

# **Act for the Recruitment and Employment of Foreign Professionals**

## **Qualifications for Foreign Special Professionals**

**National Development Council**

**March 5, 2018**





# 1. Recruitment of Foreign Special Professionals needed by industries

To enhance the recruitment and employment of foreign talent, NDC has formulated the “Act for the Recruitment and Employment of Foreign Professionals”, which **lifted the restrictions in current regulations in order to attract foreign professionals to stay, work and live in Taiwan**. This Act eliminates regulatory restrictions standing in the way of attracting foreign professionals to come to stay, work and live in Taiwan. It enables us to build a friendlier environment for recruiting international professionals.

**To facilitate the recruitment of international talent needed for our industrial upgrade**, and to assist the transition towards a high-tech and high added-value economy, relevant central competent authority has **stipulated specific qualifying conditions** for foreign special professionals in order to **recruit foreign talents who meet the specific criteria and possess specialized knowledge and skills**, such as having an average monthly salary over NT\$160,000, having won renowned internationally-recognized awards, or having a high international reputation and having been employed in foreign professional institutions.



## 2. Foreign Special Professionals can enjoy the benefits

- Issuance of Employment Gold Cards(Ministry of Interior) :

Foreign special professionals may apply to the National Immigration Agency, Ministry of the Interior for a **4-in-1 Employment Gold Card** that combines work permit, resident visa, Alien Resident Certificate and re-entry permit (**personal work permit, can freely change work**), with a duration of 1 to 3 years.(§8)

✧Applied through Foreign Professionals Online Application Platform

- Tax benefit(Ministry of Finance)

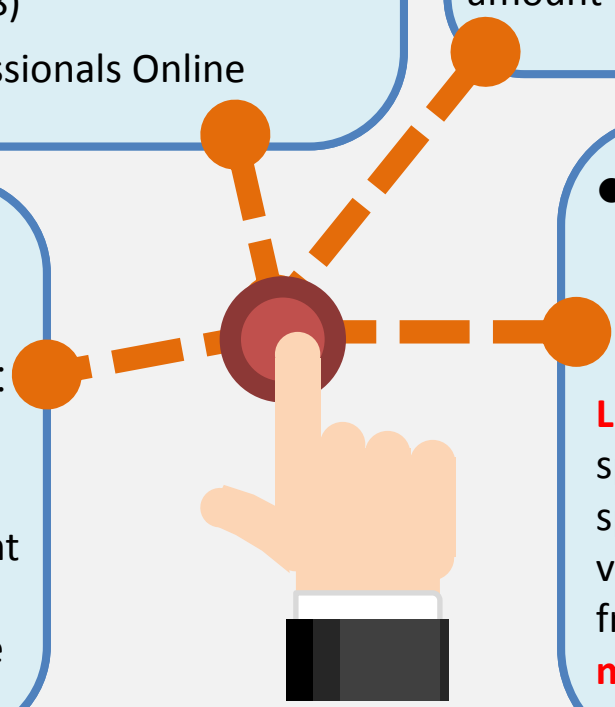
A foreign special professional with **first-time approval to work** in Taiwan can, for three years, enjoy the tax benefit of having the portion of their salary income above **NT\$3 million** counted at half its amount for assessment of income tax.(§9)

- Extension of Work and Residence Period for Foreign Special Professionals(Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Interior) :

The maximum duration of work permits for foreign special professionals taking up employment in Taiwan is extended from **3 years to 5 years**, and an extension can be applied for at its expiration.(§7)

- Extended family-visit stays for lineal ascendants(Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior) :

**Lineal ascendants** of foreign special professionals and their spouses can obtain family-visit visas for longer stays, extended from maximum of **6 months to maximum of 1 year**.(§13)





### 3. Foreign Special Professionals in the eight fields

Relevant central competent authority has stipulated the qualifying conditions for foreign special professionals who possess specialized knowledge or skill in the field of **science and technology, the economy, education, culture and the arts, sports, finance, law, and architectural design.**





## (1) The Field of Science & Technology - Ministry of Science and Technology

- A. The applicant has held, or currently holds, a position with a most recent **monthly salary of over NTD 160,000** in Taiwan or another country.
- B. Those **with unique talents or outstanding R&D ability or innovation performances** in such cutting-edge technological fields as software applications, software technology, nanotechnology, optoelectronics, information and communication, communication transmission technology, automation system integration technology, material application technology, high precision sensing technology, biological technology, resources development or energy saving, frontier scientific research, and national defense and military strategies.
- C. Those **with unique talents , outstanding R&D ability or innovation performances** in forward-looking technologies such as AI, IoT, AU, blockchain, VR, robots, and additive manufacturing.
- D. Nobel laureates, Tang Prize recipients, Wolf Prize recipients, Fields Medal recipients, or recipients of other **internationally-recognized awards** at an equivalent level.



