

# Study in Taiwan



In 1947, the MOE established the Bureau of International Cultural and Educational Relations (BICER) to promote international academic and cultural exchange. Since then, a total of 24 BICER offices have been established to provide foreign students wishing to study in Taiwan with services relating to applying for government scholarships and obtaining more information about Taiwan.

Taiwan also grants subsidies to local colleges and universities to support them in their scholarship programmes, which aim to attract outstanding foreign students to pursue higher education studies in Taiwan. Total subsidies reached NT\$ 54 million in 2007.



**Amadou Moctar  
Makalou (26), Malawi**

## **A friendly environment for international students**

Department of International  
Business, Yuan Ze University

It has been a most wonderful experience living and studying in Yuan Ze. After finishing my Mandarin course at National Taiwan Normal University, I applied and was accepted for the master's programme at Yuan Ze. I was greatly impressed by the English language ability of the faculty. Even though I had studied Chinese for a year, the professors still taught in English for my benefit.

The staff also helped me sort out some everyday matters such as understanding the tenant contract with my landlord, applying for a visa extension and looking for part-time jobs. I think international students will find that there is a very friendly environment both in Taiwan as a whole and in Yuan Ze University in particular.

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

I also appreciate the Taiwanese government's scholarship programme 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 five years in this lovely country, to study for a doctorate.

People might stereotype the African culture when they meet me for the first time. Nevertheless, 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 Programme of Taiwan to encourage outstanding international students to undertake degree programmes in Taiwan.

### Types of Taiwan Scholarship

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

- ★ Recipients are from countries which have diplomatic relations with the R.O.C. (Taiwan), or from those countries specified as diplomatically favourable by MOFA.
- ★ Pre-degree Mandarin Language Enrichment Programme (LEP) to improve language ability is optional, but will be included if desired by the recipient.
- ★ International airfare for economy-class, direct-route and round-trip flights, plus a monthly stipend of NT\$30,000 (approximately US\$950).

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

- ★ Recipients are from countries other than those specified in the MOFA Scholarship.
- ★ LEP to improve language ability is optional, but will be included if desired by the recipient.
- ★ A monthly stipend of NT\$25,000 (approximately US\$790) for undergraduate or LEP study, and NT\$30,000 for a postgraduate programme.

#### C. National Science Council Scholarship (for postgraduate programmes)

- ★ 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

**programmes in areas involving scientific technology only; for example, 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 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> 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 announcements, applicants may contact a Taiwan Representative Office directly 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 established the Ministry of Education Huayu Enrichment Scholarship programme in 2005. This provides study opportunities in Mandarin language and Taiwanese culture at university- or college-affiliated Mandarin training centres.

### Value

A stipend of NT\$25,000 is to be offered to recipients each month.

*Application period and procedures are the same as above.*

A portrait of Flor Pitty, a young woman with long dark hair and glasses, smiling. She is wearing a dark blue top. The background is a light-colored wall with a whiteboard.

**Flor Pitty (23)**  
**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 discovered the National Taiwan Ocean University (NTOU), which is internationally recognised for 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 at this university, with its old buildings and with the sea just across from it. During my first week, I was frustrated because most of the faculty staff could not speak English. And I had to deal with a great deal of 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 Student Affairs spoke English. I also joined the activities organised by that division to help 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 master's and PhD programmes taught in English.