

China Medical University International Student Handbook



Contact Information of CMU administrative offices

Office of Global Affairs, China Medical University
Dean of Global Affairs: Professor Liang-Yo Yang
Associate Dean of Global Affairs: Professor Ching-Ju Lin
Director, International Education Center: Professor Ching-Ju Lin
Project Coordinator: Alexis Wang and Yen-Ling Lai

Contact

International Education Center (previously International Student Center, ISC)
Email: isc@mail.cmu.edu.tw or laiyl@mail.cmu.edu.tw
LINE: add the official account of International Student Center with the ID “@tap0419v”
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/oia.cmu/> (for posting announcements only)

Taichung – Shuinan Campus (11F of Excellence Building)
Tel.: 04-22053366 # 1613
Add.: No. 100, Sec. 1, Jingmao Rd., Beitun Dist., Taichung City 406040, Taiwan R.O.C.

Taichung – Yingcai Campus (4F of the joint office in Huchu Building)
Tel.: 04-22053366 # 1665
Add.: No. 91, Xueshi Rd., North Dist., Taichung City 40402, Taiwan R.O.C.

Office of Academic Affairs
Email: adm06@mail.cmu.edu.tw
Website: <https://adm06.cmu.edu.tw/page/42>

Office of Graduate Student Affairs
Email: adm07@mail.cmu.edu.tw
Website: <https://gsa.cmu.edu.tw/?q=en/node/34>

Yunlin – Beigang Campus
Office of Student Affairs
Tel.: 05-7833039 # 1105
Add.: No. 123-1, Xinde Rd., Beigang Township, Yunlin County 651012, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

Campus Guard (24-hour contact)
Taichung: 04-22022205
Beigang: 05-7832020

Contact Information of Government Agencies

National Immigration Agency (For ARC)

Taichung First Service Center

Tel.: 04-2472-5103

Fax: 04-2472-5017

Add.: 1F., No.22, Wenxin S. 3rd Rd., Nantun Dist., Taichung City, Taiwan

Service Hour: Monday - Friday, 8:00-17:00 (No lunch break).

Other Service Centers in Taiwan

<https://www.immigration.gov.tw/5475/5478/141386/127061/127076/>

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (For VISA and Documents Authentication after you graduate from CMU)

Central Taiwan Office

Tel.: 04- 22510799

Fax: 04- 22510700

Add.: No. 503, Section 2, Liming Rd, Taichung City 408205, Taiwan

Service Hour: Monday – Friday, 08:30 - 17:00

Buildings & Maps of 3 Campuses in CMU

☆ Buildings in Shuinan Campus



Excellence Building

B2 – Prayer Room
4F – Information Center,
Computer Room,
Printing Service
7F – Library
8F – Department Offices
10 & 11F – Administrative
Offices



