

Launching Your Career in Taiwan: Three Key Policy Updates for 2026

# International Student Graduates Can Now Work Freely During Their Extension of Stay

## Freedom to Work for International Student Graduates

The 2-year post-graduation extension allows you to explore job opportunities and build your career in Taiwan freely.

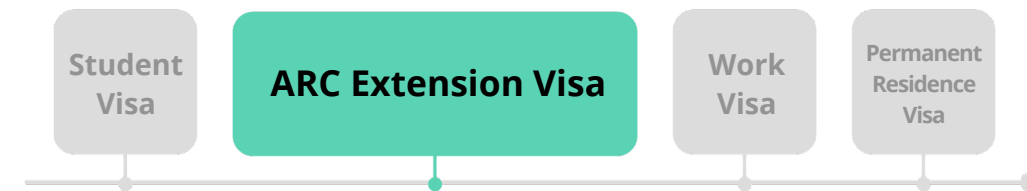
## Exemption from Work Permit Requirements

No work permit required from the Ministry of Labor (MOL). With your Extension of Stay ARC, you can start working legally and immediately.

## No Restrictions on Industries or Job Categories

Open to full-time and part-time positions across all industries and occupations. Gain practical experience across all sectors.





# Extension of Stay After Graduation

## Your First Step to Staying in Taiwan

### Three Key Points at a Glance:

Eligible Applicants | Length of Stay | Planning for Your Extension Period

### Eligible Applicants

#### International Students for Associate degrees or above

- International students include both Overseas Compatriot students and international students
- Graduated from a college or university in Taiwan
- Never entered work-based residence status

### Length of Stay

#### Up to 2 years (1 year + 1 year)

- Apply for a 1-year extension of your residency permit after graduation
- A maximum of 2 years (a 1-year extension with a 1-year renewal)

### 3. Planning for Your Extension Period

#### Build Relevant Work Experience

Gain hands-on experience related to your future career.

#### Strengthen Language & Professional Skills

Improve your Mandarin or professional skills for the workplace.

#### Plan Ahead for Full-Time Employment

Discuss future hiring plans with employers early.

#### Prepare for Your Next Residence Status

Get ready for work-based residence options, such as the Points-Based System.

**The period of Extension of Stay cannot be counted toward permanent residency.**

**Only after obtaining a work-based residence permit can this period be accumulated for the purpose of applying for permanent residency.**

# Before vs. After the New Policy

## What Are the Key Differences?

	Before the New Policy <small>before December 31, 2025</small>	After the New Policy <small>after January 1, 2026</small>
Work During Extension	Not allowed	Can work legally
Work Permit	Obtain work permit to switch residence status to work	No work permit required
Employment Types	Extension residence holders are NOT allowed to work	Both part-time and full-time positions are allowed
Job Scope		No industry or job restrictions



# A Complete Guide to the Application Process

## How to Apply for an Extension of Stay

### STEP 1

#### Prepare Required Documents

- Application form\*
- ARC
- Graduation certificate
- Passport (valid for at least 6 months)
- 3.5 x 4.5cm ID Photo
- Fee: NT\$1,000

### STEP 2

#### Apply in Person at NIA

Within 30 days before your current residence permit expires, bring the required documents and apply in person at a local NIA service center

### STEP 3

#### Collect Your New ARC

You will be notified in approximately 10 working days to collect your ARC from the NIA

### STEP 4

#### Must Extend Within 1 Year

Each extension is valid for 1 year  
Maximum total period: 2 years

# How to Continue Working in Taiwan After the 2-Year Extension Period

## Option 1

### New Scoring Criteria (Points-Based System)

Applicable to graduates with an Associate Degree or above. Applicants accumulate points based on education, salary, language ability, and work experience. A total score of 70 points qualifies the applicant to apply for employment in Specialized or Technical Positions (A01–A15) to apply for a work permit.

## Option 2

### Specialized or Technical Works

Applicants must meet requirements for education, work experience, or professional qualifications and reach the required salary threshold (NT\$47,971) to apply for a work permit.

# Eligibility for the New Policy

## Who Can Apply?



### This policy applies to holders of an Extension of Stay after graduation

Those who have not yet entered into a formal employment system during the 2-year extension period of their residence permit.

**International students graduating in 2025 whose residence permits do not include the phrase "work permit exemption" can apply for a replacement at local NIA starting January 1, 2026 (replacement fee: NT\$500).**

**\*Please note: Extensions of residence permits are calculated from the date of the initial residence permit.**



### This policy does not apply to those who have already switched to employment-based residency

It also does not apply to individuals who have previously held formal employment and subsequently left their jobs.



# WORK FREELY FOR 2 YEARS

Please see the following link for details:  
<https://talent.nat.gov.tw/en> or scan the QR Code



**TALENT TAIWAN** ————— Your Guide to Staying in Taiwan

**Comprehensive Resources** Comprehensive guides to Extension of Stay and the latest policies.

**Visa Assistance** Guidance on the Points-Based System and work visa applications.

**One-on-one Personalized Advice** One-on-one personalized advice based on your needs.

**Job-Matching Support** Integrated resources to connect you with corporate job vacancies.

