution of higher education who is in financial need may apply to the educational institution that they are attending for a Ministry of Education Grant for Overseas Chinese Students in Financial Need.

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

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

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7	Academic Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students	To enhance overseas Chinese students' Mandarin Chinese language and basic learning skills, each educational institution may apply for funding to organize tutorial classes for basic subjects, and for academic tutoring during the summer and winter breaks, in accordance with the Implementation Directions Governing Ministry of Education Subsidies for Senior Secondary Schools or Above to Provide Overseas Compatriot Students Tutorials, formulated by the Ministry of Education.
8	Work Permits for Overseas Chinese Students to do Part-Time Work Off Campus	In accordance with the Employment Services Act, overseas Chinese students are not permitted to undertake part-time work for more than 20 hours each week except during the summer and winter breaks. Overseas Chinese students who wish to apply for a work permit must submit an application to the Workforce Development Agency of the Ministry of Labor, which is the central competent authority. However, overseas Chinese students are advised to seriously concentrate on their studies rather than working, and they must avoid working in any workplace that raises safety concerns, or that is in any way inappropriate.
9	Overseas Chinese Students' Military Service Duty	From January 1st of the year in which they turn 19 years of age, male overseas Chinese students who have previously held a household registration in Taiwan and are of conscript age must act in compliance with the procedures regarding their military service duty that are set out in the Act of Military Service System.
10	Overseas Chinese Students' Residency	1. Overseas Chinese students entering Taiwan on a foreign passport: (1) Overseas Chinese students who enter the country with a Visitor Visa for study purposes and have not yet completed enrollment must submit their admission notice via "Online Application System for Foreign and Overseas Chinese Students" (hereinafter referred to as the online system) prior to 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.

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		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 (2) Overseas Chinese 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. 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. (3) 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. 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. 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. (2) Overseas Chinese students entering Taiwan on an ROC passport: After entering the country, overseas Chinese students shall complete enrollment procedures within the authorized period of stay and submit the required documents for residence application via online system to apply for a Taiwan Area Resident Certificate.

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11	Re-entry Permit	Overseas Chinese students may leave and re-enter Taiwan multiple times while their resident visa is valid.
12	Annual Activities for Overseas Chinese Students	1. Each year, the Overseas Community Affairs Council collaborates with educational institutions to organize a range of events for overseas Chinese students. These include welcome receptions for new arrivals; teacher-student luncheons and dinner parties during Lunar New Year; expansive spring networking events; workshops specifically for overseas Chinese student clubs across Taiwan's campuses; academic, cultural, and sports activities for overseas Chinese Students; overseas Chinese student employment fair; Employment Information Sessions Tour for Overseas Chinese Students; as well as farewell parties for those graduating from colleges and universities. For further details, please contact the Overseas Chinese Student Counseling Office at your respective educational institution. 2. The MOE provides funding each year to all educational institutions to conduct counseling services, and it arranges joint delegations of central government officials to attend activities for overseas Chinese and foreign students at educational institutions.
13	Overseas Chinese Students Staying in Taiwan to Work after They Graduate	1. Overseas Chinese students holding an associate degree or above and seeking employment in Taiwan may be employed under the Points-Based System. The prospective employer shall submit the relevant application to the Workforce Development Agency, Ministry of Labor, for review and approval. The assessment considers eight criteria: the applicant's academic achievements, proposed salary, work or internship 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. In addition, individuals may apply to the Ministry of Labor for authorization to remain and work in

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		Taiwan through channels including the “General Qualification System”, “Foreign Technical Work”, and “Hospitality Service Work programs”. 2. Pursuant to the amendments to Article 12 of the Act for the Recruitment and Employment of Foreign Professionals, effective January 1, 2026, overseas Chinese students who are recent graduates with an associate degree or above may work in Taiwan during the period of extended residence authorized by the National Immigration Agency of the Ministry of the Interior without obtaining a work permit. (However, such period of extended residence shall not be counted toward the residency requirement for applying for permanent residence.) 3. Overseas Chinese students who are not eligible under the aforementioned provision shall be employed pursuant to “the General Qualification System”, “the Points-Based System”, or other applicable channels. The employer shall apply to the Ministry of Labor for authorization to employ such individuals in “specialized or technical positions”. Alternatively, the employer may apply for employment under “the Foreign Technical Work program” in industries such as manufacturing, slaughtering, construction, agriculture, long-term care, and hospitality services. Employment in Taiwan may commence only upon the issuance of a work permit. 4. In order to assist overseas Chinese students in securing employment in Taiwan after graduation, OCAC not only organizes job fairs, but has also established the “i Employment of Overseas Chinese Students” website. This platform allows enterprises to post job openings for overseas Chinese students and provides relevant information and services, including regulations on staying and working in Taiwan, resume consultation, and related resources. In addition, OCAC conducts the “Employment Information Sessions Tour for Overseas Chinese Students” to explain

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		application procedures for work permits and residence, as well as job search skills, thereby assisting overseas Chinese students plan their careers in Taiwan early.
14	Stay in Contact after Graduating	Overseas Chinese students who have graduated and returned to their country of residence are encouraged to actively join local alumni associations or classmates' groups affiliated with their Taiwanese alma mater, so as to facilitate mutual assistance, participate in alumni activities, and maintain continuous contact with their graduating institution
15	Related Websites	• Overseas Community Affairs Council: https://www.ocac.gov.tw/ • i Employment of Overseas Chinese Students https://ocac.events.104.com.tw/job • Ministry of Education Department of International and Cross-strait Education: https://depart.moe.edu.tw/ED2500/ • Network for International Student Advisors https://www.nisa.moe.gov.tw/ • University Entrance Committee For Overseas Chinese Students https://www.overseas.ncnu.edu.tw/ • University Entrance Committee for Overseas Chinese Students: https://www.overseas.ncnu.edu.tw/ • Ministry of Labor Workforce Development Agency: https://www.wda.gov.tw/ • Ministry of Health and Welfare National Health Insurance Administration: https://www.nhi.gov.tw/ • The National Immigration Agency's Students Online Application System https://coa.immigration.gov.tw/coa-frontend/student/entry