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**Ministry of Education Huayu Enrichment Scholarship (HES) Foreign Student Information for UK Applicants**

**2017 - 2018**

**1. Purpose**

Established by the Ministry of Education, Republic of China (Taiwan) (the MoE) to encourage international students (Mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao students are not eligible) to undertake Mandarin courses to study Chinese in Taiwan in order to provide them with opportunities to study authentic Chinese, to increase their understanding of Taiwanese culture and society and to promote mutual understanding and interactions between Taiwan and the international community.

**2. Award Value**

A monthly stipend of 25,000 NTD (equivalent to approx. £600).

**3. Duration**

Huayu Enrichment courses may last two months, three months, six months or nine months.

The *nine-month scholarship* may run either from **a)** the 1st September 2017 to the 31st May 2018; or **b)** from the 1st December 2017 to the 31st August 2018.

The *six-month scholarship* offers three options within the same academic year: **a)** 1st September 2017 to 28th February 2018; **b)** 1st December 2017 to 31st May 2018; or **c)** 1st March 2018 to 31st August 2018.

The *three-month scholarship* can cover one of four full terms within the university year: **a)** 1st September to 30th November 2017 (autumn term); **b)** 1st December 2017 to 28th February 2018 (winter term); **c)** 1st March to 31st May 2018 (spring term); or **d)** 1st June to 31st August 2018 (summer term).

The *two-month scholarship* covers a summer session consisting of two consecutive months falling between the 1st June 2017 and the 31st August 2017, i.e. either **a)** 1st June – 31st July 2017; or **b)** 1st July – 31st August 2017.

Please refer to the scholarship application form for a full and clear list of all available options.

If recipients fail to come to Taiwan for enrolment during the above time, they will forfeit their right to retain their scholarships. Scholarship funding will become effective on the date of the recipient’s enrolment. Scholarship funding will end on the month of the expiration of the scholarship or if the scholarship is revoked.

Recipients are expected to remain at their language courses until the very end of the final semester covered by the scholarship period. It would not be acceptable to miss the final weeks (in order to travel, take up employment, etc.) and to do so will negatively affect the quota of scholarships allocated to UK applicants in future years.

**4. Eligibility**

International applicants above the age of 18, who possess A-Levels (or equivalent qualifications) or above, an excellent academic record and are of good moral character are eligible. Candidates to whom one or more of the following criteria apply are ineligible for the scholarship.

1. a. Overseas Chinese students and nationals of the R.O.C.

b. Those currently studying Mandarin in Taiwan or who have studied a degree programme in Taiwan.

c. Those who have previously received a HES or a Taiwan Scholarship.

d. Those who will be an exchange student to Taiwan under an agreement between partner institutions in the UK and Taiwan during the scholarship period.

e. Those currently receiving financial benefits from the Taiwan government or other educational institutions.

f. Those who are not UK nationals.

**5. Application**

Applicants need to submit the following documents electronically to the British Association for Chinese Studies (BACS) before the announced deadline (in principle, the yearly application period is from February 1st to March 31st):

a. An application form (provided by BACS).

b. A scanned copy of his/her UK passport.

c. Scanned copies of the certificates of his/her highest academic qualification (i.e. degree certificate or A-Level certificates). Current university students who have not yet graduated should include a copy of their most recent transcript of study.

d. Proof of application to a recognised Taiwanese language centre (e.g. valid admission letter or e-mail from the language centre’s admissions department acknowledging receipt of application).

For further details regarding how to submit the application electronically, refer to ‘2017 BACS Notes for Applicants’ on the BACS website.

Applicants must already have submitted an application to their chosen language centre for the appropriate semester before applying for the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship.

**6. Selection Procedure**

a. This will be carried out as stated by the British Association for Chinese Studies (BACS) and the Education Division, Taipei Representative Office in the UK (TRO). All submitted documents will be processed and reviewed.

b. When a successful candidate has waived his/her right to a scholarship before arriving in Taiwan, his/her position will be filled by the next reserve candidate.

c. If a recipient of the scholarship has no option but to give up the scholarship once the scholarship period has already commenced, a shorter scholarship may still be awarded to a reserve candidate as long as all details are finalised before the end of September 2017.

**7. Terms and conditions: Recipient**

a. The recipient should study at a registered Mandarin Language Centre approved by the MOE (list: http://english.moe.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=14462&CtNode=11424&mp=1).

b. Applications to Language Centres should be made according to the regulations of the Centre. Scholarship recipients will later be asked to forward a copy of their admission letter to the Education Division for confirmation. Recipients who fail to do so may be disqualified from the scholarship selection process.

c. The recipient should undertake at least 15 hours of language courses each week. This does not include cultural visits, speeches and other self-learning curricula or activities.

d. Recipients are not allowed to apply for a transfer to a different language centre.

e. If the recipient concurrently accepts scholarships from other sources, he/she will lose their place on the scholarship programme. He/she will also have to return the funds granted for those months he/she received multiple scholarships.

f. The termination and cancellation of a scholarship is based on regulations specified by each individual Mandarin Language Centre and the HES guidelines set by the Ministry of Education, Taiwan. Mandarin Language Centres have the right to terminate or revoke a scholarship if the recipient’s academic performance, behaviour in class or attendance record is not up to standard.

g. Recipients of scholarships longer than six months are obligated to join the National Health Insurance Programme. Insurance fees will be deducted by the Mandarin Language Centres from the monthly stipend before it is paid to recipients. Recipients should ensure that they have purchased appropriate insurance to cover the full period, but particularly the first six months before joining the National Health Insurance Programme.

h. The scholarship will be suspended (one month’s stipend per instance) in the following cases:

- If a student is absent from twelve hours or more of classes in one month;

- If the grade point average of a scholarship recipient falls below 80 in the first term of study;

- If a recipient of the nine-month scholarship does not participate in the Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL), Band B or higher. Failure to submit a valid TOCFL certificate will cost the recipient a month’s grant subsidy. Recipients should pay for the TOCFL themselves. The latest date for submitting a valid TOCFL document is one month prior to the completion of their study term. *Scholarship recipients who had submitted a recent TOCFL certificate or transcript (for Band B or higher) at the time of applying for the scholarship are not required to sit the test again.*

i. The scholarship will be revoked in the following cases:

- If the grade point average of a scholarship recipient falls below 80 over two consecutive terms;

- If a scholarship recipient obtains no grade point average / study record / grade transcript (except in the event of serious illness or injury);

- If a scholarship recipient commits a crime or violates any Taiwanese laws;

- If a scholarship recipient violates any rules set by their language centre / university.

**For further information, please contact:**

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