

Translated from Chinese to English by Yuan Ze University
In the event of discrepancies in interpreting the two texts, the Chinese version shall prevail.

Elite Scholarship Program

Scholarship Guidelines for 2024 aimed to support universities in recruiting lecturers and researchers from Africa countries to Taiwan.

Article 1: Introduction

Africa is the second largest continent in the world, with a total population exceeding 1.33 billion, approximately 17.2% of the global population. The African Union (AU) currently comprises 55 countries, making it the continent with the highest number of countries in the world.

The challenges facing higher education in Africa include a lack of resources for postgraduate training and a weak research output at the master's and doctoral levels. To assist African countries in nurturing high-level talents, enhance bilateral educational exchanges with locally significant academic and research institutions, and increase Taiwan's international visibility and influence, the Ministry of Education (hereinafter referred to as "the Ministry") incentivizes universities and colleges to admit lecturers or researchers from African countries to pursue master's or doctoral degrees (with priority given to doctoral programs) in Taiwan. This initiative began in the academic year 2021 and continued for three academic years (from the academic year 2021 to 2023). Afterward, it was extended for another three academic years, starting from the academic year 2024. The program subsidizes 20 individuals per academic year, totaling 60 individuals, and the funding period spans six accounting years (2024-2030)

Article 2: Regulations and Grants

1. The scholarship program will be implemented in accordance with the MOE Elite Scholarship Program Action Plan.
2. The ESP scholarship provides each student with a monthly stipend of NT\$ 25,000. Students could receive the scholarship up to 2 years or 3 years according to the degree pursued.

- I. Master Degree: 2 years
- II. Doctorate Degree: 3 years
- 3. Stipends may be used to cover tuition and miscellaneous fees, thesis supervision, insurance, accommodations, internet use and living allowance.
- 4. The stipend will be paid until the student graduates, leaves the university, or discontinues studies, or until the scholarship is discontinued or suspended.
- 5. Students will lose the scholarship if they fail to meet the standards required by their school, violate ROC law, receive a demerit on their academic record, suspend, drop-out, or are expelled.
- 6. Recipients studying abroad as exchange students or pursuing double (joint) degrees, shall have their scholarships discontinued if they leave Taiwan on their own accord. The remaining scholarship period shall not be retained or extended. If recipient requests leave of absence for going abroad and obtains approval from the current school and the MOE by official document, the scholarship may not be discontinued. However, the scholarship for the period not in Taiwan should be suspended. If more than 15 days of the current month have passed, the scholarship for that month shall not be reclaimed.

Article 3: Eligibility

A. Institution Qualification :

- 1. There are a sufficient number of English-taught courses and programs to allow students enough credit to graduate.
- 2. The school had at least twenty international students enrolled in graduate programs last year.

B. Student Qualification :

Scholarship recipients must be a current lecturer or researcher employed in public or private universities and colleges in African countries (with at least 3 years of research experience at universities and having research outcomes or publications as primary authors).

Scholarship recipients who meet one of the following conditions are **ineligible** for the scholarship.

- 1. Hold Taiwan (R.O.C.) nationality or have the status of an overseas Chinese student.

2. Are currently enrolled in or have retained their admission to a university in Taiwan. 【This restriction does not apply to students who are on track to graduate and will be pursuing their next degree; however, they must be a lecturer or researcher (with at least 3 years of research experience at universities and having research outcomes or publications as primary authors) from African countries.】
3. Studied in Taiwan for a degree at the same level.
4. An exchange student or dual-degree student through a partnership agreement with an institution overseas.
5. Has already received stipends through this program for more than three years.
6. Awarded another type of financial assistance or scholarship from a Taiwan (R.O.C) government agency to support their studies in Taiwan.

Article 4 onwards: Documents submitted by universities to MOE for grant applications (the documents above have not been translated because they are not relevant for students)