



EDUCATIONAL REFORM

12-Year Compulsory Education and Integration of Kindergarten and Nursery Programs

12-year compulsory education goes into effect in SY 2014, allowing junior high graduates to advance to high school without an entrance exam. Students from families with annual incomes under NT\$1.14 million can attend senior vocational school without tuition, or private high schools for the same fees as public high schools. An integration project will monitor preschool education programs in kindergartens and nurseries.

A Well-rounded Education System with Abundant Resources

Education reform is essential to a balanced educational environment and administrative professionalism. The MOE will allocate appropriate education resources more effectively by adjusting mechanisms for evaluating resource demands at the local government level and offering more flexibility in preparing education budgets.

Updating Teacher Education and Professional Development

The MOE blueprint for teacher-candidate education includes pre-career training,

teaching method consultation and professional development. The MOE has also plans to establish a specific entity to manage teacher candidates and help them develop needed teaching techniques. This system is intended to cultivate qualified professional teachers, and the MOE plans to finalized an assessment of its teaching professional during 3 years.

Pursuing Higher Education Reform and Development

This project provides greater flexibility for higher education institutions to manage their school affairs and administrative duties. To reduce the impact of an aging society, the MOE offers more diversity and flexibility for full-time workers in continuing education. To establish a competitive environment for public and private universities, schools are allowed to set tuition within a specified range.

The MOE also seeks more international exchanges between universities and well-known international schools to encourage outstanding international students to study in Taiwan.

Talent Cultivation for an Education Industry Based on Knowledge and Innovation

Taiwan's limited natural resources call for knowledge-based industry to continue sustainable development, and schools must coordinate their curricula to cultivate talent for a knowledge and innovative industry. This includes improvements in teaching, particularly in fundamental courses, and encouraging students to learn about their future professions outside the classroom.

Developing Responsible Global Citizens

Given the increasing number of troubled juveniles in Taiwan, the MOE is striving to re-establish the importance of values and moral standards. To promote safe and friendly school environments, the MOE is encouraging young students to become more involved in community service activities. The MOE also encourages the promotion of Fine Arts education, providing young students with opportunities to see other cultures.

Physical Exercise and Health Promotion

To foster sports education among students so they can develop an interest in regular exercise and fitness, the MOE has implemented programs such as the Happiness Project. Students have more opportunities for physical activity, leading to regular daily exercise. The government also allocates significant resources to cultivate sport talent for international competition.

Respecting Cultural Diversity, Care for Minorities and Special Needs Children

To improve aboriginal students' education opportunities, the MOE has developed programs to support talented aboriginal youth. The MOE provides subsidies for children in rural areas and students who are economically challenged. Currently, there are subsidies for pre-school education programs and for IT technology through the MOE's digital learning project.

Special education programs for physically and mentally challenged students also receive subsidies from the MOE.

To encourage interest in lifelong learning for foreign spouses in Taiwan and to meet the educational needs of their children, budget allocations have been set aside for their cultural and educational development.

Development of Cross-strait Educational Exchanges, International Education and Overseas Education Programs

In addition to encouraging cross-strait educational exchanges, the Taiwan government now accepts academic degrees from Mainland China, allowing Taiwanese students who hold such degrees to use them professionally on Taiwan. The MOE will enhance its overseas Taiwan schools (including those in Mainland China) by improving software and hardware resources. To enhance international competitiveness, more courses on global affairs will be incorporated into the primary and junior high school curriculum.

Promoting Lifelong Learning in Taiwan

The government has long strived to create a healthy lifelong learning environment for its citizens. The MOE collaborates with local governments to integrate all community learning institutions and create a sustainable lifelong learning environment. To cope with Taiwan's aging society, the MOE cooperates with institutions of higher education to provide a variety of courses for elder citizens. Further, the MOE is establishing family education centers in local districts to promote family education and meet its goal of a learning society.

