

Taiwan Global Pathfinders Initiative

iYouth Talent Program

Opportunity Development Guidelines

Revised: July 8, 2025

Revised: November 13, 2025

Revised: March 16, 2026

Revised: May 21, 2026

Revised: Aug 26, 2026

- I. **In accordance with:** Taiwan Global Pathfinders Initiative - iYouth Talent Program (Approved by the official note No. 1131023182 of the Executive Yuan on November 4, 2024).
- II. **Eligible Cooperating (Proposing) Units:**
 1. Central government ministries and their affiliated agencies/organizations.
 2. County and City Governments.
 3. Public and private universities, colleges, and high schools/vocational high schools.
 4. Registered legal entities, institutions, or non-governmental organizations.
 5. Civil society or companies in specialized professional fields.
- III. **Target Audience, Quota, and Eligibility:**
 1. Youth or high school/vocational high school students 15 to under 18 years old must participate as a group (departing and returning together). Each project may accept up to 20 participants (excluding accompanying mentors).
 2. Youth from 18 to 30 years old should be carried out in an “individual” or “group” way, and the group is limited to the maximum of 20 people (excluding accompanying mentors).
 3. Project eligibility for youth must specify only one target group:

either "aged 15 to under 18" or "aged 18 to 30"; projects should not cover both age categories simultaneously.

4. Eligibility Criteria:

- (1) The opportunities provided by cooperating (proposing) units must adhere to principles of fairness and impartiality, open to all youth who meet the age limits. They should not be restricted to specific schools, departments, or organization members, and priority should be given to youth from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- (2) County and City Governments may set a "Local Youth Priority Quota," which must not exceed 1/2 of the total participant quota. Senior High/Vocational Schools and Colleges/Universities may set an "Enrolled Youth Priority Quota," which must not exceed 1/3 of the total participant quota. Review Requirement: Candidates for priority admission must still undergo document and interview reviews. They may only be included in the priority quota if they achieve a review panel score of 80 points or above (out of a total of 100 points).
- (3) If specific language proficiency, professional background, certifications, or relevant experience are required due to the project content or practical needs of the mentorship organization, the Cooperating (Proposing) Unit must categorize these requirements based on actual needs into "**Mandatory Conditions**" and "**Priority Conditions**," clearly stating them in the proposal:
 - i. **Mandatory Conditions:** Must be strictly limited to prerequisites essential for completing the project or mentorship content. Conditions that are not directly relevant to the project or that excessively restrict application eligibility should not be imposed.
 - ii. **Priority Conditions:** Conditions such as language proficiency,

professional background, or relevant experience may be established based on project needs (e.g., English proficiency at CEFR B2 level preferred, Japanese JLPT N2, over 5 years of music performance experience preferred), these must be clearly indicated in the prospectus as "preferred" qualifications rather than the sole admission criteria, to retain flexibility in selection.

- (4) The final list of admitted participants will be determined through proposal evaluations and interviews conducted by experts and scholars in corresponding fields appointed by the Youth Development Administration (YDA), Ministry of Education, selecting youth based on their suitability.

IV. Program Content and Themes:

When planning overseas dream projects, the cooperating (proposing) units shall focus on broadening youth's international perspectives and accumulating professional practical experience. It is expected that upon returning, the youth will apply their learnings to give back to society and contribute to the development of related fields in the nation.

1. The primary mode of execution should be in-depth on-site internships, including training, service, learning, practical training and exchange, etc. Aimed at strengthening communication with international youth and organizations. Superficial sightseeing itineraries must be avoided.
2. Itinerary and Location Planning:
 - (1) Priority for internship locations and on-site institutions should be given to international organizations, agencies, professional hubs, or specific workplaces that are not open for public visit or tourism in general.
 - (2) Project locations should generally be fixed areas or specific institutions, adhering strictly to the principle of one country(one city). Frequent cross-regional movements should be avoided

unless necessitated by special project themes that require attending essential conferences or exhibitions.

