**Before you apply:**

1. **What’s the purpose of the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship (HES)?**
The Ministry of Education (MOE) in Taiwan provides the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship for foreign\* Mandarin/Chinese learners including beginners to study at any accredited Mandarin center at a university or college in Taiwan.
(\*not include students from Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macao)
2. **How long is the term of the HES Scholarship?**
-2-month summer session (June and July or July and August), or
-regular term classes which may last 3, 6, 9, or 12 months during academic year from September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025\*.

(\* Although the maximum duration of the scholarship is 12 months, the Chicago office retains the right to adjust the length of the scholarship awarded depending on availability.)

1. **What’s the award value of the HES Scholarship?**The total amount of the award is a monthly stipend of 25,000 NTD (New Taiwan Dollar).
2. **Does HES cover the tuition of the program which we are attending?**
HES doesn't cover the tuition of the program.
3. **Who can apply for the HES Scholarship?**Applicants must be the U.S. citizens, at the age of 18 or above, who possess a high school diploma or above, and demonstrate excellent academic performance.
4. **Can I still apply even if I am not 18 years old?**
No! You have to be 18 years old when applying HES Scholarship.
5. **Who can not apply for the HES Scholarship?**
6. Overseas Chinese student or a national of the R.O.C.(Taiwan)
7. Students currently registered at a Mandarin Language Center or in a degree program at a university or college in Taiwan.
8. Individuals who have already received a TUSA, AMS, HES or Taiwan Scholarship in the past.
9. Exchange students to Taiwan during the scholarship period.
10. Individuals currently receiving financial benefits from the Taiwan government or other educational institutions in Taiwan.
11. **Where do I apply? Can I apply outside the U.S. territory?**
It is possible to apply HES scholarship outside of America territory as long as your residency is within our service area. Our office only accepts applications from U.S. citizens whose permanent addresses are in IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, NE, OH, WI, ND and SD.

**When you apply:**

1. **What documents should I mail to apply for HES Scholarship?**Applicants apply for the HES Scholarship with the following documents:
* Completed application form
* A copy of applicant’s passport
* A copy of the academic transcripts from applicant’s degree program(s).
* A copy of the application to a selected Mandarin language center
* Study plan (Any supporting information, including resume, study motivation, academic goal, etc.)
* Two recommendation letters
* The certificate of Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL) is optional.
1. **Should I email or send hard copy of the applications?**
Email all application documents to info@edutw.org **OR** send hard copies to:
Education Division, TECO in Chicago
HES Scholarship Committee
55 W. Wacker Drive, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60601
2. **When is the application period?**
February 1 to March 31 for regular term applicants, February 1 to March 15 for summer term applicants (subject to change each year).
3. **When will I be notified whether or not I have been selected?**
Summer term applicants will be notified via email in April, regular term applicants will be notified via email in June.
4. **I have been rewarded the HES before. Can I apply for this Scholarships again?**
No. You cannot apply for HES again if you have been rewarded. You may reapply if withdrawing from the HES scholarship award. You may also consider to apply Taiwan Scholarships for foreign students to pursue degree programs.
5. **If I am awarded the scholarship for this academic year, but am unable to travel to Taiwan as originally planned, can I delay to the next academic year?**
No, the scholarship cannot be deferred. You may reapply if withdrawing from the HES scholarship award. It is not guaranteed you will be awarded the same due to the consideration of other applicants' qualifications.
6. **If I reapply HES Scholarship, is it possible to recycle any of the previous materials?**Yes, please indicate the term of the application when reapplying HES Scholarship.
7. **Can I apply if I have not studied Chinese formally at a university?**
Yes, you are eligible to apply.
8. **Do I need to take the TOCFL test?**
No. TOCFL test is optional when applying HES Scholarship.
Please note that recipients of the nine-month scholarship are required to pass the Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL) at Band B or higher during their period of study. 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.
9. **For language proficiency, is there a reference for what excellent, good, and fair mean?**Please self-evaluate your language level of proficiency or obtain a TOCFL test result as references for the Committee.
10. **Where do I find the information about the Language Centers in Taiwan?**Please visit the following website for language centers recognized by the MOE in Taiwan: <https://www.studyintaiwan.org/center>
11. **Do I need to be admitted to one of the language centers before applying for the scholarship?**No, you can provide application confirmation email or letter from a recognized language center. However, you will need to provide admission letter upon request to receive the award.
12. **Can I provide references from my current and past employers?**Yes, you can, but the Committee prefer academic references to address your learning experiences. Please choose referees who you think will provide comments on your learning ability, academic achievement and promise, or commitment to studying Chinese.
13. **Should I mail or email recommendation letters?**
You can include sealed recommendation letters in application package or ask your referees to email their recommendation letters directly to info@edutw.org. Please titled: recommendation for "YOUR NAME".
14. **Can I request a transfer to another language center for intensive course?**Only the recipients awarded one-year HES scholarship may request a one-time only transfer to another school that offers intensive course with permission. Recipients of the summer classes. 3 months, 6 months or 9 months are not allowed to transfer.

**After you apply:**

1. **How do I apply for a visa?**
Please visit the website of the Bureau of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs ([https://www.boca.gov.tw/](https://www.boca.gov.tw/)) to get more information. Or contact your [local Taipei Economic and Cultural Office representative](https://en.mofa.gov.tw/OverseasOfficeLink.aspx?n=1573&sms=957).

[Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago](https://www.roc-taiwan.org/uschi_en/index.html):
Tel: 312-616-0100
Address: 55 W. Wacker Dr., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60601
Email: chi@mofa.gov.tw
Website: <https://www.roc-taiwan.org/uschi_en/index.html>
2. **How will the scholarship be paid?**
Each university has its own policy to distribute the scholarship to students. Please contact the coordinator at your school to know more details. The payment process may be delayed in the first month of your studying due to accounting or administrative procedures. It is suggested that all recipients have sufficient funds to pay for tuition and living expenses during this period.
3. **Is the scholarship enough for my living expenses? May I work to earn my living in Taiwan?**
In general, the scholarship shall be sufficient to pay the tuition and for living economically. You are allowed to work in Taiwan only if your period of study is more than 6 months, and if your Mandarin center approve your application of work permit, and you will only be allowed to work up to 20 hours per week.