Prospectus for the OCAC Scholarship To Reward Top and Outstanding Overseas Compatriot Students for Studying at Universities in Taiwan Swiss region

I. In order to reward top and outstanding overseas Compatriot students studying in Taiwan for a bachelor's degree, based on the "Medium and Long-term Individual Social Development Project 2023 to 2026- Expanding the Cultivation and Retention of Overseas Compatriot Students" approved by the Executive Yuan's document Yuan Tai Wai Zi No.110024110 on August 31, 2022, the Overseas Community Affairs Council (OCAC) specifically stipulates the "OCAC Directions for Approval of Scholarships for Top and Outstanding Overseas Compatriot Students to Study at Universities in Taiwan."

II. Scholarship amount:

- 1. **Top Overseas Compatriot Students Scholarship:** NT\$260,000 per academic year (same below), totaling NT\$1.04 million up to four years.
- 2. **Outstanding Overseas Compatriot Students Scholarship**: NT\$100,000 per academic year, totaling NT\$400,000 up to four years.
- III. The application eligibility is as follows:
- 1. Overseas compatriot students who have graduated from a high school or above, have achieved excellent academic performance, demonstrated good conduct, and meet the requirements of Article 2 of the Regulations Regarding Study and Counseling Assistance for Overseas Chinese Students in Taiwan to study for a bachelor's degree in Taiwan.
- 2. Before the application deadline, the applicant's average academic performance is equivalent to that of all domestic senior secondary schools and above. The top scholarship score is 88 points as the lowest score or within the top 5% of the class, and the outstanding scholarship score is 85 points as the lowest or within 10% of the whole class, and the overall average conduct score is above 80 points. To cope with the different academic systems and performance evaluation methods in different countries, the overseas office that accepts the application and unit designated by the OCAC shall submit the overall average academic grade conversion standard in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph and send it to the OCAC for reference; if there is no conduct grades, multiple factors shall be used for performance evaluation.
- 3. Any of the following circumstances are not allowed to apply:
 - (1) Have retained their student status at a domestic university or have registered to attend a domestic university in Taiwan.
 - (2) Have studied in Taiwan at the same level as the degree program you are applying for.
 - (3) While studying in the Academy of Preparatory Programs for Overseas Compatriot Students of National Taiwan Normal University and domestic public and private senior high schools (including vocational high schools) in Taiwan or after graduation, enroll in domestic university/college after graduation.

- (4) Students are exchange students or dual/joint degree students recruited by Taiwan's universities based on academic cooperation agreements signed with foreign schools.
- (5) This scholarship has been revoked.
- (6) While studying in Taiwan, also receive tuition and miscellaneous fee subsidies, exemptions, or scholarships and bursaries set by our government agencies (institutions); however, this does not include tuition and miscellaneous fee subsidies, exemptions, or scholarships and bursaries provided by the school where the student is a scholarship recipient.

IV. Scholarship duration:

- 1. The maximum scholarship period is four years.
- 2. From September 1 of the current school year to August 31 of the following year.
- 3. If a student is suspended from school for any reason, his/her eligibility will be revoked and the scholarship will be stopped. The scholarships received during the year of suspension shall be paid back in full if the amount is less than one-half according to the period of study before suspension; if the scholarship is more than one-half but less than three-quarters, half shall be paid back; If more than three-quarters has been received, there is no need to return it.
- 4. Scholarship recipients should arrive at the school on time to register. Those who fail to come to Taiwan to study within the time limit will be deemed to have given up their eligibility to receive the scholarship and it will not be retained.
- 5. When a scholarship student is approved to transfer by the current school and the school to which he/she intends to transfer, the original school should state the category of the scholarship received, the start and end year of the award, and the month and year of transfer, and notify the recipient and the school to which he is transferring in a letter. The school to which the student transfers should state the month and year it agrees to transfer the scholarship recipient in an official letter to the scholarship recipient and the school he/she is transferring from. Official Letters from the school the student transfers from and to school should be copied to the OCAC relevant overseas missions or designated units by the OCAC.

V. Applicants should submit the following documents from January 1, 2025 until February 28, 2025:

- 1. Scholarship application form (as attachment)
- 2. A copy of the permanent or long-term residence permit for the place of residence.
- 3. Copy of highest academic qualification certificate and results transcript (If it is in a language other than Chinese or English, a Chinese translation should be attached). The photocopy and translation should be verified by overseas missions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROC or Culture Centers of Taipei Economic and Cultural Offices or sponsoring unit designated by the OCAC.
- 4. Two recommendation letters from a principal, teacher or tutor, sealed and signed by the recommender.

- 5. Autobiography (including study plan).
- 6. Photocopies of documentary evidence that the applicant has already applied to a university/college in Taiwan (for example, photocopies of the application form, and a notice or email from the university/college acknowledging receipt of the application.)
- 7. An intermediate or above test certificate of the Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL).
- 8. Please send all the required documents by post to the following address:

Délégation culturelle et économique de Taipei Kirchenfeldstrasse 14 3005 Bern

- VI. The application forms must be complete, and the application documents provided will not be returned.
- VII. Selected candidates will be invited for interviews, as a compulsory part of the application procedure.
- VIII. Successful candidates should submit to our office the letter of admission to universities/colleges in Taiwan no later than June 30th of the year.
- IX. The procedures for initial scholarship receipt, continuing receipt, and application review are as follows:
 - 1. Initial receipt: Students who have received the award at the beginning of the first academic year should submit the official letter from the OCAC approving the award and other documents proving the award to the school after registration in the first academic year. 2. Eligibility for continuing receipt:
 - (1) Recipients who meet the above criteria should study for more than nine credits per semester during their studies. Top scholarship recipients should have an overall average academic grade of A or above 85 points, and an overall average academic grade of 80 points (or equivalent).) or above; Outstanding Scholarship recipients should have an overall academic average of A- or 80 points or above, and an overall conduct average of 80 points (or same grade) or above; if they become exchange students during their studies, their foreign credits and study grades must be recognized by the domestic school first.
 - (2) Those whose grades in the previous school year did not meet the current benchmark will not be allowed to apply. However, if grades in subsequent academic years reach the current benchmark, they may apply again.
- 3. After the second academic year, award recipients should submit transcripts that meet the provisions of the preceding paragraph and apply to the school for renewal; the school should review the award recipient's eligibility to renew the award, submit the renewal review results to the OCAC for review, and then notify the award recipient. The school will handle scholarship applications in accordance with regulations.

Χ.	If the scholarship recipient's application documents are found to be forged or false, or if he or she drops out, the OCAC will revoke his or her eligibility and pursue related legal liability depending on the seriousness of the situation.