- (3) Weekday itineraries should concentrate on professional learning and practical engagement, while sightseeing and cultural experiences should be scheduled during weekends or holidays.
 - (4) Destination countries must be designated as Level Yellow or below on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Travel Advisory scale.
3. Domestic Pre-departure Training: To equip youth with necessary prerequisite knowledge and skills before departure, cooperating (proposing) units may organize pre-departure training. The content must be rigorous and directly aligned with the project's overseas goals. Units must outline the number of sessions, tentative schedule, content, format and location; the total duration should ideally not exceed 2 days (16 hours).
 4. Project Categories: The content includes, but is not limited to, 19 thematic areas: History and Culture, Arts Exchange (Music, Fine Arts, Performing Arts), Electrical/Electronic and Mechanical Engineering, Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action, Health Promotion and Social Care, Educational Cooperation and Learning, Social Engagement and Volunteer Service, Startup Incubation and Industry Exchange, Community Revitalization and Tourism Development, Fashion Design and Aesthetics, Diplomacy and Public Policy, Sports Exchange, Animal Conservation and Ecological Care, Culinary Arts, Digital Applications and Media, Finance and Economics, Disaster Prevention and Management, Biomedical Sciences, and Others.
 5. Excluded Categories: To avoid resource duplication, projects already offering grants or subsidies under other ministries, such as sports and arts competitions, academic research, study abroad programs, and working holidays, cannot be submitted as proposals

under this program.

V. Implementation Period:

1. Program Execution Period: April 1, 2027, to February 29, 2028.
The itinerary must be a minimum of 15 days (excluding travel time) and generally a maximum of 180 days.
2. Phase I Departure Time: Depart after April 1, 2027.
3. Phase II Departure Time: Depart after July 1, 2027.

VI. Budgeting Guidelines:

1. The funding for this program functions as the "Youth Practice Incentive", which aims to subsidise the necessary expenses for youth participating in overseas dream projects. All expenditures shall be **verified and reported** (except for meals, local public transportation and miscellaneous expenses, other, and administrative expenses in living expenditures). The cooperating (proposing) units must allocate budgets based on the principle of non-duplication of resources.
2. Budgets must be compiled uniformly in New Taiwan Dollars (NTD), using an exchange rate of USD 1 = NTD 32 for conversions. The total combined amount of all expenses must be evenly divisible by the total number of youth participants (excluding mentors) to facilitate disbursement operations.
3. If the participant fails to execute the project as planned, and their performance is deemed unsatisfactory and no improvement is made, YDA reserves the right to reduce the amount of the awarded funds based on the proportion of execution of the project, and reclaim the funds which has been disbursed.
4. Eligible Budget Items (For detailed calculation methods, please refer to the "sample budget calculation table" and budget according to market rates. Eligible expenses are limited to the categories specified in this project.):
(1) Airfare:

- i. Round-trip economy class fares between Taiwan and the host city.
 - ii. Cross-city travel economy class fares.
 - iii. If there are accompanying mentors' airfares, these can be listed in this item. (Please list the airfares for youths and accompanying mentors separately.)
- (2) Living Expenses (Includes meals, accommodation, and local transportation.)
- i. Please refer to the "Table of Daily Living Allowances for Central Government Personnel Dispatched Abroad" for compiling living expenses. The calculation formula is as follows: during the round-trip flight period, the daily living expenses are calculated 30% of the local daily living expenses; from the first day of the internship to the 15th day, the daily living expenses are capped at 100%; from the 16th to the 30th day are capped at 75%; from the 31st to the 90th day are capped at 50%; and from the 91st day onwards are capped at 25%.
 - ii. Youth's Allowance (95% of the daily subsistence rate) covers meals, accommodation, and local transportation; Youth's Pocket Money (5% of the daily subsistence rate) is for personal use by the youth. Youth's Allowance and Pocket Money must be itemized separately and shall not be combined.
 - iii. Receipts are not required for meals, local public transportation, and miscellaneous expenses; however, receipts are still required for accommodation, local car rental / charter fees.
 - iv. If there are accompanying mentors' living expenses, these can be listed in this item. (Please list the living expenses for youths and accompanying mentors separately.)
- (3) Cross-city travel transportation fees: This item covers only intercity travel necessary for project implementation. Local transportation has already been factored into the living

