

Teachers' Qualifications



Teacher Training Education

Becoming a teacher in Taiwan is a long and arduous process. One has to be admitted into a school in one of two categories after graduating from high school. The first category is the education university that prepares students to become teachers at primary schools and kindergartens. The second category is the normal university that prepares teachers for middle schools.

Universities in both categories accept senior high school graduates for a four-year stint of education. To teach at a college or university, a higher education degree is necessary, preferably a doctorate.

The 1994 amendments to the Teacher Education Law allowed all public and private universities to partake in training programmes for potential teachers, making it easier for students to obtain teaching certificates by taking related courses.

With a variety of channels in operation for training teachers and educational professionals, in the future Taiwan will move steadily towards enjoying an endless source of young blood and talent for schools.

Although tuition and fees for teacher training education programmes must be paid by trainees themselves, full or partial financial assistance is available for selected students.

Second-year students in colleges or graduate school students are eligible to apply for

teacher training education programmes. Full programmes include common courses, discipline courses, education specialisation courses and a half-year of teaching practicum.

Those who complete a programme will be granted a certificate, but he or she also must pass a qualification exam administered by the MOE finally to qualify as a teacher.

Chinese Language Teaching

For many years, Taiwan has been homeland to numerous institutions devoted to the study of the Chinese language. Students can simultaneously appreciate traditional Chinese culture and enjoy the merits of a modern, developed society in Taiwan.

Confronted with the growing popularity of the Chinese language across the globe, the MOE is now also offering subsidies for domestic universities to set up post-graduate programmes in Chinese language teaching.

A number of 16 departments and 9 graduate schools about Chinese language education have been built in universities around Taiwan with a total of 2,411 students registered.

In the past 30 years, efforts have been beefed up to promote Chinese teaching experience by sending domestic teachers to overseas schools.

To polish Taiwan's reputation as the center of Chinese language training and education, the MOE also put forward the Chinese proficiency test in 2006. A total of 7,155 examiners had joined the test. The test service will be expanded across the globe in the future.

