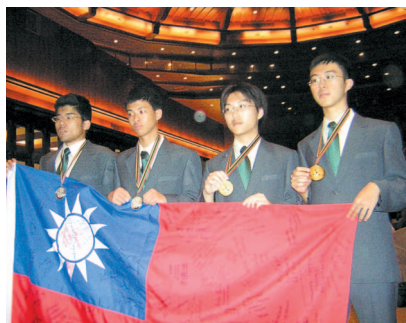


# Upper Secondary Education

## Senior High School



Secondary school in the ROC is a comprehensive system that provides students with various types of educational programs for their intellectual development and career interests. The system of schooling, which follows after the nine-year compulsory curriculum, is a multilateral system in which students are assigned to different types of schools based on a range of factors.

The majority of students in the mainstream educational system will enter one of three types of institutions after junior high school. Programs vary in length, though those oriented to college entrance are usually the longest and most difficult, terminating with rigorous examinations in the student's late teens.

In SY2005, 145,308 entered senior high schools,

119,533 went to three-year senior vocational schools, 38,669 studied at various supplementary schools, 17,245 went directly into five-year junior colleges, which also cover a student's high-school years, and 15,821 attended the Practical Technical Program. Before SY2001, senior high schools focused primarily on training students to pass the Joint University Entrance Examination (JUEE). Except for the Practical Technical Program and a few other experimental cases, admission into all of these institutions, was by competitive examination. After SY2001, the MOE adopted other admission channels. These include first, admission based on recommendation; second, test scores on related subjects set by the school; and third, by taking the JUEE.

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## Enhancing Global Competitiveness

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The Ministry of Education's Plan for Enhancing the Global Competitiveness of Tertiary Institutions (designed in 2002) meant establishing a global learning environment with specialized counseling divisions and well-structured English courses. In 2005, the Subsidiary Plan for Encouraging Tertiary Institutions to Increase Admission of Foreign Students sought to increase the number of foreign students studying in Taiwan. Its overall objective was to have 12,830 foreign students in various tertiary institutions by the year 2011. Various experts and foreign students gave suggestions on designing English courses, administrative procedures and bilingual environments.

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## Exporting Technological Talent

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Taiwanese corporations have investments in Southeast Asia where many countries have similar economic development histories as Taiwan. For many of them, Taiwan serves as an economic model and they would like to obtain lessons from Taiwan's human resources development.

Official visits, educational exhibitions, international education forums, collaboration plans, educational cooperation agreements, assistance in human resources training and development, research teaching materials, and equipment donations are some forms of international exchanges.

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## International Tours for Students

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The internationalization of higher educational institutes, is implemented in collaboration with

Taiwan Visitors Associations (TVA). To welcome foreign students, MOE encourages various junior colleges to organize foreign educational trips. Through school alliances, collaborations could be expanded to a regional scale and international educational exchanges are strengthened.

In 2004 the estimated junior college overseas study groups to Japan was 34, with approximately 1,500 students, a 400% increase compared to 2003. In 2004, the total overseas study groups increased by 400% compared to 2003; Japan's junior college exchange students to Taiwan were around 750, a growth of 200% compared to 2003.

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## Nurturing Diversified Talent

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Nurturing versatile human talent is a recent development in Taiwan's educational system. More diversified and internationalized education is being implemented from middle school up to tertiary educational institutions.

Language abilities have become more and more important in lessening the distances between countries and in strengthening a globalized education. Phase II of MOE's five-year plan "Senior High School Second Foreign Language Education" includes course syllabus design, teaching, administration, teacher staff and quality of teaching environment. This is a comprehensive second foreign language educational policy.

This plan's first phase was implemented in 1999. In the second phase the Ministry of Education added Korean, Vietnamese and Indonesian to Japanese, French, German and Spanish.