Innovation & Research
Building

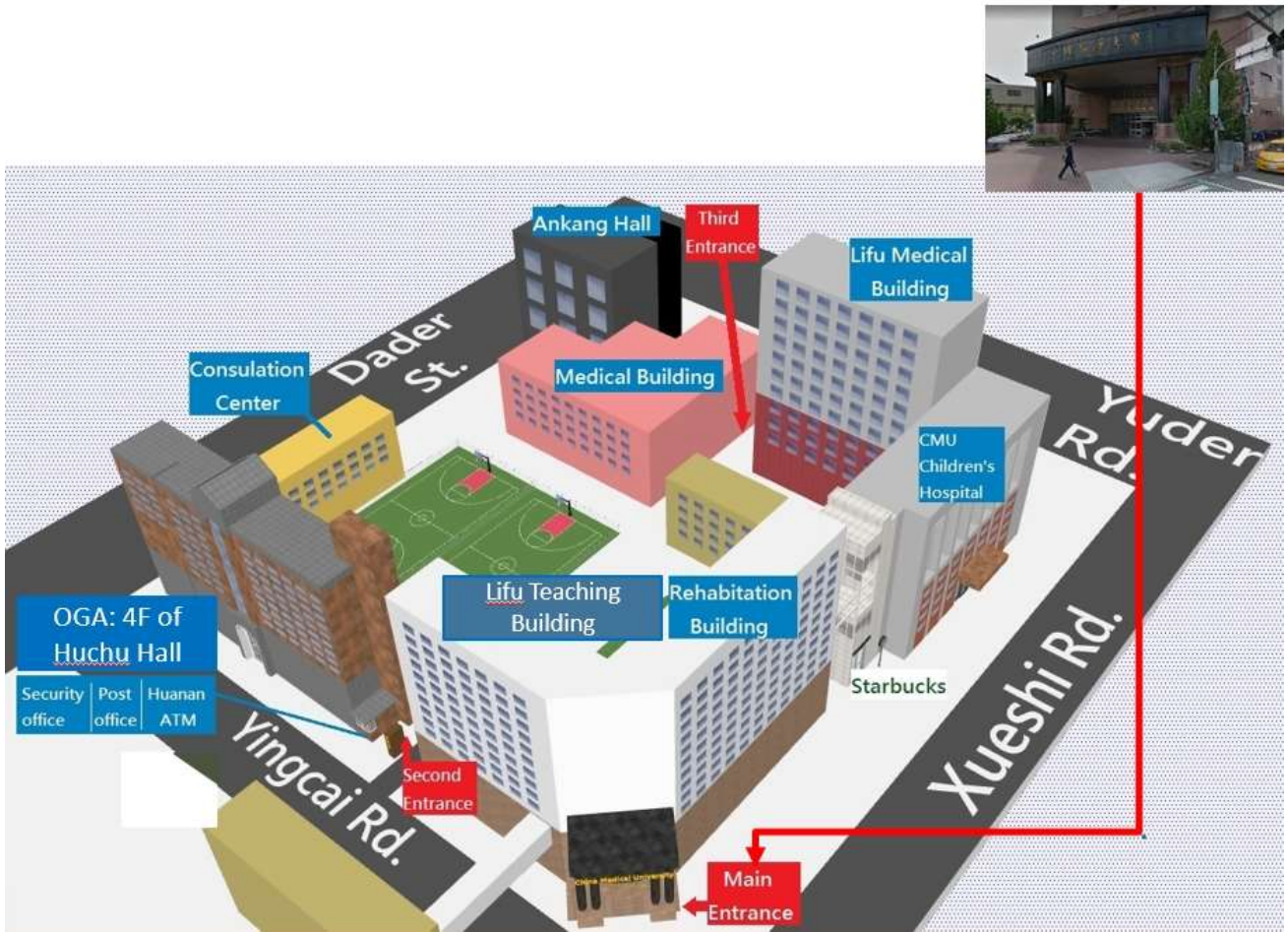
Labs and Professors' Offices



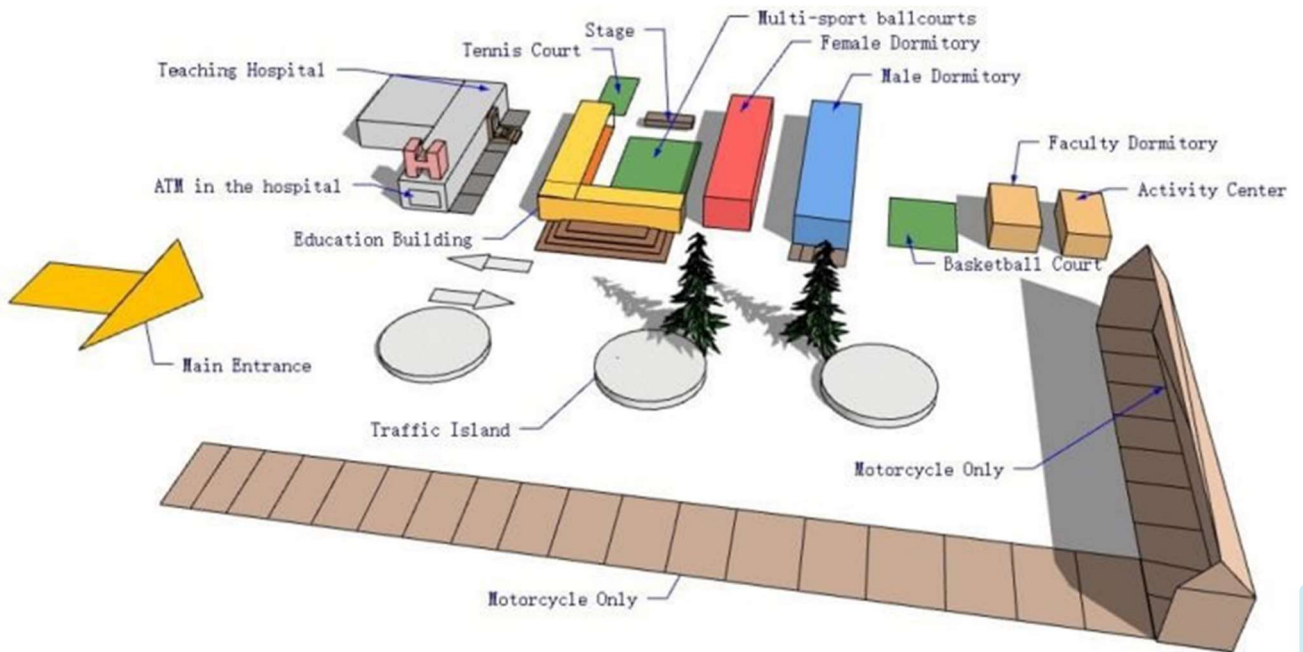
Solicitude Building
(also called Care Building)

B1 – Office of Student
Affairs, Cafeteria
2F – Health Center
3F – Study Room
4~13F - Dormitory

☆ Map of Yingcai Campus



☆ Map of Beigang Campus



Shuttle Bus Schedule

學校電話：04-22053366

Shuinan - Yingcai Weekdays



Yingcai Campus	07:25*	08:00*	08:30
Departs at	09:00	09:30	10:00
	10:30	11:00	11:40
	12:10*	12:40*	13:30
	14:00	14:30	15:00
	15:30	16:00	16:30
	17:15*	17:40*	18:15
	18:40	19:10	19:40
	20:10	20:40	21:10
	21:40	22:10	

Shuinan Campus	07:25*	08:00*	08:30
Departs at	09:00	09:30	10:00
	10:30	11:00	11:40
	12:10*	12:40*	13:30
	14:00	14:30	15:10
	15:40	16:10	16:40
	17:15*	17:40*	18:15
	18:40	19:10	19:40
	20:10	20:40	21:10
	21:40	22:10	

圖例	12:00	一班車
● 端點站	12:00	兩班車
○ 單側設站	12:00	三班車
	12:00*	中停捷運

Note:

- A. Red mark: 2 buses, black mark: 1 bus
- B. Star mark: bus stops at MRT station
- C. See another schedule for weekends and vacations

CMU Student Association

2021.11 Version

中國醫藥大學學生會

2021.11修正版

學校電話：04-22053366

Shuinan-Yingcai Weekends & Vacations



Yingcai Campus	07:25*	08:00*	08:30
Departs at	09:00	09:30	10:00
	10:30	11:00	11:30
	12:10*	13:00*	13:30
	14:00	14:30	15:00
	15:30	16:00	16:30
	17:10*	17:40*	18:15
	19:10	20:10	21:10
	22:10		

Shuinan Campus	07:25*	08:00	08:30
Departs at	09:00	09:30	10:00
	10:30	11:00	11:30
	12:10*	13:00*	13:30
	14:00	14:30	15:00
	15:30	16:00	16:30
	17:10*	17:40*	18:15
	18:40	19:40	20:40
	21:40		

圖例	12:00	一班車
● 端點站	12:00	兩班車
○ 單側設站	12:00*	中停捷運

Note:

- A. Buses depart based on this schedule during weekends, summer & winter vacations.
- B. Star mark: bus stops at MRT station
- C. See another schedule for weekdays

CMU Student Association

2021.08 Version

中國醫藥大學學生會

2021.08修正版

Taichung -
Beigang



Yingcai
Campus
Departs at

06:40 08:10 10:40
13:10

Shuinan
Campus
Departs at

06:55 08:35 11:05
13:35 15:05 **15:35**
(Tuesday only)

CMUH
Departs at

14:40 15:10
(Tuesday only)

Note:

- A. Please apply in advance via CMU portal before taking the bus to Beigang.
- B. Red ones would stop at Huwei, while the rest head to Beigang directly.
- C. Black ones are suspended during summer & winter vacation.
- D. Those with bottomlines depart as usual in Saturdays while the rest don't in weekend & Holidays.

