

The Youth Education and Employment Savings Accounts Program

Goals:

1. Facilitate young people's adaptive development, and offer students career exploration opportunities, to establish a sound understanding and appreciation of various vocations and occupations.
2. Train skilled people to work in Taiwan's traditional arts and regional industries and enhance the employment rate of senior secondary school graduates.
3. Expand young people's opportunities for international experiences and studies, to personally experience life's diversity and enhance their international competitiveness.
4. Create financial reserves for young people to use to fund their future higher education and career development, and channels for skilled people to return to formal education.

With proper counseling support and advice, young people will develop their self-awareness and have a better understanding of their competencies, values, interests, expectations about their future career, and so forth. Participants in the Youth Education and Employment Savings Accounts Program can apply for actual jobs, or they can develop their own learning plan.

Implementation Strategy:

The **Youth Education and Employment Savings Accounts Program** consists of two subsidiary programs: 1) The Employment Explore Supporting Program for High School Graduates; and 2) The Self-Planning Learning Experience Project.

1. The Workplace Experience by Employment Explore Supporting Program for High School Graduates and by the Youth Education and Employment Savings Accounts:

This program is designed to assist students after graduating senior secondary school to gain fulltime work experience before undertaking higher education, or continuing to work. Their application will be reviewed by the school where they are enrolled and by the Ministry of Education and then recommended to the Ministry of Labor who helps the applicants find a position.

If applicants are officially hired and become full-time employees, the government will deposit NT\$10,000 a month into their Youth Education and Employment Savings Accounts for up to a maximum of three years, to be used to fund their further education, employment, or a startup.

2. The Self-Planning Learning Experience Project – to enhance young people’s studies and international life experiences:

This second program is designed to encourage senior secondary school graduates to develop their own learning plan to discover their individual talents, potential and passion. A learning plan can typically

involve such things as doing volunteering work, or an apprenticeship, or going on a working holiday. Learning plan proposals will be reviewed by the school where they are enrolled and by the Ministry of Education. If an applicant's proposal is approved, they can implement their learning plan and they also become eligible to apply for admission to a tertiary college or university and young men may postpone their mandatory military service.