## Senior High School

The three-year senior high school program prepares students aged 15 to 18 for specialized learning as well as for college study. In 1950, there were 62 senior high schools serving 18,866 students islandwide. Beginning in the 1970s, senior high schools entered a period of phenomenal growth. By 1972, there were 203 senior high schools with an enrollment of 197,151 students, more than ten times the number of students in 1950.

From 1971 to 1982, the number of students admitted into senior high schools gradually declined, while the number of students entering senior vocational schools increased to meet the growing demand for skilled workers in the rapidly

growing economy. Later, when demand for high-quality professionals increased, educational policies were reversed, reducing the number of senior vocational school students and increasing the number of students admitted into senior high schools.

By SY2005, senior high school students totaled 420,608, and the ratio of senior high school students to those in senior vocational schools (including those in the first three years of five-year junior colleges) was 52.3 to 47.7. Under the current education system, senior high graduates have two main options: either attend a university or college, or attend a two-year junior college after one year of work experience, provided that they have passed the relevant examinations. Some



85.15 percent of senior high school graduates chose to pursue higher education in SY2005.

To provide all students the opportunity for secondary education, the ROC has allowed all levels of training to be integrated, while maintaining enough variety to meet the different needs of students.

### Dual-Stream High School

Since 1996, several experimental dual-stream high schools have combined vocational and academic programs, enabling students to select from a much wider range of courses before deciding on either the academic or vocational tracks. This has broadened the knowledge base of students prior to selection between the two tracks and requires both minimum academic credits and years of attendance. Subjects covered in bilateral high schools, as part of the general education for junior high students, include: a

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*Subjects covered in dual-stream high schools, as part of the general education for junior high students, include: a first and second language, mathematics, social and natural sciences, the arts, domestic science, physical education, composite or extracurricular activities, and vocational education.*

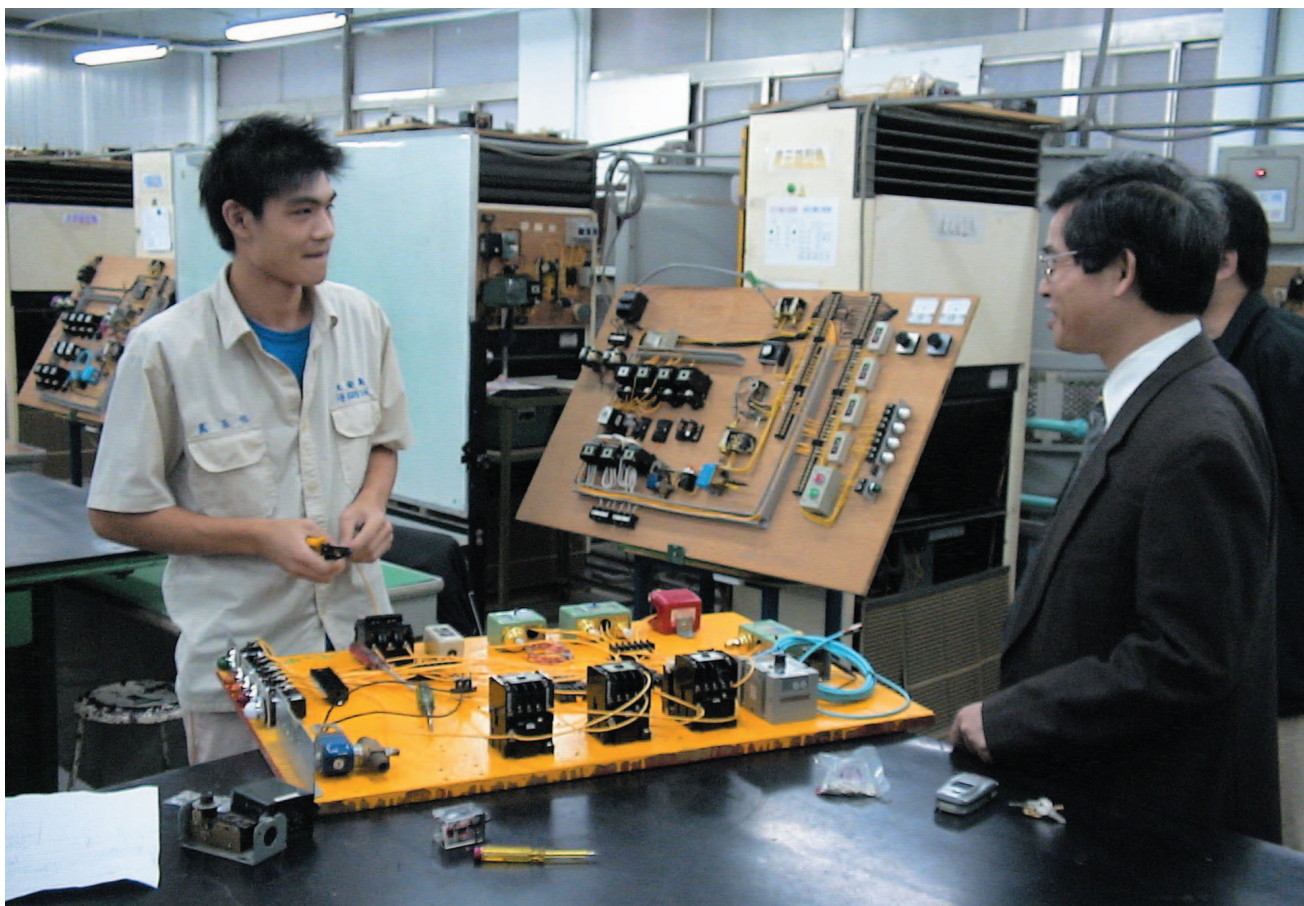
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first and second language, mathematics, social and natural sciences, the arts, domestic science, physical education, composite or extracurricular activities, and vocational education. Various technical courses are provided for students taking skilled trades and semiprofessional careers.

