

Taiwan Tech Trek 2010 Introduction

The National Science Council, in cooperation with Academia Sinica, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission, Department of Health, Environmental Protection Administration, National Youth Commission, Council of Agriculture, National Applied Research Laboratories, and Taiwan Foundation for Democracy is pleased to announce an exciting internship program, Taiwan Tech Trek 2010 for overseas Taiwanese youths interested in hands-on internship or research experiences in Taiwan. Opportunities will be available to interns at outstanding research institutes, famous science parks, national laboratories, universities, national museums, and high-tech companies.

This summer program is part of the Taiwan government's overall effort to recruit new generations of overseas Taiwanese for the purpose of raising Taiwan's overall competitiveness. This generation possesses the language abilities, professional expertise, and international savvy that are advantageous to Taiwan's S&T industries and manpower needs. Building a strategic liaison with this generation can attract long-term returnees for the future, infuse fresh energy into Taiwan's workforce, and ultimately increase international support for Taiwan.

Taiwan's advantages

Taiwan enjoys a vibrant economy and an excellent technological environment. As a major world player in manufacturing technology, Taiwan is one of the largest information hardware producers for semiconductors, optoelectronics, and information and communication products. Taiwan offers an excellent and dynamic environment for interns to gain hands-on experience.

Experience vibrant Taiwan

Apart from gaining valuable professional training, a summer in Taiwan provides an ideal opportunity for overseas Taiwanese to explore their roots, learn local culture, improve language skills, and even connect with relatives in Taiwan!

About the program

TTT 2010 is an eight-week program beginning late-June. Around 200-250 youths of Taiwanese ancestry aged 18-30 will be recruited from various countries through a selective application process. Interns will participate in a five-day group orientation (June 29th-July 3rd) and thereafter proceed to their designated internship positions throughout Taiwan for seven weeks of internship (July 5th-August 21st). **With the approval of host institutes and NSC, interns can apply for early commencement or extension of their internships. Interns, however, are responsible for the costs of extra days of their stay in Taiwan. Some hosts may provide interns with subsidies for their extension but it varies from different institutes. Interns shall initiate contact with their host institutes for the details in regard to extension and early commencement after getting**

accepted into the program. At the end of the program, interns will have to present the results of their work at an academic conference.

Two types of internships are available:

- a. Individual internships: The TTT Program Office will arrange internship positions at various host institutes and companies in Taiwan based on participants' choices.
- b. Special group projects: Interns will be teamed in groups of 4~12 people to conduct in-depth research into major issues in Taiwan such as future technology, Taiwan's international status, etc. At the end of the internship, each group is required to submit a group project report to TTT Office.

Orientation

Group orientation will take place from June 29th ~July 3rd, 2010 and it is compulsory for all participants. **If there are any schedule complications, please do not apply.** Details about itinerary will be announced later.

APPLICATION AND ADMISSION GUIDELINES

Taiwan Tech Trek is currently seeking approximately 200-250 domestic and overseas Taiwanese youths to participate in its summer internship program. Qualified candidates should complete and submit their application no later than **February 8, 2010 (Taiwan time)**. Successful candidates will participate in a five-day orientation (June 29-July 3) followed by a seven-week subsidized internship at host institutes in Taiwan (July 5 ~August 21). At the end of the program, all participants must present the results of their work at the TTT 2010 Academic Conference.

A. Candidate Qualification

1. Foreign interns (for overseas Taiwanese applicants):
 - (a) Must be of Taiwanese descent
 - (b) Must not have received any formal education in Taiwan beyond elementary school(including American school or any other foreign schools in Taiwan)
 - (c) Must have completed at least the first two years of university-level education in a foreign country (or expect to complete the second year before 6/29/2010)
 - (d) Must not have previously accepted full-time employment in Taiwan (internships are not considered full-time employment)
 - (e) Must be between ages 18-30 (birth date between 8/21/1980 and 6/29/1992 inclusive)
 - (f) Must be able to communicate in one of the following languages: English, Mandarin, or Taiwanese
2. Domestic interns:
 - (a) Must have participated in an NSC College Student Research Project from 2005-2009. (2005-2009 國科會大專學生專題研究計畫)
 - (b) Must be between ages 18-30 (birth date between 8/21/1980 and 6/29/1992 inclusive)
 - (c) Must possess excellent English speaking and writing skills

B. Types of Internships

1. **Individual internships (available to foreign interns):** The TTT Program Office has arranged individual internship positions at various host institutes all across Taiwan, including government agencies, nonprofit organizations, non-governmental organizations, and private companies. Early commencement or extension of internship is available with the approval of assigned host institute and NSC. **Interns are required to initiate contact with their hosts for the details if they would like to start earlier or extend their internships. NSC, however, does not provide extra subsidies for their extra stay in Taiwan.**
2. **Group projects (available to foreign and domestic interns):** The group projects are designed for in-depth research into major issues in Taiwan, such as future technology, Taiwan's international status, etc. Each group project will consist of foreign interns teamed with domestic interns in groups of 4-12

people. Each group will be required to submit a research paper detailing their findings at the end of the internship phase.

C. Restriction for Foreign Non-students

To avoid complications with work permits and labor regulations, there will be a restriction on the type of internships available to foreign non-students. **If you are not a Taiwanese national, and you are not a student, you may only apply for government agencies from the list of individual internships.**

D. Application Process

All foreign and domestic candidates must complete and submit an online application form, statement of purpose, and the following required documents between January 15th and February 8th, 2010 (Taiwan time). All applications and documentations must be submitted through our online application system. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

Required documents:

1. Identification document: Foreign interns please submit a copy of your passport data page (showing name, passport number, expiration date); if you do not have a passport, please submit another photo ID such as a national ID card or driver's license. Domestic interns please submit front and back copies of your ROC ID card.
2. Latest copy of an academic transcript.
3. Current resume.
4. For students: Front and back copies of a current student ID.
5. A photo within 3 months
6. Optional: copies of any awards, achievements, academic certificates, or letters of recommendation (limit to 5 pages total).

E. Review Process

Foreign applications will be assigned to the applicant's nearest ROC embassy, consulate, or representative office for initial screening; domestic applications will be assigned to the TTT Program Office in Taipei. All qualified applications will then be forwarded to host institutes for a review process. Based on applicants' qualifications, job skill requirements, and other review factors, the host institutes will decide which applicants they wish to accept. All decisions made by the hosts are final. In addition, to enable more overseas Taiwanese youths to experience Taiwan and its culture, applicants who have never participated in TTT are the priority in the host institutes' selection process.

Each applicant may select up to three internships in order of preference (first choice, second choice, etc). A candidate who has been simultaneously selected by two or more host institutes will be assigned to the institute of his/her highest preference. For instance, if a candidate has been accepted by her first-choice and third-choice institutes, she will be assigned to the first-choice institute. **Applicants shall also indicate in the application forms if they have first to third-degree relatives working in their selected host institutes to prevent a conflict of interest.**