 中國醫藥大學學生會
CMU Student Association

Beigang -
Taichung



Beigang
Campus
Departs at

10:40 **12:00** **12:15** 13:20
15:30 **17:35** (Only Saturday)

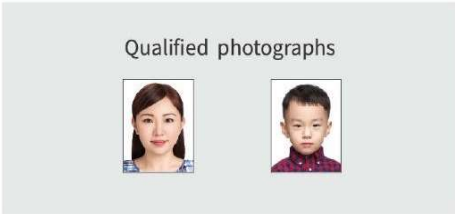
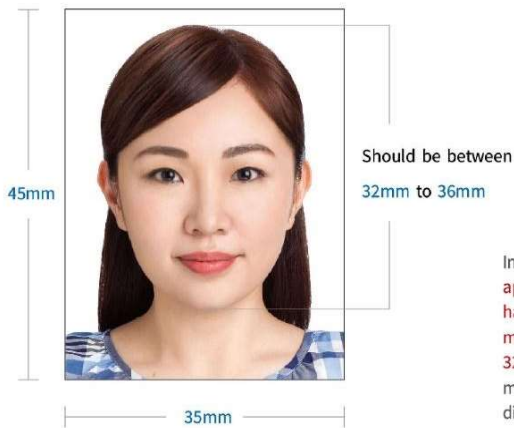
Note:

- A. Please apply in advance via CMU portal before taking the bus.
- B. Red ones would stop at Huwei, while the rest head to Taichung directly.
- C. Black ones are suspended during summer & winter vacation.
- D. Except the one marked with Saturday, the rest don't depart in weekend & Holidays.

 中國醫藥大學學生會
CMU Student Association

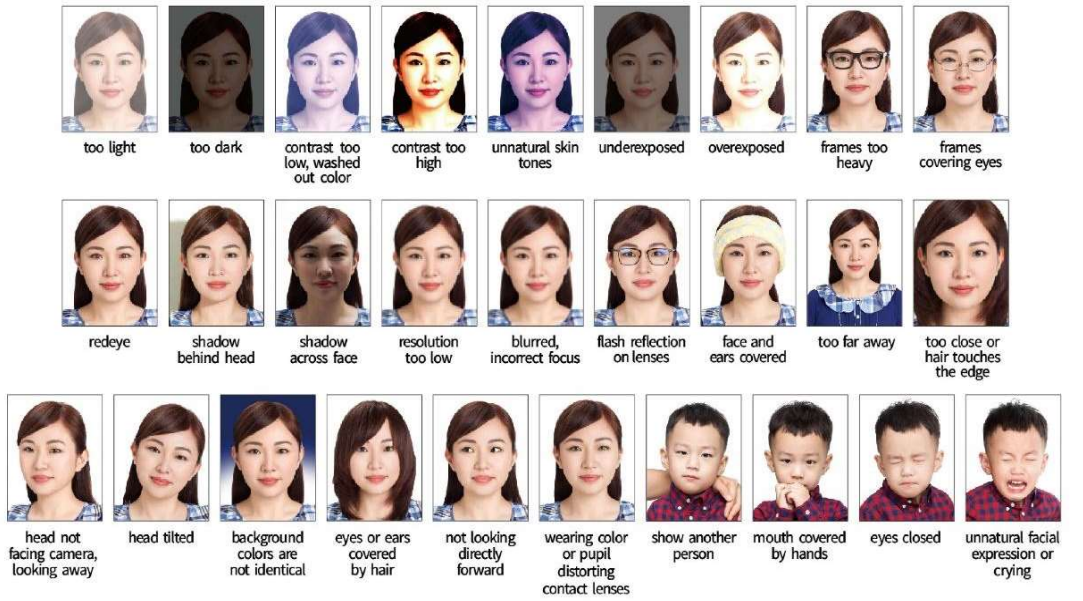
Photo Format for All Kinds of ID


Reminder: Always 2-inch size with the white background



In compliance with regulations of the International Civil Aviation Organization, applicants should submit two identical color, 35 mm x 45mm, front, without hat, with facial features, white background photographs taken within six months (the length from the top of the head to the chin should be between 32mm to 36mm). The Subject must not wear color eyeglasses. Eyes, nose, mouth, face, outline of ears, special moles, birthmarks, and scars should be distinct and uncovered. Photographs must not be modified, and photomontages are not allowed.

Unqualified Photographs



 Bureau of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs reminds you as above

ARC - Application & Extension

● ARC (Alien Resident Permit) – First time application

For international students, the ARC serves as their temporary ID card which can prove your resident status in Taiwan. It is a very important document and we advise you to take good care of it and be aware of its expiry!

Moreover, whether you have entered Taiwan with Resident Visa or obtained Resident Visa within Taiwan, please remember to apply for the ARC at your local office of National Immigration Agency, Ministry of Interior within 30 days upon arrival or of the issue of your resident visa.

To apply ARC online: <https://coa.immigration.gov.tw/coa-frontend/student/entry>

**☆ Documents for ARC application☆ (digital files ONLY)

- A. 2-inch photo (white background only)
- B. Certificate of enrollment (see instructions below to download the proof of enrollment)
- C. Passport
- D. Resident VISA
- E. The Entry Stamp on your Passport
- F. Certificate of accommodation (rental contract, or the utility bill that shows the address where you currently stay)
- G. Payment after approval: NT1,000 (One-year valid), NT\$2,000 (Two-Year valid), NT\$3,000 (Three-Year valid) + service fee. For Ministry of Education or Ministry of Foreign Affairs Taiwan Scholarship Recipients, they can choose to apply for the validation in accordance with the duration of the scholarship when applying with the certificate of Taiwan Scholarship.

● ARC – Extension

**☆ Documents for ARC extension☆ (digital files ONLY)

- A. 2-inch photo (white background only)
- B. Certificate of enrollment (see instructions below to download the proof of enrollment)
- C. Passport
- D. Copy of ARC (both sides)
- E. New rental contract if you move to a new place
- F. Payment after approval: NT1,000 (One-year valid) + service fee

Working days required for NIA's review: 7-10 working days (not including weekends / national holidays or if supplementary document / information modification is requested)

Note: You can apply for extension 30 days before the ARC expiry, please apply in advance.

Collection your new ARC card

Please bring your old one (if you have) and the receipt downloaded from NIA application system.

- If you would like ISC personnel to collect your ARC card from NIA (we collect the card once a week or every other week), please choose “collect in person” and “Taichung First Service Center” when applying.
- If you prefer to collect the card by yourself, please send us the photo (front and back) of your card to update its validity in the CMU system after collection.

