

## **Elite Scholarship Program**

Scholarship Guidelines for 2024 aimed to support universities in recruiting lecturers from Southeast Asian and South Asian countries to Taiwan.

### Article 1: Introduction

In order to encourage lecturers from South and Southeast Asia to pursue graduate degrees in Taiwan (with priority given to students enrolled in doctoral programs), the Ministry of Education (MOE) has established the Elite Scholarship Program. A total of three hundred students may be awarded this scholarship over a period of three years. The first period of this scholarship ran from September 2020 until August 2023. A 2-year extension has been granted to the Academic Year 2025 for this program. The total amount will be allocated for six accounting years (2023-2028). In order to fulfil the short-, medium-, and long-term plans for the MOE New Southbound Policy – Talent Development Program, this scholarship was created as part of the New Southbound Policy Work Plan, which was announced by the Executive Yuan in December 2016.

### 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 hold a lecturer position in a higher education institution located in a country of South or Southeast Asia. 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 still be a lecturer from a South or Southeast Asian country.)
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)