## (1) The Field of Science & Technology - Ministry of Science and Technology

- E. **Academician at a national academy of sciences or scholar at an equivalent national level.**
- F. The applicant has currently or has previously been a **university chair professor, professor, associate professor, or research institution researcher** or associate research researcher, has important academic contributions or **important professional works, or has earned recognition for published research results during the most recent three years.**
- G. Those who have received a **Ph.D. degree** and have continued to practice in their professional field, or who perform research at research institutions, or who **perform technology research and development or management at institutions of science and technology for more than four years.**
- H. Those who have special expertise or perform science and technology research and development or management work at institutions of science and technology, and **whose distinctive abilities are very uncommon both in Taiwan and abroad.**
- I. Holders of a Ph.D. degree who possess special expertise **that is lacking in Taiwan.**



## (2) The Field of Economy - Ministry of Economic Affairs

- A. Previously or currently holding a position in a foreign state or in the ROC with a most **recent monthly salary of at least NT\$160,000.**
- B. Those who have held positions as an operations, technical, or marketing executive of an **R&D center, operations headquarter, or transnational corporation established in Taiwan.**
- C. Those with professional technical capabilities related to crucial products, key components, or service models of industries, have acquired **a doctoral (or above) degree in related fields** from local or foreign universities, and have either received **an international invention and innovation award or have four plus years of work experience in related fields.**
- D. Those who have **held professional or interdisciplinary integration positions** in corporations of the manufacturing industry and relevant technical service industries such as that of semiconductors, optoelectronics, information and communication, electrical and electronic design, biomedical material, precision machinery, transportation, systems integration, consultancy, and green energy, and have also **eight plus years of work experience in related fields.**
- E. Those recognized by the relevant central competent authority as outstanding professional talents or have transnational experiences for which there is a **shortage of, and are of extreme demand,** in Taiwan.



### (3) The Field of Education - Ministry of Education

- A. They graduated with a **doctoral degree** from one of **the top 200 universities** in the most recent QS World University Rankings or Times Higher Education World University Rankings.
- B. They have been engaged in **teaching and research** for more than five years, and in the past five years, they have worked at one of the **top 500 universities** in the most recent QS World University Rankings or Times Higher Education World University Rankings.
- C. They have won a **Yushan (Young) Scholar award** in Taiwan.
- D. Their most recent monthly salary in a former or current position in another country or in Taiwan was **at least NT\$160,000**.





## (4) The Cultural and Artistic Field - Ministry of Culture

### A. Performing arts

- Previously serving as member of international arts organization, or assuming post of significant capacity in governmental agency or private organization related to culture and arts;
- Currently or previously being **major or significant member** of hosting international arts event (including, but not limited to major arts festival);
- Previously receiving internationally or domestically **recognized award, or serving in judge panel of abovementioned award**; or
- other individuals reviewed and validated by the Ministry of Culture.

### B. Visual arts

- Previously **serving as member of international arts organization**, or assuming post of significant capacity in governmental agency or private organization related to culture and arts;
- Currently or previously being major or significant member of hosting international arts event (including, but not limited to **major arts fair or biennial**);
- Previously receiving internationally or domestically recognized award, or serving in judge panel of abovementioned awards; or
- other individuals reviewed and validated by the Ministry of Culture.

### C. Publishing

- Currently or previously serving **as chief editor or senior manager of major international media or publishing house**, or as copyright agent, with at least **10 years'** experience in publishing or mass communications;
- Currently or previously serving as **professor at foreign university in publishing** or related mass communications disciplines;
- Holding doctorate in publishing-related disciplines and **receiving international academic prize**;
- Receiving **the highest publishing-related honor** in the country of origin or comparable international honor;
- Serving as **curator** for major international publishing event; or,
- other individuals reviewed and validated by the Ministry of Culture.



## (4) The Cultural and Artistic Field - Ministry of Culture

### D. Audiovisual and Pop Music

- **Previously nominated for or awarded** “Category I” award (or award of equal standing) as defined in the Regulations for Funding **Film** Industry and Film Professionals’ Participation in International Festivals established by the Bureau of Audiovisual and Music Industry Development under the Ministry of Culture;
- Previously nominated for or received a Grammy Award or a **BRIT Award**;
- Previously nominated for or awarded **international television prize** (including, but not limited to Emmy, BAFTA or Seoul Drama Award); or,
- other individuals reviewed and validated by the Ministry of Culture.

### E. Handicrafts

- Previously **awarded in nationally or internationally recognized competition** relevant to handicraft;
- Previously **recognized as preserver of handicraft techniques** by nationally or internationally recognized organization or foreign government; or,
- other individuals reviewed and validated by the Ministry of Culture.