ARC – Overstaying, Change of Address or Reissuance due to Lost or Damage

- **ARC - Fine of overstaying**

Online extension is not possible if you overstay, please go to the immigration agency to extend your ARC in person.

Days of Overstaying	Amount of penalty
1~10 days	NTD 10,000
11~30 days (you will be asked to leave Taiwan)	NTD 20,000
31~60 days	NTD 30,000
61~90 days	NTD 40,000
Over 91 days	NTD 50,000

- **ARC - Change of address**

Please update your new address **within 15 days** of the change

Times of violation	Amount of penalty
First-time violator	NTD 2,000
Second-time violator	NTD 5,000
Third-time violator	NTD 10,000

If you are not the person who signs the rental contract, you can also provide the utility bill that shows the address of your current residence as the proof of accommodation.

Important Reminder

Your ARC is closely related to your passport and National Health Insurance (NHI)

If your ARC expires, your NHI will be invalid.

If your passport expires, your ARC will be invalid.

Therefore, please make sure to pay for registration fee (you need to pay for the insurance fee even having tuition waiver) before the deadline of each semester (to apply for your certificate of enrollment) so that you can extend your ARC.

- **Reissuance for loss of ARC**

- A. 2-inch photo (white background only)
- B. Passport
- C. Statement
- D. Payment after approval: NT1,000 (One-year valid)

10 working days required (not including weekends / national holidays or if supplementary document / information modifications are requested).

ARC Transition for Transferring, Continuing Your Studies or Job Seeking after Graduation

- Transfer to another university or continue your studies in Master / Ph.D. program:
Please ask the personnel from the new university about ARC transition; you may also apply from the NIA system by yourself.

- ARC extension after graduation

Bring:

- A. Passport
- B. Your Current ARC
- C. 2-inch photo (white background only)
- D. Diploma
- E. New rental contract if you move to another place

And go to NIA to apply in person.

The ARC could be extended to 1 year for twice and the total extension is up to 2 years.

Guidelines for Downloading the Certificate of Enrollment

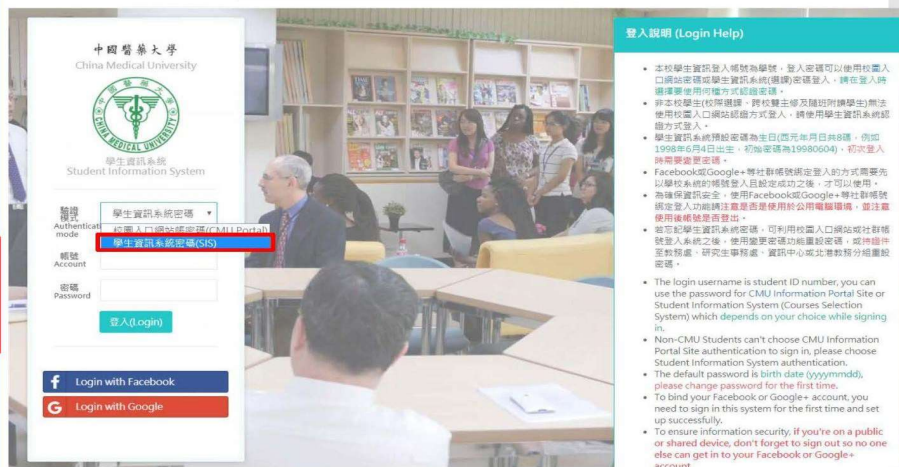
<https://web1.cmu.edu.tw/student/>

1. Login the Student Information System
登入學生資訊系統

Click the website :
<https://web1.cmu.edu.tw/student/>
to login the student information system
點擊上方網址進入學生資訊系統

2. Choose Authentication to SIS
驗證模式請選擇學生資訊系統密碼(SIS)

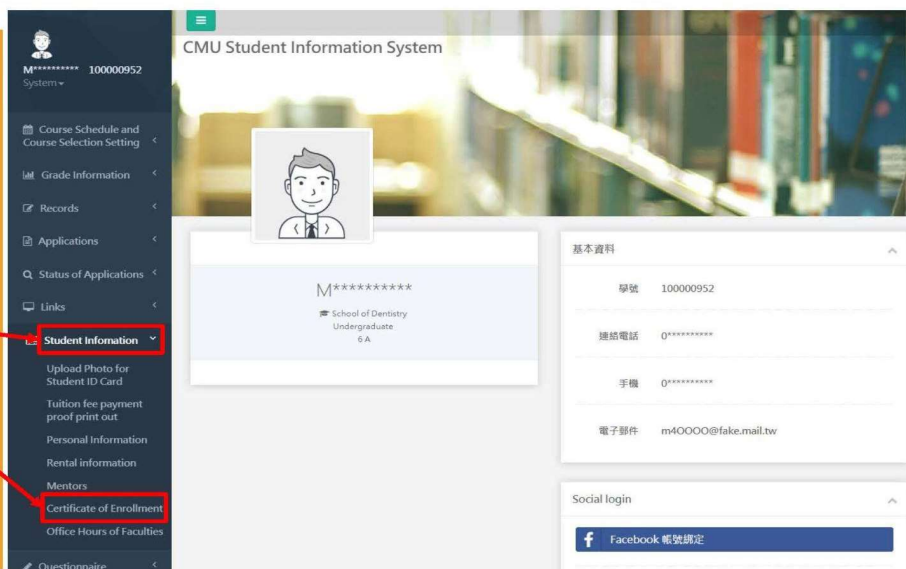
Account: your student number
Password: please enter your birth date
(yyyymmdd)
帳號為學號，若為第一次登入，密碼則為
出生年月日(yyyymmdd)