- expenses and must not be double-budgeted. (Please budget based on the actual itinerary and provide the receipt of local car rental / charter fees.
- (4) Registration and course-related fees for conferences / events / visits: A detailed list of the unit price for each registration and course-related fees must be provided, along with supporting receipts. Overseas venue rental fees and lecturer fees can be listed in this item.
 - (5) Insurance Fees: Must cover at least NTD 2 million to 3 million in accident insurance and NTD 200K to 500K in overseas medical insurance, including coverage for accompanying mentors.
 - (6) Lecturer Hourly Fees: Fees for "Pre-departure Training" lecturers are budgeted based on internal (NTD 1,000) or external (NTD 2,000) rates; the same applies to local lecturers abroad, but this cannot duplicate with the aforementioned Registration and course-related fees for conferences / events / visits.
 - (7) Accompanying mentors' Fees:
 - i. Each mentor will provide guidance and support to each youth at a rate of NT\$1,000 per session (for projects lasting less than one month, follow-up guidance will be provided weekly; for programs lasting more than one month, follow-up guidance will be provided every two weeks; guidance provided during overseas trips will be verified and recorded on a per-person basis).
 - ii. Within one month of returning to Taiwan, mentors must assist the youth in submitting their project reports and videos, and may allocate a fee for each participant's one-time mentoring session.
 - (8) Domestic Venue Rental Fees: The venue rental fee required for

implementing this project (including domestic pre-departure training or sharing after returning) must be listed with the unit price of each venue usage and verified for reimbursement.

- (9) Equipment Rental Fees: Shared costs for computers, instruments, or software (including overseas and domestic pre-departure training) are strictly limited to rentals (no purchases), and the expenses need to be verified and reimbursed.
- (10) Visa Fees: Specific visa types must be stated, and processing fees must be budgeted upon verification. (Please list the visa fees for youths and accompanying mentors separately.)
- (11) Translation Fees: General translation/interpretation is handled by mentors. If professional translation is strictly necessary in a classroom setting, limited to one translator per day, providing justifications. Budgeted by required hours/days, capped at NT\$ 10,000 per day.
- (12) Printing costs (maximum 3% of total budget): Costs for printing and binding the documents required for this project.
- (13) Miscellaneous Expenses (maximum 3% of total budget): Such as postage or other necessary fees
- (14) Administrative Management Fees (maximum 5% of total budget): Administrative expenses incurred in implementing this project.

Note: The calculation of "total budget" mentioned above does not include printing costs, other and miscellaneous expenses, and administrative management fees.

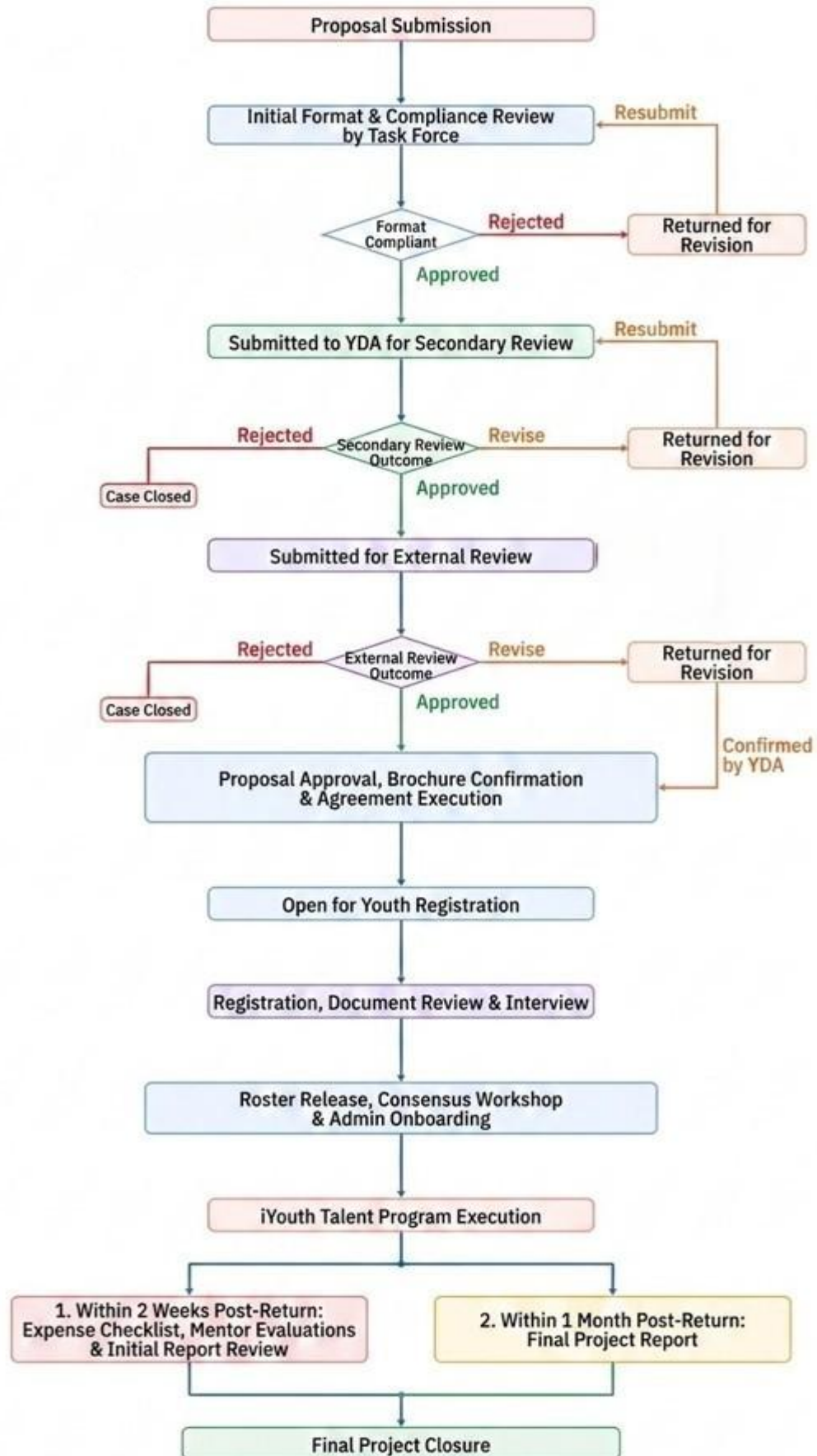
5. Excluded Budget Items:

