

Selection Committee's Report on the Selection of the 2023 – 2024 FSE Mandarin Educator Awards

I. Announcements:

FSE Mandarin Educator Awards provide qualified TCSL educators with the opportunity to serve as TCSL private instructors for the Critical Language Enhancement Award (CLEA) of the US Department of State. Instructors work with American Fulbright Master's Degree Program grantees, who receive 16 weeks of support for intensive Mandarin study (10 hours per week) in Taiwan. As language teaching professional instructors, FSE Mandarin Educators enhance the Master's Degree Program students' Mandarin learning through private tutoring and cultural activities.

Locations of American Fulbright Master's Degree Program students (2023-2024):

- Taipei: 7 (3 have studied Chinese for more than 2 years; 2 for 1-2 years, 2 beginner)
- New Taipei City: 1 (has studied Chinese for more than 2 years)
- Hsinchu City: 1 (beginner)
- Tainan: 1 (beginner)

The grant period is 16 weeks, starting from September 1st to December 22nd, 2023. With Selection Committee approval, renewal for a second and final 16 weeks may be considered. Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program (FLTA) alumni are preferred when all factors are equal.

Announcements and grant descriptions were placed on FSE's websites (www.fulbright.org.tw, www.educationusa.tw) and Facebook fan pages (<https://www.facebook.com/FulbrightTaiwan> and <https://www.facebook.com/educationusatw>).

II. Applications:

Many inquired, and in the end twenty-two (22) complete applications were

received.

III. Selection Committee:

Among twenty-two (22) applicants, one (1) is disqualified for her availability of teaching online only, and one withdrew her application before interview, which left us twenty (20) applicants for the selection.

Applicants were scheduled for 35-minute interviews, including a 3-minute self-introduction in English, 20-minute teaching demonstration in Mandarin, and 10-minute follow-up questions in Mandarin/ English, conducted on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, from 9:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. in two concurrent panels in the Conference Room and E.D.'s office of the Foundation. 8 candidates conducted their interviews online for tight schedules.

IV. Ranking Criteria:

Selection for the FSE Mandarin Educator Awards is based on a number of factors, including English and Chinese proficiency, personality, teaching experience, understanding of US culture, awareness of the value of intercultural exchange, and intellectual capacity. Besides these generally applied factors, no specific criteria were added by the selection committee.

The applicants' rankings were based on the average of ranking points (between 1 for not recommended to 5 for highly recommended) from committee members.