Application for Certificate of Enrollment 申請在學證明

Login to the student information system
登入學生資料系統

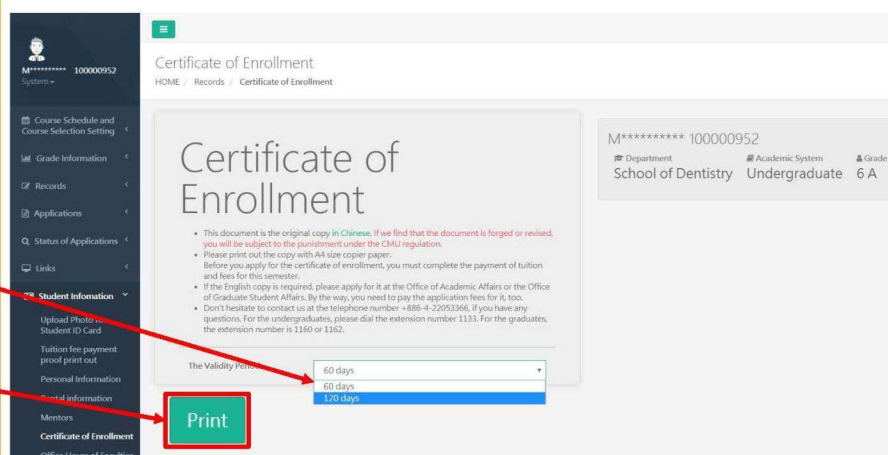
Click the student information find the certificate of enrollment.
選擇學生資料後點選在學證明



Application for Certificate of Enrollment 申請在學證明

Choose the validity period(60 days or 120 days)
選擇有效期限(60天或120天)

Document will download to your computer automatically, please print it out.
在學證明會自動下載，請列印出來使用。



Foreign Student Insurances:

- Student accident insurance (all students are required to register)
NT\$ 210 for one semester.
*For hospitalization and accident ONLY
Required documents for reimbursement:
 - a. Application form
 - b. The receipt of the payment (original copy)
 - c. Certificate of diagnosis (original copy, in Chinese)
 - d. Copy of bank account
 - e. Copy of ARC
 - f. Car accident report from the police officer (if any)
- Shin Kong Life Insurance for International Students (For the first 6 month after arriving in Taiwan)
NT\$ 435 per month.
*For sickness and accident
Required documents for reimbursement:
 - a. Application form (will be provided in ISC)
 - b. The receipt of the payment (original copy)
 - c. Certificate of Diagnosis (original copy, in Chinese)
 - d. Copy of bank account
 - e. Copy of ARC
 - f. Car accident report from the police officer (if any)
- National Health Insurance (NHI)
Eligibility: Students must have resided in Taiwan for 6 consecutive months and can only leave Taiwan once within 30 days.
If you leave Taiwan, the eligibility will be postponed or canceled.
NT\$ 826 per month (For each semester, it is 826 x 6 months= NT\$ 4,956)

After ARC is issued, NHI administration/Immigration will check your departure/entry record. We will apply for your NHI card when you are eligible.

If you are not eligible to NHI after 6 months, you will continue to be covered by Shin Kong Life Insurance.

Effective resident date

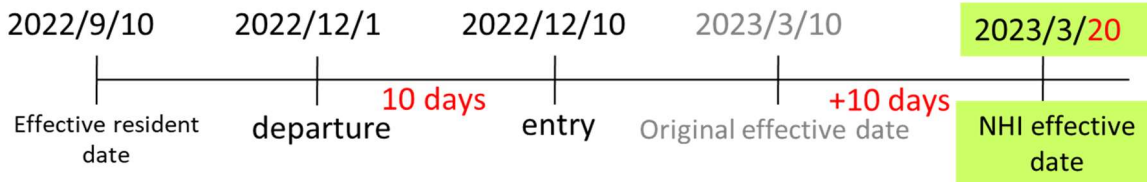
Came to Taiwan with Resident visa: arrival date

Came to Taiwan with Visitor visa: Resident visa issue date

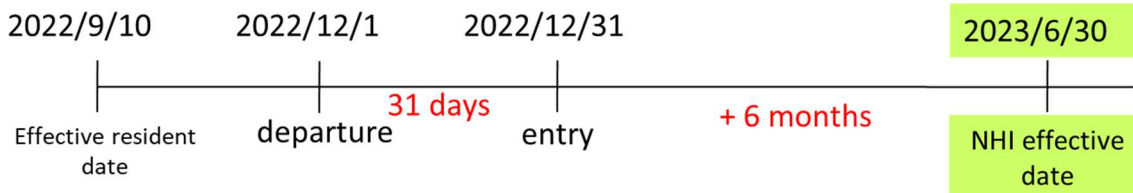
☆☆☆ If you leave Taiwan in the first 6 months:

Situation 1: Departure for once, under 30 days

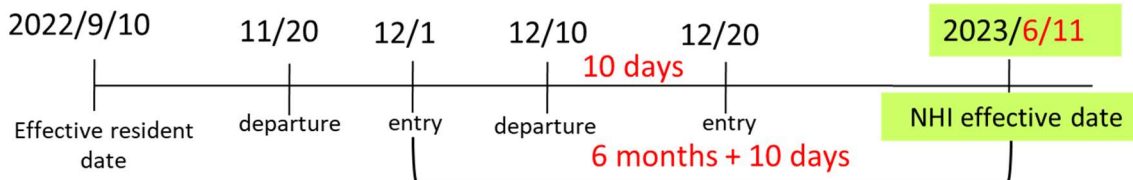
→ the number of your leaving days will delay the effective date



Situation 2: Departure for once, above 30 days



Situation 3: Departure for more than once, below 30 days



Work permit:

Can I work in Taiwan?

- Yes, if you have a valid work permit and conduct work less than 20 hours per week (weekly working hours are not limited to 20 hours during summer / winter vacation).

How can I apply for a work permit?

- Online application:
<https://ezwp.wda.gov.tw/wcfonline/wSite/Control?function=IndexPage>
- Fees: NTD \$100 (pay at post office or ATM and keep the remittance)
- Complete the online application and send it out.
- Required documents: digital files only:
 - a. Student ID card (front and back)
 - b. Passport
 - c. ARC (front and back)
 - d. Remittance receipt
 - e. The enrollment certificate (must be uploaded to the file of "others")
- More information: https://cmucia.cmu.edu.tw/english/s_work.html
- Please email your work permit to isc@mail.cmu.edu.tw after you receive it.

Scholarships

Scholarships from Taiwan government

Taiwan Scholarship from the Ministry of Education

Tuition waiver: Up to NT\$ 40,000 each semester

Monthly living allowance: NT\$ 15,000 or NT\$ 20,000.

A Taiwan Scholarship may be held for 4 years for undergraduate programs, 2 years for master's degree programs, and 4 years for doctorate programs.

Scholarship applications must be submitted to a Republic of China (ROC, Taiwan, NOT China, NOT PROC, People's Republic of China) overseas mission and applicants must apply separately to a university in Taiwan for admission.

