

2024 Ministry of Education Huayu Enrichment Scholarship (HES) Guidelines

Taipei Representative Office in Finland

March 19, 2024

I. Purpose:

The HES is funded by the Ministry of Education (MOE) in Taiwan. Its intent is to encourage international students to undertake Huayu (Mandarin Chinese) courses in Taiwan in order to increase their understanding of Taiwanese culture and society, and to promote mutual understanding and interactions between Taiwan and the international community.

II. Award value:

A monthly stipend of 25,000 New Taiwan Dollars

III. Duration:

- a. The HES is awarded for the following durations of study:
 - 2 months (for summer courses, i.e. June-July 2024 or July-August 2024)
 - 3 months,
 - 6 months, or
 - 9 months.
- b. With the exception of summer courses, the scholarship award duration must fall between **September 1, 2024 and August 31, 2025**. If recipients fail to arrive in Taiwan for enrollment during the designated time, they will forfeit their right to retain their scholarships.
- c. Scholarship funding will become effective on the date of the recipient's enrollment. Scholarship funding will end according to the scholarship's expiration date or if the scholarship is revoked.

IV. Available Scholarships:

Up to 36 months will be awarded by the Taipei Representative Office in Finland.

V. Eligibility:

Applicants must be Finnish citizens at least 18 years of age, possess a high school diploma or above, demonstrate excellent academic performance, and be of good moral character.

Candidates with one of the following qualifications are **ineligible** to apply:

- a. Is an Overseas Chinese student or a national of the Republic of China (Taiwan).
- b. Currently a registered student at any Mandarin Language Center or has been a degree-seeking student at any university or college in Taiwan.
- c. Has already received an HES or a Taiwan Scholarship in the past.
- d. Will be studying in Taiwan during the scholarship award period as part of an exchange student program or study-abroad program
- e. Is currently receiving financial benefits from the Taiwan government and/or other educational institutions in Taiwan

VI. Application Deadline: Extended until Tuesday April 30, 2024 (postmark date)

VII. Application Instructions:

All applicants who meet the eligibility requirements stated in Article V are welcome to submit an HES scholarship application. Please mail all application documents to our office at the address listed below in Article XII. A complete application **must include** all of the following documents:

- a. Completed application form
- b. Statement of purpose (1 page, single-spaced, size 12 Times New Roman font)
- c. Copy of passport or other document that demonstrates applicant's Finnish citizenship
- d. Copy of the diploma/certificate from the applicant's highest degree attained as well as a copy of official academic transcript
- e. Proof of application to a Mandarin Language Center in Taiwan (such as a copy of the application form, etc.)
- f. Two (2) letters of recommendation written within three months, in envelopes sealed by the letter writers
- g. The applicant's signature on the *Terms of Agreement Ministry of Education Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program (HES) Form*

VIII. Release of Selection Decisions:

- The end of April, 2024 (For Summer courses)
- The end of May, 2024 (For Non-Summer courses)

IX. Deadline to submit admissions letter:

All scholarship applicants must also apply separately for admission to a Mandarin Language Center at a university in Taiwan following each center's regulations. Once a student is successfully awarded the HES scholarship, he/she must submit a copy of the admissions letter or enrollment permit from the Mandarin Language Center to our office by the following date:

- Wednesday, May 1, 2024 (For Summer courses)
- Friday, June 28, 2023 (For Non-Summer courses)

Scholarship recipients who do not send their admissions letter by these deadlines will be disqualified from the scholarship selection process.

X. Terms and Conditions for Scholarship Recipients:

- Recipients should only enter the R.O.C. (Taiwan) with either visitor visa or resident visa (for the study period of 6 months or above) for the purpose of studying Chinese. For more information regarding entry visa please visit:
<https://www.boca.gov.tw/cp-166-288-b3876-2.html>.
- The recipient should study only at a registered Mandarin Language Center approved by the Ministry of Education (please see our website for list of approved centers).
- The recipient should apply for admission according to the regulations of the language center. Once admitted, the recipient should send a photocopy of the admission letter to the Taipei Representative Office in Finland by **Friday, June 28** for confirmation. Recipients who do not send their required admission letters before the deadline will be disqualified from the scholarship selection process.
- The recipient should undertake at least fifteen (15) hours of language courses each week. The 15 hours does not include cultural visits, speeches, and other self-learning curriculum or activities.
- Recipients of the summer class (2-month), 3-month, 6-month, and 9-month scholarship terms are not allowed to apply for a transfer to a different Mandarin Language Center once they have enrolled.
- If the recipient concurrently accepts scholarships/grants from other sources, he/she will lose their placement in the HES scholarship program. Any HES scholarship funds

already disbursed during the period of overlap must also be returned.

- g. Mandarin Language Centers have the right to terminate or revoke a scholarship if the recipient's academic performance, moral character, or attendance record does not meet their standards.
- h. Recipients of a scholarship term longer than six months are obligated to join the National Health Insurance (NHI) program in Taiwan. Before joining the NHI, recipients should purchase student accident insurance and other relevant insurance. NHI fees can be deducted by the Mandarin Language Centers from the monthly scholarship stipend before it is disbursed to the student.

XI. Suspension and Cancellation:

A. The scholarship will be suspended for one month, if one or more of the following conditions occur:

1. The recipient has missed 12 hours or more of their language course within a single month.
2. Starting from the first semester (quarter), if the recipient fails to attain the specified standard score (an average of 80 points out of 100), his/her scholarship will be suspended for one month in the next semester (quarter).
3. All recipients of scholarship terms of nine months or longer are required to take the Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL) and attain a Level 3 or higher. Recipients should submit test results or a score certificate taken within the previous two years. If the recipient cannot submit test results prior to enrollment, he/she should take the TOCFL exam during their studies in Taiwan and attain a Level 3 or higher. Test results must be submitted to the student's Mandarin Language Center no later than one month prior to the end of the student's scholarship period. If he/she fails to do so, the scholarship will be suspended for one month. Testing fees are the responsibility of the student.

B. The scholarship will be cancelled, if one or more of the following conditions occur:

1. The recipient fails to attain the standard score (an average of 80 points out of 100) for two consecutive semesters (quarters).
2. Any recipient missing final grades for any semester (quarter) will be disqualified from receiving the scholarship, except in cases of serious illness or accident.
3. The recipient violates R.O.C law.
4. The recipient violates university or Mandarin Language Center regulations.

XII. HES Application Contact Information:

Contact Person: Kuan-hwai Sheu

Email: khsheu@mofa.gov.tw

Phone: (09) 6829 3803

Mailing Address:

Taipei Representative Office in Finland

Attention: HES Scholarship

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