



Tzu Chi University

INCOMING EXCHANGE STUDENT'S FACT SHEET

Fall Semester 2024

University	Tzu Chi University (TCU) Main Campus- 701 Zhongyang Rd., Sec. 3, Hualien 97004, Taiwan. Jieren Campus- 67 Jieren St., Hualien 97074, Taiwan.
Country	Taiwan (Republic of China, R.O.C.)
City	Hualien
Webpage(TCU)	https://www.tcu.edu.tw/
Webpage(OIA)	https://oia.tcu.edu.tw/?page_id=1870
Office of International Affairs Contact	Elise Anne DeVido (Associate Professor) Dean of International Affairs. Email:devido@gms.tcu.edu.tw Tel: +886-3-8565-301 ext. 1023
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Academic Year/Semester Dates	Fall Semester: mid-September to mid-January Spring Semester: mid-February to the end of June <u>Fall 2024 Semester Dates</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nomination/Application Deadline: May 20, 2024 • Academic Year/Semester Dates: mid-September to mid-January.
Length of the Exchange Period	One academic year or one semester There are two semesters in every academic year, the fall semester and the spring semester, in which students can apply for exchange at TCU.
Online Exchange Students Application Period	Fall Semester: April 6 - May 20 Spring Semester: October 1 - November 11
2024 Academic Year Calendar	Please refer to 2024 TCU Academic Calendar EN TC for now.
Instruction Language	Chinese / English
Credit hours per Semester (TCU Credits)	At TCU, each course is normally worth 2-3 credits and meets 2-3 hours per week over 18 weeks (one semester). 1 credit = 1 hour per week over 18 weeks, 1 credit = 18 hours Approximately 1 TCU credit = 2 ECTS credits 1 TCU credit = 1 credit hour (North American credit system)
Courses (Webpage)	2024 Fall courses will be available in July/August 2024. Please refer to previous courses for you reference: https://edurp.tcu.edu.tw/scaswebadmin/annoclaslist.aspx
Courses Taught in English	https://academic.tcu.edu.tw/?page_id=2649



Mandarin Courses	<p>We offer credits for Mandarin Courses for exchange/international students. (from Beginning to Advanced)</p> <p>International College: https://intleng.tcu.edu.tw/?page_id=445</p> <p>Additional language courses are available at the Chinese Language Center (Tuition Based, with 10% discount): https://language.tcu.edu.tw/</p>
Application Procedure and Documents	<p>《Step 1 Eligibility》</p> <p>Home Institution Exchanges to TCU are only possible if your school has an exchange program to TCU and if you have been selected by your university. Please check with your school to see if they offer exchanges to TCU and what procedures you need to complete the selection.</p> <p>Application Deadline Once your home institution has selected you for an exchange, you must apply for TCU's exchange program. Please complete the application steps stated as follows and return it to your exchange advisor at your home institution. Please be aware of the TCU application deadlines for the semester/academic year you are applying.</p> <p>《Step 2 Online Application》</p> <p>1: Contact your university's exchange advisor. 2: You will receive the exchange nomination notice email from TCU after your advisor submits all the documents. 3: Application documents required: Please upload the following documents by deadline.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Online application for Fall 2024 Exchange Program: https://forms.gle/8eTaSZGMPsy64rZo7 - An official English transcript from home university (PDF); - A photocopy of passport information page (JPG); - An English or Chinese autobiography – at least 500 words (PDF); - An English or Chinese study plan & statement of purpose – at least 500 words (PDF); - A passport-size colored photo for registration procedure (JPG). ➤ Chinese Proficiency Evaluation (Only for students who had studied Chinese before): https://forms.gle/r9c1vzU5askX3p7u9
What International Students Need To Know	<p>TC: http://freshman.tcu.edu.tw/?page_id=2025 EN: https://tcueng.tcu.edu.tw/?page_id=2213</p>
Tuition Fees (If applicable)	<p>Base on the agreement between your university and TCU, your tuition might be waived.</p>
Costs of Living	<p>For reference only. https://tcueng.tcu.edu.tw/?page_id=2074</p>
Insurance	<p>International students are required to purchase insurance in their own country during their stay in Taiwan. Accident insurance is MANDATORY for all incoming exchange students. Students are requested to join an accident insurance plan as recommended by TCU. Students are required to purchase an insurance plan during the first</p>