More information: <https://english.moe.gov.tw/cp-24-16833-23C09-1.html>

Taiwan Scholarship from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Monthly stipend:

- 1-year pre-degree of Language Enrichment Program: NT\$ 28,000
2. Degree programs: NT\$ 33,000.

Recipients are responsible for all expenses during their stay in Taiwan. MOFA will not provide any other subsidies. MOFA will, however, provide recipients with one-way, economy-class plane tickets for direct flights to and from Taiwan.

More information: <https://en.mofa.gov.tw/cp.aspx?n=1325>

Scholarships from the Office of Global Affairs, CMU

CMU Admission Scholarship (Regulations applicable to students admitted after Fall, 2023)

Requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Full-time students.2. Not received and are not currently receiving Taiwan Scholarships (provided either by the MOST, the MOFA or the MOE) or Indonesia RISTEKDIKTI Scholarship.3. Ph.D. students must submit a certificate of English proficiency with IELTS score 6.0 (or above), or equivalent level of English proficiency tests.
Content of the Scholarship	<p>Ph.D.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Tuition waiver for the 1st – 4th academic years2. A monthly stipend of NT\$ 20,000 up for 11 months. <p>Master</p> <p>Tuition waiver for the 1st academic year.</p>

You will be automatically eligible if meeting the above requirements, there is no need to apply by yourself.

International Student Scholarship

Requirements	1. Complete 1 semester study at CMU; 2. GPA > 3.7 for postgraduate students, GPA >3.0 for undergraduate students; behavior Grade > 80; 3. No Demerit records.
Application period	First month after courses start, eligible applicants will receive an email of notification.
Content of the Scholarship	A termly Stipend of NT\$ 10,000~50,000 for 70 foreign students (including undergraduate and graduate students).

Scholarships from the Office of Graduate Student Affairs, CMU

Outstanding Scholarship for PhD Students

Requirements	1. The 1 st -year doctoral students. 2. Must be a full-time student and already have an advisor.
Application period	In the beginning of September
Content of the Scholarship	A monthly stipend of NT\$ 40,000 for 3 years.

Whetstone Scholarship for PhD Students

Requirements	1. The 2 nd to 5 th -year doctoral students. 2. Must be a full-time student.
Application period	In the beginning of September
Content of the Scholarship	A monthly stipend of NT\$ 10,000 for 1 year

You may find the application form of Outstanding and Whetstone Scholarship in section D:

<https://gsa.cmu.edu.tw/?q=zh-hant/node/52>

Graduate Student Assistantship Stipend

Requirements	1. The 1 st - and 2 nd -year master's students. 2. The 1 st - to 5 th -year doctoral students. 3. Must be a full-time student and has paid the tuition.
Content of the Stipend	A monthly stipend of NT\$ 1,000~NT\$ 2,000 for each semester (the amount is based on the program and budget of the year)

Notes on Application:

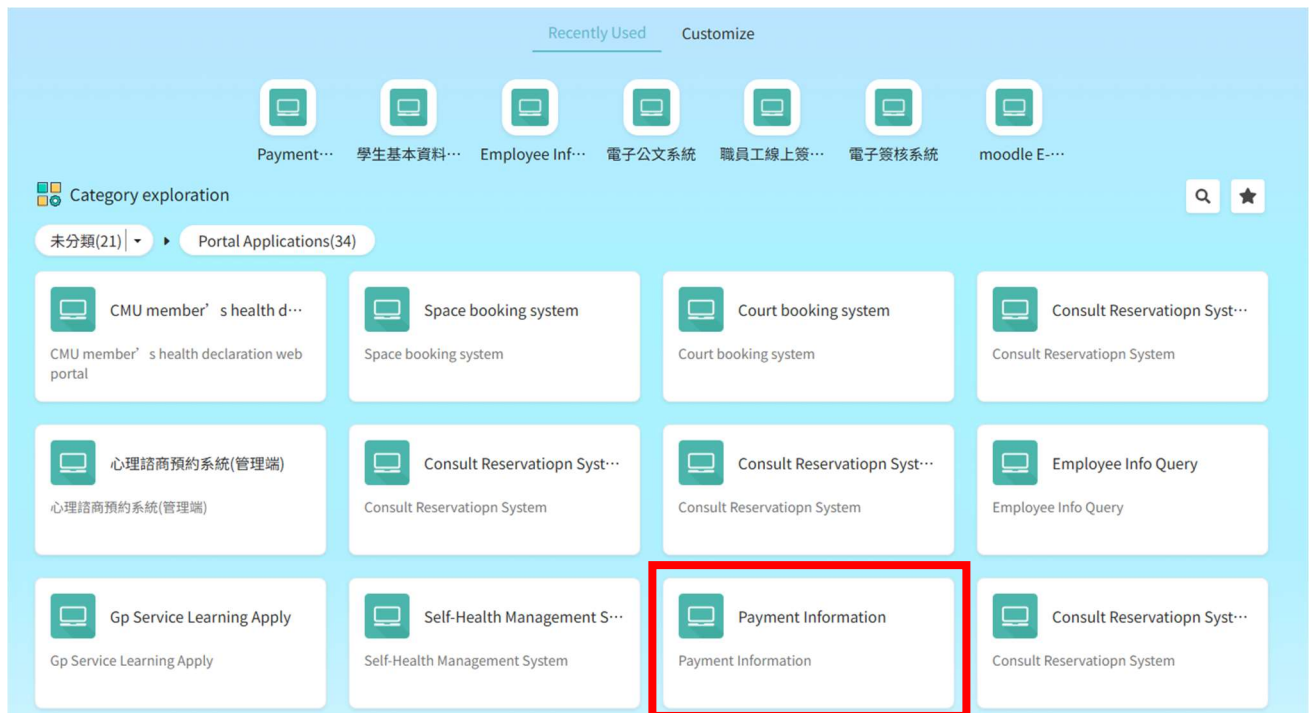
The Graduate Student Assistantship Stipend can be applied once per semester. Please complete the application within the first two weeks of the semester. Applicants shall log in to the “Student Information System” and fill out the survey of student status each semester.

The Stipend will be issued after your student status has been verified by your advisor, the director of your department, and the Graduate Education Council.

Please note, the requirements and content of the scholarships/stipend are subject to updated announcements from the offices in charge.

Information on CMU payment

Route: CMU portal → More Applications → Portal Applications → Payment Information



Besides checking your email, you can usually find a machine to update your bank balance above or next to the ATM (must be the same bank of your account).



