

Program Deadline: **January 10, 2022, 5:00 PM Taiwan Time**

APPLY ONLINE ONLY: Program Application Page

<https://ais.americancouncils.org/tclptaiwan>

Important Notes:

- Teachers need to be confident using English.
- The capability of teaching simplified Chinese characters and using pinyin in a U.S. classroom setting is a bonus.
- Recommendation letters must be submitted in English. Recommenders can submit Google translation versions of their letters.

TAIWAN EXCHANGE TEACHER APPLICATION

2022 – 2023 Teachers of Critical Languages Program



Sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State

Implemented by American Councils for International Education



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2022 – 2023 Teachers of Critical Languages Program Taiwan Exchange Teacher Application

Sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State Implemented by American Councils for International Education in cooperation with American Institute in Taiwan

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Teachers of Critical Languages Program (TCLP) is sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), and implemented by American Councils for International Education. TCLP seeks to increase the study and acquisition of Arabic and Mandarin in U.S. schools. Each year, visiting teachers provide instruction to hundreds of primary and secondary students and serve as cultural resources in the host school and community. As part of the exchange, the visiting teachers learn more about U.S. teaching methodologies, culture, and society, and improve their English language proficiency.

PROGRAM ORGANIZATIONS

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of The U.S. Department of State

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State fosters mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries to promote friendly, and peaceful relations, as mandated by the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961.

ECA accomplishes its mission through a range of programs based on the benefits of mutual understanding, international educational and cultural exchange, and leadership development. ECA engages youth, students, educators, artists, athletes, and rising leaders in many fields in the United States and more than 160 countries through academic, cultural, sports, and professional exchanges. Striving to reflect the diversity of the United States and global society, ECA programs, funding, and other activities encourage the involvement of American and international participants from traditionally underrepresented groups, including women, racial and ethnic minorities, and people with disabilities.

ECA exchange program alumni encompass over one million people around the world, including more than 75 Nobel Laureates and nearly 450 current and former heads of state and government.

American Councils for International Education

American Councils for International Education is a premier, international nonprofit creating educational opportunities that prepare individuals and institutions to succeed in an increasingly interconnected and rapidly changing world. Through academic exchanges, overseas language immersion, data-focused research, and educational development programs, American Councils designs and implements innovative programs that broaden individual perspectives, increase knowledge, and deepen understanding. A leader in international education, academic exchange, language acquisition and assessment, and research, American Councils is helping to build a world of globally competent citizens, successful institutions, and responsible nations.

Eligibility Criteria

Candidates will be considered without respect to race, color, religion, sexual orientation, or gender. Competition for the TCLP is merit-based and open to anyone who:

- Is a resident of Taiwan;
- Is currently a full-time teacher of English as a Foreign Language or Chinese as a Foreign Language in a primary or secondary (K-12) school in Taiwan;
- At the time of application has at least four years of classroom teaching experience;
- Is prepared to teach for the entire U.S. academic year with leave time limited to school breaks;
- Has a firm understanding of Mandarin;
- Has at least a bachelor's degree;
- Demonstrates a commitment to continue teaching after completion of the program;
- Is proficient in written and spoken English; and
- Has submitted a complete application package (please see Application Checklist).

Individuals in the following circumstances are NOT eligible for the TCLP:

- U.S. citizens and permanent residents of the United States, or their spouses;
- Individuals currently participating in academic, training, or research programs in the United States;
- Individuals who have applied for U.S. permanent residency in the past three years;
- Individuals currently studying, residing, or working outside of Taiwan;
- Ministry of Education officials, full-time principals or educational administrators, full-time teacher trainers, education consultants, university faculty, private English Language tutors; and
- Individuals who have participated in an exchange visitor program sponsored by the U.S. government for a period of more than six weeks in the last five years.

Applications not meeting the above technical eligibility requirements will not be forwarded to the selection committee.

Program Provisions

TCLP is funded through the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), U.S. Department of State and provides:

- J-1 visa support;
- A pre-departure orientation held in the participant's home region;
- Round-trip travel from each participant's area of residence to and within the U.S.;
- A nine-day welcome orientation in Washington, DC;
- A teaching assignment of approximately 10.5-months in a U.S. host school;
- Professional development workshops;
- Accident and sickness health benefit plan;
- Assistance with finding housing, generally arranged by the U.S. host school/educational community;
- Living stipend of approximately \$20,000; and
- Housing in the form of a monthly housing allowance for the duration of the program, calculated based on average housing prices for the assigned host community.

Program Timeline

- Application deadline: **January 10, 2022, 5:00 PM Taiwan Time**
- Notification of program semi-finalists: Late February 2022
- Semi-finalist interviews in Taipei: Mid-March 2022
- Notification of program finalists: April 2022
- Pre-departure orientation in Taipei: June 2022
- Exchange program in the United States: August 2022-June 2023

Families may visit TCLP teachers during the academic program. However, the program is unable to offer financial support for family members of participants to come to the U.S. For those participants who decide to bring their family, the families can join them only after December 20, 2022.

Exchange teachers may not extend their program in the United States and are required to return to Taiwan after their program concludes in June 2023. Exchange teachers are also subject to the home residency requirement which obligates J-1 Exchange Program teachers to return to their area of residence and remain there for two years following completion of their program.

SELECTION PROCESS

Selection Process

The U.S. Department of State and American Councils will convene an independent panel that will review the applications based on the following:

- Professional and educational experience and achievements;
- Demonstrated leadership potential;
- Preparedness (including maturity, flexibility, and ability to function independently) for an intensive academic year in the U.S.;
- Ability to express ideas clearly and effectively;
- Demonstrated commitment to current pedagogy and willingness to adapt methodology;
- Willingness to co-teach in the U.S. classroom; and
- Potential for developing long-term linkages between U.S. and Taiwan educational institutions and schools.

Applicants who have had few or no opportunities to travel to the U.S. will be given priority.

Application Guidelines

- The TCLP application deadline is **January 10, 2022, 5:00 PM Taiwan Time**;
- To be considered for the program, please submit a complete application package online (please see Application Checklist for application package requirements);
- Incomplete application packages or packages submitted by fax or e-mail will not be accepted;
- Unless otherwise noted, please answer all questions in English;
- If a question does not apply to you, please enter N/A (not applicable);
- There is a limit of attachments per applicable question; if more than the requested amount is submitted, the application may be disqualified;
- Additional materials (such as student work or hand-outs) should NOT be included in the package; and
- Materials that require technical equipment (such as audio or videotapes) will not be reviewed by the selection committee.

Guidelines on Recommendation Form

All applicants must include:

- One completed recommendation form from a person who is the applicant's supervisor and is familiar with his/her professional work; it cannot be written by a family member. Recommendations must be submitted with the application by the application deadline. Recommendations submitted separately or submitted after the deadline will not be accepted. Please send the recommendation request link to your recommender as soon as you start the application.
- Please provide an English translation of the recommendation letter if it is not written in English. The translated letter does not need to be certified or notarized but should be clearly marked as a translation. Recommendation writers must submit their comments online through the TCLP application system.

The application package, including professional recommendation, should be received by American Councils via online submission no later than **January 10, 2022, 5:00 PM Taiwan Time**.

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For questions please contact:

In Taiwan:

Stella Chiu

ChiuSWH@state.gov

American Institute in Taiwan

No. 100, Jinhua Road, Neihu District 11461,

Taipei City, Taiwan Phone:

+886 2 2162-2000

OR in the U.S.: tclp@americancouncils.org