

Guidelines of the International Internship Pilot Program of Taiwan

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1. Objective

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) of Taiwan invites young talented students worldwide to participate in this program, gaining exposure to Taiwan's research environment and capabilities and hopefully establishing future connections with Taiwan's academic research institutions and high-tech industries.

2. Internship Framework

- (1) Host Institution: This includes local academic and research institutions, laboratories, and other qualified units. Internship positions shall be posted through the online system by potential principal investigators (PIs) of this program, who shall have served as PIs or Co-PIs of research projects funded by government agencies or universities within the past three years.
- (2) Internship Period: Internships will be conducted from June 2026 to February 2027 and must begin no later than December 2026. Each internship shall last for 28 to 90 consecutive days and may not be divided into multiple periods.
- (3) Interns will engage in research and learning activities aligned with the project's theme. During the internship, the PI will provide appropriate guidance and support the intern in engaging with local students and getting to know Taiwan.

3. Eligibility

- (1) Applicants must be foreign nationals enrolled at overseas higher education institutions, majoring in Taiwan's priority research fields or in the humanities and social sciences. Individuals from Mainland China, Hong Kong, or Macau, as well as those studying in these regions, are excluded.

(2) Each individual may receive support under this program only once. This program may reject applications from individuals who previously withdrew after admission or have negative records.

4. Annual Admission Quota

Up to 600 interns may be admitted each year.

5. Application Procedure

(1) Applications shall be submitted through the online system within the announced application period for eligibility review. Incomplete, non-compliant, or late submissions shall not be accepted.

(2) Applicants who pass the eligibility review may proceed to the matching process through the online system. The review time may vary depending on the application volume or other policy considerations.

6. Matching Process and Review Criteria

(1) Matching shall be conducted through the online system. Once assessed and approved by the PI, the applicant shall complete the matching process with the PI before the application deadline. Late submissions shall not be accepted.

(2) The matched application will then go through a secondary review. The review will consider the applicant's prior performance and potential, the academic influence and reputation of the applicant's home institution, English proficiency, the PI's recommendation, etc.

(3) Once approved, an admission notice will be issued to both the intern and the PI. Interns shall submit the required declarations within the specified deadline, and the final admission list shall be formally confirmed by the NSTC through an official document.

7. Subsidies

- (1) Internship Allowance: Each Intern will receive NTD 1,000 per day for up to 90 days. If an adjustment to the internship period is required due to force majeure or visa related reasons, the PI shall submit the request in advance on behalf of the intern. No extension of the total number of days or change of batch shall be permitted.
- (2) Internship Advising Fee: PIs may receive up to NTD 10,000 for each intern advised. In principle, a PI may supervise only one intern; however, up to two interns may be permitted as an exception when nationality diversity requirements are met.

8. Funding Disbursement

- (1) Upon receiving disbursement requests in accordance with the intern lists confirmed by the NSTC, the program office shall disburse the subsidy funds to the respective host institutions. The host institutions shall process fund claims and return overpayments as required by program regulations.
- (2) The internship allowance for interns is disbursed monthly by the host institution. Beginning from the second month, payment will be processed subject to the intern's required reports and attendance. Serious violations may result in the suspension or reduction of the disbursed amount.
- (3) The advising fee for PIs will be disbursed after the intern has submitted the required reports and returned home.
- (4) Changes of host institution or PI without prior approval of the program office will not be permitted. Any violation may result in the non-disbursement or recovery of internship allowance or support funding.
- (5) Interns shall not receive overlapping funding from Taiwan government agencies during the internship period.

9. Rights and Obligations

- (1) Interns shall comply with program regulations, the host institution's rules (including laboratory confidentiality obligations), and the laws and regulations of Taiwan. Any violation may result in suspension of the internship and the recovery of all or part of the allowance already disbursed.
- (2) Interns need to submit all required reports online before completing the internship and participate in oral presentations if required by the host institution or the program office.
- (3) After completing the internship, interns are advised to cooperate in follow-up surveys and maintain communication with the PIs and the program office for potential long-term engagement in Taiwan.