Insert your passbook and the machine will update automatically.

Post office / Huanan Bank near CMU

Taichung - Shuinan Campus

- Shuinan Branch: No. 1, Siping Rd., Beitun Dist.
- Fengchia Branch: No. 268, Sec. 2, Henan Rd., Xitun Dist.

Taichung - Yingcai Campus

- Jianxing Branch: No. 190, Jianxing Rd., North Dist.
- Wuquan Branch: No. 311, Wuquan Rd., North Dist.

Yunlin - Beigang Campus

- No. 54, Wenhua Rd., Beigang Township

Huanan Bank near CMU

Taichung - Shuinan Campus

- Shuinan Branch: No. 81, Sec. 4, Wenxin Rd., Beitun Dist.

Taichung - Yingcai Campus

- North Taichung Branch: No. 338, Wuquan Rd., North Dist.

Campus Service of Huanan Bank

Taichung - Shuinan Campus

- 12:40-13:00, every Tuesday and Thursday on the 10th floor of Excellence Building (bank staffs would be at the counter of the office of General Affairs, and will leave earlier if no more people coming).

You can open the account during the campus service, but will take 1 week or more to receive your passbook. Thus, it is strongly suggested to open the account in the bank by yourself, and you will receive the passbook at the same day, please go to:

- Taichung Branch: No. 174, Minquan Rd., Central Dist.

Items to prepare for opening the bank account:

1. Original and copy of your passport;
2. Original and copy of your ARC;
3. Stamp of your Chinese name (if you have, should also be the same on your ARC); otherwise, you will be asked to sign instead;
4. NT1,000 to be saved into the newly opened account.

To update your bank account in CMU system, please take a photo of your passbook cover (the one having your account no.) to the Office of Global Affairs.

FAQ

Before Application

1. Is there any requirement for English Proficiency Test for Prospective Students?

For Admission from Fall, 2024:

Applying for undergraduate programs:

Most of the courses are given in Chinese. The applicant must have the Chinese Proficiency Certificate of CEFR Level A2 (Waystage) or Level B1 (Threshold) or above (or equivalent), the certificate should be within two years.

Applying for masters and doctoral programs:

Applicants must have an English proficiency certificate of CEFR Level B2 or above (or equivalent), such as TOEFL iBT 72, TOEFL ITP 543, IELTS 5.5, or other equivalent tests.

For more information, please refer to the website of CMU admission:

https://web81.cmu.edu.tw/Std_international/docs/Application_Guidelines.pdf

Notice: If you would like to apply for MOE or MOFA Taiwan Scholarships, **English Proficiency Test is required for applying all English courses programs. And TOCFL (Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language) certificate is required for applying other programs (non-English programs).**

2. What are the two “reference letters”?

Reference letters are the two letters made and signed by your previous supervisors/ academic teachers that can explain your research performance, academic works, and English Language Skills.

3. Can I apply for scholarships in Taiwan?

You should plan and apply for the MOE, and MOFA scholarship at the beginning of every year, at the same time you apply for CMU (Fall intake only). Some countries have special scholarships for their students who plan to study in Taiwan. Otherwise, you will be automatically considered for CMU admission scholarship that is a dual support by university and advisor and depends upon the funding of your advisor and his / her lab.

4. Is it necessary to get the acceptance of professor for the admission in CMU?

Replied by Assistant Professor Peter Huang: We typically would not consider the students who have not received the Letter of Acceptances from CMU. In addition, please try to avoid sending spam email with the content like “I am interested in your research” without specific mentioning what you are interested in. Pls would consider that you just changed the title and sent it to multiple Pls for phishing. These things will decrease your chance to be accepted. Do ask for the funding situation of the professors, which directly relates to whether he/she can support your MS/PhD study.

Before Coming to Taiwan

5. What is the “financial statement” and how to get it?

Basically, two financial statements are requiring for the admission and VISA application. First statement needs to be submitted with the admission application, that can be received from your local bank and you can also download it from your app. Statement should contain your name and ID. Second statement is required during Visa process. The government of Taiwan needs this information to verify whether you have the basic financial support for your study in Taiwan.

Bureau of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Republic of China (TAIWAN): Resident Visas for Foreign Students (Full-time PhD, Master’s, Bachelor’s program, or senior high school Students and below): <https://www.boca.gov.tw/cp-166-283-c4da3-2.html>

6. How much money do we need in addition to Visa, Ticket Charges?

You would need at least NT\$ 50,000-100,000 (New Taiwan Dollar) for the initial survival before you get the first-month stipend from the university.

7. Is there any interview during Visa process?

It depends on the updated regulations of each representative offices.

Taiwan Student Visa - Obtaining a Visa to Study in Taiwan (Visa Guide.World): <https://visaguide.world/asia/taiwan-visa/student/#can-i-work-with-a-taiwan-student-visa>

Visa | Study in Taiwan: <https://www.studyintaiwan.org/stay/visa>

8. Is Taiwan safe?

Yes, Taiwan is relatively safe. Based on the Safety Index by City 2021 from Numbeo, Taipei, Taiwan is the 3rd safest city (<https://www.numbeo.com/crime/rankings.jsp?title=2021&displayColumn=1>).

9. Does CMU provide a dormitory?

CMU provides a dormitory ONLY for undergraduate students. For postgraduate students, CMU does not provide a dormitory.

10. Do we need to arrange a room for ourselves?

Due to the increasing number of international students, it is recommended if you can find the possible living place before arriving. Please note that there are two major campuses, Shui-Nan main Campus and Yingcai Campus. It takes about 15 minutes for taking shuttle bus to travel between two campuses. ISC will assist if you have trouble in find a living place, but there is no guarantee of the room availability and if the room meets your requirement.

11. What is the average expenditure for renting a room?

Average rent of a room is about NT\$ 5,000-8000. Other extra fees may be charged (utility fees, internet charge, etc.)

12. Can I change the currency of my country to New Taiwan dollars in Taiwan?

Students should bring the money in USD and exchange some to New Taiwan dollars at the airport (please exchange enough cash at least for one-month rent & two-month deposit and the living cost for the first month if possible). In Taiwan, foreign currency can only be exchanged in banks.

13. Any mobile Apps that are necessary or helpful?

Install LINE (<https://line.me/>) and Google Translator (<https://translate.google.com/>) on your cell phone. Most of the people in Taiwan use LINE for the real-time message. *Installing google translator in mobile can help you to talk, written translation and even prompt image translation into English.