	<p>week after arrival.</p> <p>-Accident and Health Insurance: TCU will assist you in acquiring health insurance coverage in Taiwan, which costs NT\$3,000 for a period of six months before you can join the National Health Insurance.</p> <p>-Student Group Insurance: The policy covers medical treatment, surgery and hospitalization caused by accidents only. Additional NT\$332 per semester.</p> <p>《ARC》 If you hold an Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) and have met the six-month minimum residency requirement, you can choose to join the National Health Insurance (NHI) with limited coverage. Valid NHI card (National Health Insurance card) can be considered an equivalent insurance.</p>
On-Campus Dormitory	<p>USD 275/NT 8,200 (Per semester/student)</p> <p>All international students will be provided with on-campus dormitory-style housing which costs about \$USD 275/ NT 8,200 per semester per student. Each room accommodates four students. However, based on the agreement between your university and TCU, your on-campus housing expense might be waived. Please consult with your exchange advisor.</p>
Arrival date	<p>All exchange students are required to arrive TCU at least 3 days before the semester starts.</p> <p>Please arrive at Taoyuan International airport around noon time since it takes more than 5 hours to arrive at our campus. Please keep your cell phone available and arrive at our campus on the recommended date to match the opening of the accommodation.</p> <p>NOTE: Please let us know if your arrival date/time differs from suggested by TCU.</p>
Airport Pick-Up	No provided.
Cell Phone	You need to buy a temporary SIM card at the airport and inform the Office of International Affairs of your phone number and contact information.

Before You Begin Your Exchange

《1. Visa application》

Before you come to Taiwan, you should apply for a **Resident** or **Visitor Visa** at the Taiwan Diplomatic Center in your residence country with the official admission letter issued by TCU.

Please note that if you fail to obtain a correct visa issued by a Taiwan Diplomatic Mission, your exchange program will be canceled. You will get more information upon receipt of a TCU offer letter.

Note: There is no “Student Visa” in Taiwan. Instead, Taiwan offers 2 types of Visas for foreign students:

1. Visitor Visa, 2. Resident Visa. If you are going to stay less than 6 months, you should apply for the visitor visa. If your program is longer than 6 months, you will need to apply for the resident visa.

Entry Visa and Alien Residence Certificate (ARC): https://oia.tcu.edu.tw/?page_id=4037

Students are responsible for applying for the correct visa type before entering Taiwan. For visa information please contact the closest Taiwan diplomatic center.

<https://www.mofa.gov.tw/OverseasOffice.aspx?n=168&sms=87>

《2. Email TCU Your Travel Information & Visa details》

Please provide your flight information and visa to Office of International Affairs **before August 16, 2024.**



《3.Finish Medical Examination》

-Stay less than 180 days: Health Certificate for Short-Term Students please **finish all the required items in your country**, which includes “Positive Measles and Rubella Antibody Titers or Measles and Rubella Immunization” and “Chest X-Ray for Tuberculosis”.

-Stay more than 180 days: Health Certificate for Residence Application

After Arrival TCU

《1. Pay Off Your Dormitory Fee – NT 8,200 Semester/Student》

-Pay by cash

《2. Pay Off Your Insurance Fee – NT 3,332 Semester/Student》

-Pay by cash

《3. Submit Your Medical Examination Report》

-Stay less than 180 days: Health Certificate for Short-Term Students

-Stay more than 180 days: Health Certificate for Residence Application

Please prepare the originals and the soft copies of immunization certificates, the chest X-ray report and translate it into English or Mandarin. Then, submit it to OIA when you arrive.

《4. Visitor Visa Extension/ Changing and Getting an Alien Resident Certificate (ARC)》

Please finish 「 International Exchange Student Leave-School Procedure Form 」 before leaving.

