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Ministry of Education Huayu Enrichment Scholarship (HES) Foreign
Student Information for UK Applicants
2019 - 2020

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, although a very limited number of nine-month scholarships will be awarded. A high standard of Mandarin in all disciplines is necessary to achieve a pass at the Band B level. As failure to achieve a pass at Band B or higher will result in the withdrawal of one month's stipend, all applicants for the nine-month scholarship should be confident in their abilities to reach the required standard of Mandarin within the stipulated timeframe.

- The *nine-month scholarship* may run either from **a)** the 1st September 2019 to the 31st May 2020; or **b)** from the 1st December 2019 to the 31st August 2020.
- The *six-month scholarship* offers three options within the academic year: **a)** 1st September 2019 to 29th February 2020; **b)** 1st December 2019 to 31st May 2020; or **c)** 1st March 2020 to 31st August 2020.
- The *three-month scholarship* can cover one of four full terms within the university year: **a)** 1st September to 30th November 2019 (autumn term); **b)** 1st December 2019 to 29th February 2020 (winter term); **c)** 1st March to 31st May 2020 (spring term); or **d)** 1st June to 31st August 2020 (summer term).
- The *two-month scholarship* covers a summer session consisting of two consecutive months falling between the 1st June 2019 and the 31st August 2019, i.e. either **a)** 1st June – 31st July 2019; or **b)** 1st July – 31st August 2019.

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.

- 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.

(Non-UK citizens may be able to apply for the scholarship via the Taipei Representative Office in the capital city of their country of citizenship. Those who are unsure how to locate the appropriate office should contact the Scholarships Office: taiwanscholarship@mail.moe.gov.tw.)

5. Application

Applicants need to submit the following documents electronically to the British Association for Chinese Studies (BACS) before the announced deadline (27th March, 2019):

- a. An application form (available at: <http://bacsuk.org.uk/funding-2/bacs-taiwan-studentships>).
- 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).

In addition, two letters of reference must be submitted directly to BACS by referees. The reference form is provided by BACS.

Applicants must already have submitted an application to their chosen language centre for the

appropriate semester before applying for the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship.

For further details regarding how to submit the application electronically, refer to '2019 BACS Notes for Applicants' on the BACS website.

BACS will send an acknowledgement e-mail to confirm receipt of every application form and reference submitted. **It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that their complete application (including both references) has been received by BACS.** If an applicant does not receive an acknowledgement e-mail, he/she should contact BACS and, if necessary, attempt to re-submit the application. (In cases of problems contacting BACS, please e-mail the Education Division.) It is not possible to rectify issues relating to incomplete applications after the deadline has passed, even if technological factors were at fault.

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. Candidates offered a full nine-month scholarship must participate in an interview with the Director of the Education Division, by Skype or in person, before their award can be confirmed. This interview will take place on Friday 26th April, 2019.
- c. 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.
- d. If a recipient of the scholarship has no option but to give up the scholarship once the scholarship period has already commenced, a scholarship may still be awarded to a reserve candidate as long as all details are finalised before the end of September 2019. If an HES recipient gives up the scholarship after this point, they will not be eligible to apply for any form of scholarship or other funding from the Taiwanese government in the future.
- e. Preference will be given to scholarships of a shorter duration in order to increase the overall number of scholarship recipients and enable a greater number of candidates to benefit from the opportunity to study in Taiwan.

7. Terms and conditions: Recipient

- a. The recipient should study at a registered Mandarin Language Centre approved by the MOE (to download list, go to <https://english.moe.gov.tw/cp-23-17677-b4bb4-1.html>).
- 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 and pass 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 and no exemptions can be permitted for late registration or not passing the test. Recipients should pay for the TOCFL themselves. The latest date for submitting a valid TOCFL certificate is one month prior to the completion of their study term. *Scholarship recipients who had submitted a recent TOCFL certificate (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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