

Study in Taiwan



In 1947, the MOE established the Bureau of International Cultural and Educational Relations (BICER) to promote international academic and cultural exchanges. Since then, a total of 22 BICER offices have been established to provide foreign students thinking of studying in Taiwan with services such as applying for government scholarship and obtaining more information about Taiwan

Taiwan also grants subsidies to local colleges and universities to support them in their scholarship programs meant to attract outstanding foreign students to pursue higher studies in Taiwan. Total subsidies reached NT\$ 26 million in 2004 and NT\$ 56 million in 2005.



**Amadou Moctar
Makalou (25), Malawi**

A friendly environment for international students

Department of International
Business, Yuan Ze University

I am scheduled to finish my postgraduate studies in this university this year. It has been a most wonderful experience living and studying in Yuan Ze. After finishing my Mandarin course at the National Taiwan Normal University, I applied and was accepted for the masters program at Yuan Ze. I was greatly impressed by the English language ability of its faculty. Even though I studied Chinese for a year, the professors still taught in English for my sake. The staff also helped me sort out some daily life matters such as understanding the tenant contract with my landlord, applying for visa extension or looking for part-time jobs. I think that international students will find that Taiwan and Yuan Ze University have very friendly environments.

I enjoy the delicious snacks in the night markets around Yuan Ze. I've never seen a market with a great diversity of foods before. Despite some strange food such as snake blood, stinky tofu and pig livers, I enjoy every time I visit the night markets.

I also appreciate Taiwan government's scholarship program for foreign students. I decided to pursue a business-related master's degree because Taiwan is a springboard to the Southeast Asian market. In these three years, I witnessed the great dynamism of Taiwan's economy and society. People here have global views, are open-minded, and respect different cultures. This is why I have decided to stay for another 5 years in this lovely country to pursue my doctorate.

People might stereotype our African culture when they meet me for the first time. Yet, my classmates and teachers in Yuan Ze have treated me as a best friend. This reinforces my belief that Taiwan has the best environment for foreign students.

Scholarships

Taiwan Scholarship

In 2004, four government agencies jointly established the Scholarship Program of Taiwan to encourage outstanding international students to undertake degree programs in Taiwan.

Types of Taiwan Scholarships

A. Ministry of Foreign Affairs Scholarship (for undergraduate or postgraduate programs)

- ★ Recipients are from countries with diplomatic relations with the R.O.C. (Taiwan), or from those specified as diplomatically favorable by MOFA.
- ★ Pre-degree Mandarin Language Enrichment Program (LEP) is to be included as recipients' choice for improving their language abilities.
- ★ International airfare for economy-class, direct-route and roundtrip flights, plus a monthly stipend of NT\$30,000 (approximately US\$950).

B. Ministry of Education Scholarship (for undergraduate or postgraduate programs)

- ★ Recipients are from countries other than those specified in the MOFA Scholarship.
- ★ LEP is to be included as recipients' choice for improving their language abilities.
- ★ A monthly stipend of NT\$25,000 (approximately US\$790) for undergraduate or LEP study, and NT\$30,000 for a postgraduate program.

C. National Science Council Scholarship (for postgraduate programs)

- ★ Recipients are from countries other than those specified in the MOFA Scholarship.
- ★ A monthly stipend of NT\$30,000.

D. Ministry of Economic Affairs Scholarship (for postgraduate

programs, only for the areas involving scientific technology—such as physics, chemistry, mathematics, engineering, medicine and agriculture to name a few).

- ★ Recipients are from countries other than those specified in the MOFA Scholarship.
- ★ A monthly stipend of NT\$30,000.

Application

The application period is from February 1st through March 31st of each year, unless individual Taiwan representative offices specify otherwise. For application guidelines and forms, scholarship types and quotas, as well as information about the selection process and outcome announcement, applicants may directly contact a Taiwan representative office at the end of January. Applicants must send their completed documents to the Taiwan representative office, closest to the country of their permanent residence.

Mandarin Language Enrichment Scholarship

To encourage international students and individuals to undertake Mandarin study in Taiwan, the MOE in 2005 established the program “Ministry of Education Huayu Enrichment Scholarship.” This provides study opportunities for Mandarin language and Taiwan culture at university- or college-affiliated Mandarin training centers.

Value

A stipend of NT\$25,000 (approximately US\$790) is to be offered to a recipient by month.

Application period and procedures are the same as above.

Flor Pitty (22)
Panama

Feeling at Home in Keelung

Department of Transportation and Navigation Sciences,
National Taiwan Ocean University

I love this country! Upon receiving my scholarship to study in Taiwan, I immediately looked for information about the courses on maritime transportation. And, I found out that the National Taiwan Ocean University (NTOU), which is internationally recognized in biotechnology and aquaculture. I decided to study in this university. I also learned that this is the first university with a focus on ocean sciences.

I love the environment in this university with its old buildings and with the sea just across from it. During my first week, I was frustrated because most faculty and staff could not speak English. And I had to deal with much paperwork including my application to stay at a dormitory on campus. Fortunately, one of my classmates told me that the staff at the “Division of Overseas Chinese and Foreign Students Affairs” spoke English. I also joined the activities organized by that division to help us foreign students understand Taiwan's culture and history.

Besides encouraging foreign students to study in Taiwan, the MOE also encourages colleges and universities to offer courses taught in English. Eight universities including National Pingtung University of Science and Technology, National Taiwan Ocean University and National Chenchi University have Masters and PhD programs taught in English.