Your browser should have translator extension to assist you to read Chinese websites by auto translation.

Right after You Arrive

14. How to apply for ARC?

ISC would guide you apply for ARC, and we highly recommend you apply for ARC by yourself as soon as you receive the contract of your living place to avoid the problems in **opening the bank account** and **stipend transaction**. It is online (<https://coa.immigration.gov.tw/coa-frontend/student/entry>) and very easy process you can consult with ISC and seniors during application process.

You may also refer to page 8 for more details.

15. How to apply for a bank account?

Please refer to page 18 for more details.

Later

16. What is the expenditure of the month for food?

The average expenditure on food is NT\$ 5,000-7,000.

17. Is it allowed to work with Study legally? If yes then what kind of works do we get?

Very limiting works are legally allowed for a full-time student. International students who wish to work (as a TA, RA or tutor) or intern in Taiwan (either on campus or off campus) should apply and obtain the work permit before starting to work.

Office of Global Affairs: Work Permit: https://cmucia.cmu.edu.tw/english/s_work.html

Application Steps:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1grMWZAdtAzwCk5dkB_nmcLL6V62gnQAH/view?usp=sharing

18. Is Halal food available in Taiwan?

Yes, there are many Hotel Halal food and you can buy Halal meat from Mosque, online, also from Px Mart and Costco.

In Taichung City: <https://taiwanhalal.com/city/16/halal-list-in-taichung-city.html>

19. What is the weather condition in Taiwan?

Weather not too cold not too hot. The temperature dropped to 9 °C degrees and highest up to 35 °C degrees in Taichung City.

Some typhoons (hurricanes) would hit Taiwan during summer months (mostly from July-September), in this case, please store some food in your place in advance and avoid going out during that time.

How to prepare for a typhoon: <https://communitycenter.org.tw/typhoon-preparedness/>

Earthquakes happen sometimes in Taiwan as well, the best way to protect yourself is to DROP down onto your hands and knees; COVER your head and neck (and your entire body if possible) underneath a sturdy table or desk. HOLD ON to your shelter (or to your head and neck) until the shaking stops.

Earthquake preparedness: <https://communitycenter.org.tw/earthquake-preparedness/>

20. How to get the accommodation/hostel/room at arrival and what are the ideal initial expenses?

Firstly, Taiwan has a language barrier more or less, but still you can try to find a suitable room (independent case) by the website and mobile app (*591.com). If you successfully contact to the landlords or agents, you can inform the International Student Center (ISC).

The cost of room lies between in the range of NT\$ 5,000~8,000 according to the location and facilities. The security deposit is two months' rent. So, you have to pay for three months' rent at the beginning, and electricity bill is separate. Electricity bill could be around NT\$ 500-700 per month (you have to pay once in two month) and some of the buildings also charge NT\$ 300-500 for Natural Gas, Water, elevator and maintenance charges.

You may consider using the renting platform in Taiwan (<https://www.591.com.tw/>). Using this platform to find the candidates of renting rooms will be easier than relying on the agency. However, the website is Chinese only and you need to verify the information carefully. Moreover, signing the contract usually need a person who can read Chinese.

21. What might be the food related issues?

Food consumption has cultural diversity that is different from country to country. This will not be a major issue if you can contact and consult with the seniors. There are some supermarkets, vegetables market and grocery stores e.g. IKEA, Safe and Save and Costco (for Grocery), Shuinan and Yingcai vegetable market, Indian stores for traditional spices, wheat and rice. You can buy HALAL meat from Taichung Mosque. Clothing (Net, Safe and Save) has very affordable prices. There are some basement shops near either Shuinan or Yinc'ai campus that have relative cheap stationary stuff.

All in all, diverse items are available at very affordable prices. You just need to consult with seniors at the beginning to get a better suggestion by their comparative analysis and experience according to the national trends.

22. Is there any prayer room in the Campus? Or where should I get more information as a Muslim student in Taiwan?

So far there is only one prayer room in Shuinan Campus (located in B2 of Excellence Building), please talk to the Office of Global Affairs for the access to the room.

You may find more information about Muslim-friendly restaurants, hotels, and the location of mosque (musala)

<https://www.taiwan.net.tw/ml.aspx?sNo=0020023>

<https://taiwanhalal.com/city/16/halal-list-in-taichung-city.html>

<https://eng.taiwan.net.tw/ml.aspx?sNo=0020323&keyString=%5E10019%5E>

22. How to get the driver license in Taiwan?

The driver licenses for cars and for motorcycles are different in Taiwan. You should be able to apply for a driver license for motorcycle in the Motor Vehicles Office in Taichung. For students from certain countries, you may be able to swap foreign and international licenses for local licenses.

Swapping Foreign and International Licenses for Local Licenses:

<https://english.taichung.gov.tw/787782/post>

Apply to Register Your International Driving Permit (IDP) (the website is from Taipei City not Taichung):

<https://tpcmv.thb.gov.tw/english/ServicesEng/LicenseEng/ManagementEng/ManagementEngO1.htm>

Getting a Driver's License: <https://english.taichung.gov.tw/787780/post>

Noah Buchan Dec 11, 2021: "How getting a driver's license in Taiwan drove me mad":

<https://www.taipeitimes.com/News/feat/archives/2021/12/11/2003769385>

23. If the embassy issues me only Visitor VISA due to incomplete documents or other reasons, can I convert it into Resident VISA in Taiwan?

If there are no remarks on your VISA saying conversion in Taiwan is prohibited, then normally it is allowed. But the requirements in Taiwan may be stricter than in your home countries. Required documents are listed on the website (<https://www.boca.gov.tw/cp-166-283-c4da3-2.html>), you may also need:

1. Documents proving that your courses are taught in English (please ask from ISC).
2. English language certificate (not required if your native language is English).
3. Financial statement from a Taiwanese bank (should be at least NT\$ 100,000- 150,000). If you only have the one from your country and it is from the third degree of kinship (grandparents, parents and siblings), then an official document proving your relationship is also required. Moreover, you need to prove that you can withdraw money from that bank in Taiwan.

Entering with a Visitor VISA might also affect you in certain situations, for example: if you need to sign a contract for receiving monthly stipend (ARC would be required in most cases), then the long conversion time from Visitor VISA → Resident VISA → ARC might cause you lose stipends for a couple of months.