- (1) Transportation, Accommodation and Meal Allowance for Pre-departure Training: Covered under "Miscellaneous Expenses".
- (2) Airport Transfer Fees: Covered by the daily living allowance for the departure and return days.
- (3) Personnel Costs: Covered under " Administrative Management

Fees ".

VII. Project Review and Approval Notification:

The projects submitted by each cooperating (proposing) unit will undergo preliminary review by the Youth Development Administration of the Ministry of Education and a secondary review by external expert committee members. The review process is as follows.



VIII. Schedule (Important timelines for execution by cooperating (proposing) units): (Rolling adjustments will be made based on requirements)

Actions to be Taken	Phase I Schedule	Phase II Schedule
Submission of Implementation Plan from the Cooperating (Proposing) Units	Early June to July 15, 2026	Early September to October 15, 2026
Preliminary Review by YDA Task Force; Cooperating (Proposing) Units revise based on the first feedback (return within 7 days)	July 20 to September 7, 2026	October 16 to December 9, 2026
Secondary Review by YDA; Cooperating (Proposing) Units revise based on the secondary feedback (return within 7 days)		
External Review by Experts		
Cooperating (Proposing) Units revise based on the experts feedback (return within 7 days), provide grant account info for the funds and contact person		
The cooperating (proposing) unit shall provide an agreement/certificate of the internship unit, a list of mentors, a confirmed version of the announcement project, a brief announcement brochure, and a stamped agreement.	September 8 to October 29, 2026	December 10, 2026 to February 17, 2027
Open for Application	October 30, 2026	February 18, 2027
Application Deadline	November 30, 2026	March 18, 2027
Document Review for Youth	December 8 to	March 29 to April 14,

Applications	December 24, 2026	2027
Interviews for Youth Applications	January 7 to January 29, 2027	April 26 to May 15, 2027
Admission Announcement & List Shared with Cooperating (Proposing) Units	February 15, 2027	May 20, 2027
Cooperating (Proposing) Units Consensus Camp (Provide a participant agreement signed by the mentor.) (Online)	Early March, 2027	Early June, 2027
Youth Dream Fund Disbursement & Pre-departure Consensus Camp for Youth	Mid March, 2027	Late June, 2027
iYouth Talent Program Execution	After early April 2027 (Please allocate time for visa processing)	After early July 2027 (Please allocate time for visa processing)
	All projects must return by February 29, 2028	
Submit the Fund Execution Checklist, and a preliminary review of the youth's final reports and videos.	Within one month after completion of the program	

