

Selection Committee's Report on the Selection of the 2024 – 2025 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 (2024-2025):

- Taipei and New Taipei: 7 (4 have studied Chinese for more than 2 years; 1 for 1-2 years, 2 beginner)
- Hsinchu City: 1 (have studied Chinese for more than 2 years)
- Tainan: 1 (have studied Chinese for more than 2 years)

The grant period is 16 weeks, starting from September 1st to December 31st, 2024. 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 fifteen (15) complete applications were received. Among them, six (6) applied for the second-year of this award, one (1) from 2022-2023 cohorts, and five (5) from 2023-2024 cohorts.

III. Selection Committee:

Among fifteen (15) applicants, three (3) were rejected after reviewing their videos, for not speaking clearly or no confidence, and six (6) renewals were accepted based on their previous performance at FSE and this-year application package, which left us six (6) applicants for the selection.

Applicants were scheduled for 20-minute interviews, including a 2-minute self-introduction in English, 15-minute teaching demonstration in Mandarin, and 3-minute follow-up questions in Mandarin/ English, conducted on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. in the

Conference Room of the Foundation. One candidate conducted her interview online for tight schedules. One foreign student who has studied in Taiwan for two years was invited to be a student in the teaching demonstration.

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.