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GUIDE

VISA ESSENTIALS

Navigate the Visa Process with Ease



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YOUR VISA COMPANION

The information in this chapter is sensitive for changes, especially during the pandemic, so please double-check the current situation beforehand and keep yourself updated.

Most countries require a passport and a visa for long term residency and studying. The information given on this document is general. Please contact the Thai embassy in your home country before applying for a visa. Applying for a student visa is a part of your study abroad experience. Student visa holders are required fulfill the minimum study requirements set by the destination country and the host university. We recommend you have a look at the [visa instructions](#).

Students must keep in mind that the visa procedures vary from country to country, between different embassies in a country, and sometimes even depending on the clerk at the embassy. Asia Exchange recommends that students take care of visa-related matters before leaving for the destination. Check the latest updates on applying for visas, on the required documents, as well as on the opening hours of the embassy on the embassy's website, or by calling the embassy directly. The embassies are open according to the public and religious holidays of the country they represent, as well as the holidays of the country they are in.



Student Visa in Taiwan: Visitor Visa

A **visitor visa** for students in Taiwan is designed for those enrolling in short-term study programs that last less than 6 months (e.g., language courses, internships, or exchange programs). Here's a step-by-step guide for obtaining a visitor visa for student purposes in Taiwan:

1. Eligibility

- Students attending short-term study programs such as language courses, exchange programs, or certificate courses that are less than 6 months in duration.

2. Required Documents

When applying for a visitor visa as a student, you'll need to submit the following documents:

- **Completed Visa Application Form:** This can usually be filled out online via Taiwan's National Immigration Agency website or at your local **Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO)**.
- **Passport:** Your passport should be valid for at least 6 months beyond your intended stay, with blank pages for the visa.
- **Recent Passport-Sized Photos:** Two color passport-sized photos (usually 2 inches by 2 inches).
- **Letter of Admission/Enrollment:** A formal letter from the Taiwanese educational institution confirming your admission or enrollment in a short-term study program.
- **Proof of Financial Means:** Bank statements or financial guarantees showing you have enough funds to support yourself during your stay in Taiwan.
- **Flight Itinerary:** Proof of a return ticket or onward travel to another country after your stay.
- **Visa Application Fee:** Fees vary by country and visa type (single-entry or multiple-entry).

Additional Documents may be requested:

- **Health certificate** (depending on the program or institution).
- **Proof of accommodation** (e.g., dormitory confirmation or rental agreement).

3. Application Process

- **Submit Application:** You must apply at the nearest Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) or a Taiwanese embassy/consulate in your home country.
- **Processing Time:** Processing usually takes 3–5 business days but can take longer in certain cases. It's recommended to apply 2–4 weeks before your intended travel date.
- **Interview:** In some cases, the embassy may request an interview, but this is rare for student visas.

4. Duration of Stay

- A **visitor visa** for students is usually valid for an initial period of **60–90 days**, depending on your program.

- **Extensions:** If your program exceeds the initial stay duration, you may be able to apply for a **visa extension** at the National Immigration Agency in Taiwan. Extensions are usually granted for additional 60-day periods, up to a total of 180 days.

5. Health and Insurance

- Some institutions may require you to provide a **health certificate** (especially if you are studying for more than 3 months).
- While not mandatory for all visitor visas, it's highly recommended to have **health insurance** that covers your stay in Taiwan, as healthcare costs can add up.

6. Change of Visa Type

- If you decide to extend your studies beyond 6 months (e.g., enrolling in a full-degree program), you may be able to **change your visitor visa to a resident visa** while you're in Taiwan. You will need to apply for this through the immigration authorities in Taiwan.

Important Notes:

- **Visa-Free Countries:** Some countries have visa-exempt entry to Taiwan for short stays. If you are from one of these countries, you may not need a visa for short-term studies, but check the duration of stay allowed and whether it covers the length of your program.
- **COVID-19 Considerations:** Some COVID-19-related travel restrictions or requirements may still apply, including quarantine, health checks, or proof of vaccination. Always check the latest regulations before applying.

Copy of your passport

When travelling abroad, always carry a copy of your passport with you. It's also a good idea to have electronic copies of all your official documents in your email.



YOUR WAY ABROAD

The world has an interesting way of giving great experiences
to the ones who are passionate about their dreams.

Miia Muukkonen, Asia Exchange student