IX. Other Important Notes:

1. At the time of submission, in addition to the project proposal, the proposing entity must attach letters of intent (LOI) or official letters of cooperation (in any format) from all overseas host units. These documents must be submitted no later than January 18, 2027.
2. This project shall assign 1 to 2 certified mentors to provide consultation, guidance, counseling records, and performance evaluations while the youth are abroad. The mentor list must be submitted to facilitate follow-up tracking, complete mentorship

tracking forms, and assist the youth upon their return in completing their final reports and videos (including overall coordination for the final exhibition). Mentors must report truthfully based on actual interactions and professional observations, and sign the 'Agreement on Project Participation and Mentor Duties.' Mentors who fail to sign and submit this agreement will not be issued a mentor certificate. Mentorship Guidelines: • For internship periods under one month: Follow-up tracking shall be conducted once per week (remaining days under one week are excluded). • For internship periods of one month or more: Follow-up tracking shall be conducted once every two weeks (remaining days under two weeks are excluded). • Post-return assistance: Mentors must assist the youth in submitting the final report once upon their return. Mentor guidance fees may be budgeted based on the actual number of youth guided.

3. If the project involves accompanying mentors, 1 mentor may be assigned when youth participants exceed 5, and 2 mentors may be assigned when exceeding 15. During the youth's overseas trip, the mentors will handle the youth's guidance records and scoring matters, and assist in guiding the youth's final reports and videos after their return. However, the principle is that the selected accompanying mentors must accompany the youth throughout the project period.
4. When submitting proposals, cooperating (proposing) units must determine the appropriate visa type in accordance with the Visa and Entry Information of the Bureau of Consular Affairs (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and the actual requirements of each program. They must specify the visa type, pay close attention to visa regulations, and factor in estimated processing times when determining departure dates and schedules (e.g., German visas may require approximately 2-3 months).

5. When submitting proposals, cooperating (proposing) units must designate a primary contact person when submitting the project to assist with responding to applicants' inquiries.
6. Following the external review approval, cooperating (proposing) units must stamp and return two copies of the agreement provided by the YDA. cooperating (proposing) units must also sign an agreement with the partner organization or provide documentation confirming mutual intent (format not restricted) for joint execution. After reaching a consensus, the cooperating (proposing) unit and the partner organization should provide a list of one or two mentors to facilitate arrangements for follow-up mentoring and for the mentors to complete the follow-up mentoring evaluation form.
7. When confirming the finalized announcement version, the cooperating (proposing) unit must verify the complete project content. Once announced, project details (including duration, quota, budget, execution countries/cities) cannot be changed. In case of unforeseen circumstances, units must proactively contact the project team and obtain YDA approval before adjusting.
8. Disbursement of Youth Dream Fund (Grants): This program provides financial support through the “Youth Practice Incentive.” The disbursement methods are outlined as follows:
 - (1) The grant will be disbursed to both the partner (proposing) unit and the selected youth based on the budget items and target recipients, or fully disbursed to the youth.
 - (2) The grant will first be disbursed to the collaborating (proposing) unit (domestic or overseas account is acceptable, only one account number can be provided), and then the collaborating (proposing) unit will reimburse the selected youth for any related expenses they wish to cover.
 - (3) Note: Transaction and handling fees may vary across intermediary and receiving banks. The actual amount received may be less than

the amount disbursed; please cover any shortfall using funds from "Miscellaneous Expenses."

9. The cooperating (proposing) unit shall collect the project final materials (including the final videos and the reports) from the youth and provide the cooperating (internship) unit's fund execution checklist (**all funds directly into the cooperating unit shall be subject to fund audit according to the project, and the unit shall provide the receipts to the youth if the grant are transferred**), and the mentor follow-up guidance score sheet. After the materials are compiled and reviewed, they shall be submitted to the Project Team.
10. If the proposal includes both a general proposal and a Dream-Empowerment Support Plan, the shared funding items such as venue usage fees, registration fees for meetings/activities/visits to institutions and course-related fees should be allocated and listed according to the proportion of youth participating in each proposal.