Vocational training has been divided into different, optional levels. Preliminary college courses have been designated, and students who have graduated with 160 credits have a number of choices after graduation. They may go on to a university, four-year technical college, or two-year junior college by passing relevant examinations. Alternatively, they may leave school for work. In SY2005, there were 111,666 students enrolled in 162 high schools that had adopted the bilateral high school curricula system. Nevertheless, all students in such experimental bilateral schools must fulfill the same general requirements for graduation as other high school students.

### Integrated Junior-Senior High School

A pilot program designed to relax the keen competition of the senior high school entrance examination system and balance regional differences in educational resources between rural and urban areas has been conducted since 1996. Under the integrated junior-senior high school system, junior high students between 12 to 18 years of age involved in this program can be promoted to senior high school department after taking the Joint Public Senior High School Entrance Examination. By SY2005, 67 high schools of this type had been established.



## Senior Vocational School

### Technological and Vocational (TAV) Education

#### School System:

TAV education in Taiwan is organized into different levels: senior vocational schools (which include vocational programs provided by general senior high schools), junior colleges, colleges and universities of technology.

Technical programs are provided at the junior

high school level to enable students to gain an early awareness of their career interests and aptitudes.

In SY2005, there were 29 universities of technology, 46 colleges of technology, 17 junior colleges and 157 senior vocational schools in Taiwan. The total number of students was 1,001,098 including 331,604 students were enrolled in vocational high schools. Students at junior colleges of technology numbered 180,886. There were 465,840 undergraduates and 22,768 in graduate programs.



### Senior Vocational Schools

The goal of senior vocational schools is to provide students with professional competencies and develop a workforce with basic technical skills in order to make students more aware of their environment. For example, Yingge Vocational High School set up Ceramics Department a few years ago to support the development of Ceramics Industry in Yingge.

Senior vocational school graduates are able to choose between starting a business, taking up employment or going on to further studies. To meet the demand of human resources for the overall

development of the country, in recent years, the time of TAV education system had been extended and channels are opened for graduates of senior vocational schools. Graduates who want to go on to further education can choose to study in two- year colleges of technology or four- year programs at colleges/ universities of technology.