### F. Cultural adminis tration

- **Previously serving in culture and arts department of domestic or foreign government, or culture and arts institutions** established by law or as expert or researcher, having culture and arts portfolio with outstanding performance in addition;
- Currently or previously serving international non-governmental organization, having culture and arts portfolio with outstanding performance in addition; or,
- other individuals reviewed and validated by the Ministry of Culture.



## (5) The Field of Sports - Ministry of Education

- A. Have placed in **the top three in an international sports competition** at least once or possess outstanding skills that will help **raise the level of competitiveness of sport in Taiwan**.
  
- B. Have served as a **national team coach, an international sports competition referee or achieved outstanding competition results** that will help raise the level of competitiveness of sport in Taiwan.



## (6) The Field of Finance - Financial Supervisory Commission

- A. Previously or currently holding a position in a foreign state or in the ROC with a most recent **monthly salary of at least NT\$160,000**.
- B. Those who have served in a professional position in a financial institution, and are talent with **outstanding professional ability or cross-border experience much-needed by the country**.
- C. Those who are **recommended by the Financial Supervisory Commission (FSC)**, and a relevant financial peripheral institution or association.
- D. A present or former chairman, general manager, director, **supervisor, or important senior executive** of a financial institution.
- E. **Financial professionals** needed by the government to promote key industries (such as **financial technology, e-commerce**, digital economy, technology management, and green energy technology, etc.).
- F. Other potential contributors to the country's financial industry.



## (7)The Field of Law - Ministry of Justice

(Should meet the following conditions)

- A. Previously or currently holding a position in a foreign state or in the ROC with a most recent **monthly salary of at least NT\$160,000**.
- B. **Having obtained an ROC foreign legal affairs attorney license.**
- C. Previously or currently holding a position outside the ROC as a chair professor, professor, associate professor or assistant professor of a university, or as a research fellow, associate research fellow or assistant research fellow of a research institution.
- D. Holding a law related **executive position** or above in a law firm or corporation.
- E. Having been **recommended by the Taiwan Bar Association**.



## (8) The Field of Architecture - Ministry of Interior

(Should meet the following conditions)

- A. **With a foreign or ROC's architect's license**, or possessing at least **five years** of design or supervise building construction matters experience in architectural firms or offices.
  
- B. Previously or currently holding a position in a foreign state or in the ROC with a most recent **monthly salary of at least NT\$160,000**.

## 4. Contact information of relevant ministries

Ministry	Name	Phone	Ministry	Name	Phone
<b>(1) Qualification of Foreign Special Professionals</b>					
Ministry of Science and Technology (Science & Technology)	Ms. Wang (王瑛瑛)	(02)2737-7105	Ministry of Education(Sports)	Mr. Wang (王力恆)	(02)8771-1932
	Ms. Tang (唐琬珊)	(02)2737-7131			
Ministry of Economic Affairs(Economy)	Ms. Lin (林文琦)	(02)2754-1255 #2616	Financial Supervisory Commission(Finance)	Ms. Chen (陳靜芳)	(02)8968-0080
Ministry of Education(Education)	Ms. Zhuang (莊祐瑄)	(02)7736-5904	Ministry of Justice(Laws)	Ms. Zhou (周元華)	(02)2191-0189 #2340
Ministry of Culture(Culture and Arts)	Ms. Wang (汪孟哲)	(02)8512-6772	Ministry of Interior(Architecture)	Ms. Lai (賴玲玲)	(02)8771-2880
<b>(2) Issuance of Employment Gold Cards(Ministry)</b>					
Ministry of Interior	Mr. Yang (楊英聰)	(02)2388-9393#2558	Ministry of Labor	Ms. Lin (林富晨)	(02)2380-1720
	Mr. Li (李宗寰)	(02)2388-9393#2205	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Ms. Zhang (張婉君)	(02)3343-5599
<b>(3) Extension of Work and Residence Period for Foreign Special Professionals</b>			<b>(4) Family Visit Stay of Lineal Ascendants</b>		
Ministry of Labor	Mr. Zheng (鄭哲欣)	(02)8995-6177	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Ms. Wang (王金蘭)	(02)2343-2896
	Mr. Zhang (張維釗)	(02)2380-1714			
Ministry of Interior	Ms. Weng (翁靜如)	(02)2388-9393#2556	Ministry of Interior	Ms. Liu (劉佳閔)	(02)2388-9393#1057
<b>(5) Reduction or Exemption of Income Tax of Foreign Special Professionals</b>					
Ministry of Finance	Ms. Qiu (邱筱惟)	(02)2322-8123	For more information, please contact National Taxation Bureau.		



# End of Briefing

Please let us have your comments and suggestions.