

# **Brochure for International Students**

## **1. Orientation**

### **The International Health Program Office**

The International Health Program Office, located on the 4th floor of VGH Genome Research Center (Room401), is your first stop at the National Yang-Ming University. We can provide you with assistance throughout your stay at NYMU, including arranging the student volunteer who could help you adjust to the life and culture in Taiwan.

### **When you arrive in Taipei**

If you arrive in Taipei on the weekday between 9:00 and 17:00, come to our office. We are located on the 1st floor of School of Medicine (Campus Bldg12). Our office is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 to 17:00, except during the summer when the hours are 9:00 to 12:00 noon. (For information about how to get to NYMU from the airport, please see [Arrive Information](#))

### **Orientation**

Orientation is required for all new international students. After your arrival in Taipei, you have to report to our office your immigration documents. We will give you information about how to register for classes, how to find housing, and where to seek help when necessary.

At the orientation, you will also receive important information on studying and living at NYMU in Taiwan.

### **What You need to bring to our office**

1. Passport and Visa.
2. Offer letter.

### **Things that we can do for you**

1. Review your immigration documents, then forward to Department of the Overseas Chinese Students (see [Brief introduction of Other Administrative Offices at NYMU](#)).
2. Provide you information on how to register for classes, how to apply for insurance, where to live, and where to seek help when necessary.

### **What else can we do for you?**

1. R.O.C immigration regulations
2. Cultural adjustment issues
3. Any non-academic adviser or student volunteer will help you with all academic questions.

## **2. Arrival Information**

### **When to arrive**

Plan to arrive in Taipei during the new student check-in period, which is usually five days before the start of the semester. Some arrival services will not be available before the new student check-in period.

### **How to get to NYMU from the airport**

From the CKS International Airport, you can take a taxi for about NT \$ 1,500 to NYMU. The bus from CKS International Airport to downtown of Taipei costs about NT \$ 200. From downtown, you can take a taxi to campus for about NT \$ 250.

### **What to do if you arrive on the weekend or after our office hours**

If you arrive at a time when our office is closed, you will need to make your own arrangements for temporary housing. The following is a list of places where you may be able to stay.

- Kwen-Chen Hotel (near airport)  
8, Lane 12, Hsu-wei Rd., Da-yuan, Taoyuan  
Tel: 886-3-383-5056

- YMCA, Downtown Branch  
18 Hsu Chang Street, Taipei  
Tel: 886-2-2381-4727

### **3. Packing**

#### What to pack

1. Clothes. Summer temperatures are between 24.8°C (75.8F) and 35.8°C (97.8F); winter temperatures range from 8.8°C (46.8F) to 20.8°C (68.8F). Summer is approximately six months long and winter is approximately three months long. Taipei has numerous shopping centers and discount stores. If you do not have clothes for a particular season, you can shop for them when you get here.
2. Medical information. Bring the following medical information with you to our office after your arrival:
  - a. Information from your physician on any long-term health problems you have and on-going care you may need,
  - b. Information on any medications you are currently taking,
  - c. Information on allergies, and
  - d. Information on health insurance if you are covered by a policy in your home country.
3. Translation dictionary
4. Money. Travelers checks and a credit card. Prepare a limited amount of cash (no more than NT \$ 10,000) in NT \$ 1,000, NT \$ 500, NT \$ 200 or NT \$ 100 bills. There are plenty of ATMs in Taipei city connected to the Cirrus, Plus and Visa networks. This is the preferred way of withdrawing money from overseas accounts.
5. Important telephone numbers.
6. Immigration documents.
7. Any personal items that will make your stay more comfortable.

## 4. Housing

### On-campus

#### -Dormitory

Dorm reservations are made for ICDF-Taiwan scholarship students automatically. Rooms on campus are furnished. You must bring or purchase your own towels, sheets, blankets, pillow, and tissue paper, comforter, and other personal items. If you do not want to bring them, you can buy all of them in nearby stores. The following items are provided:

1. A bunk bed
2. Desk and chair
3. Closet storage space
4. Node ( for computer)
5. Air conditioner

Bathroom may be equipped in each room or shared in the corridor type. Dormitory rooms are equipped with telephones. **Students have to pay their own electrical bills** and food expense. Foods, most in Chinese style, are available at Dormitory Cafeteria. Residence halls have laundry rooms, study lounges, and recreation areas. Cooking is prohibited in all residence halls. Beware that the power voltage in Taiwan for electrical appliances is 110V.

#### - Banking

There are ATMs (自動提款機) at three locations on campus. They are on the Plus, Cirrus and Visa networks. Many ATMs in Taiwan are not on these systems. Taiwan's postal office (郵局) also provides banking service; international students can open an account with a valid passport or a residence permit and a personal stamp (印章). There is a postal office across from the NYMU main gate. And postal office ATMs can be found throughout the island -- you only need to look for the green postal service sign.

## **-Telephone**

Dormitory rooms are equipped with telephones. On-Campus phone call is free. To make off-campus calls, you need to use the payphone. Payphones can be found everywhere and accept either coins or one of two telephone cards -- a dian-hua cah (電話卡) or an IC cah (IC 卡). Cellular phones in Taiwan use the international (not the U.S.) standard. You can apply for a cellular phone service through one of many service providers (中華電信, 台灣大哥大, 遠傳, 和信, 泛亞), or you can buy a pay-as-you-go chip/card at most convenience stores. For English directory assistance dial 106, Chinese service is available at 105.

**Please note: The Scholarship from ICDF-Taiwan covers the electricity bills for NT 500 dollars per month (usually NT200 dollars is enough per month without using an air conditioner); students has to pay the rest if their bill is more than NT 500 dollars per month.**

## **Off-campus**

**All international students have to live in campus dormitories in the first year.** Living in campus dormitories is optional with the second-year international students. Students who live off-campus have a range of living options. Apartments may be furnished or unfurnished. The rental expense for a single room is about NT \$ 6,000 per month. IF you want to rent a three-bedroom apartment, it may cost you about NT \$ 20,000 per month.

Off-campus apartments usually have more extensive cooking facilities. Single rooms typically have neither cooking facilities nor private bathrooms.

# **5. Immigration Information**

## **-Applying for a Visa**

Before you arrive in Taiwan, you should already have an R.O.C. Visitor Visa. We will provide you with the information on how to apply for Student Visa once you

arrive. You should have recent photos available and a valid physical examination report (issued by any Taiwan's public hospital).

**Please note: Department of the Overseas Chinese Students will gather all the overseas Chinese students and international students to have physical examination. We would inform you of the date.**

## 6. Costs and Budgets

The costs of basic needs

- ◎ Milk (1L) NT \$ 60
- ◎ Transportation (Bus, MRT) NT \$ 15-50
- ◎ Public telephone NT \$ 1/1.7minutes
- ◎ Restaurant meal NT \$ 150-1,500
- ◎ Cafeteria meal NT \$ 60

## 7. Transportation in Taipei

Transportation is very convenient in Taipei, including the bus, metro system (MRT), or taxi.

### **Public Transportation to NYMU:**

Buses that reach near NYMU are: 216, 285, 224, 601, 606, 266, 223, 268, 277, 290, and 508; The closest MRT station (Shihpai station) is just ten minutes away from the school. If you take the MRT, you can take the Campus shuttle bus to campus instead of walking a lot.

## **Campus shuttle bus:**

Currently, a free campus shuttle is provided during the school hours, from 07:30 am to 18:45 pm. The bus route and schedule can be found on stop posts with Yang-Ming Logo on it. It circulates among # 1 Teaching Bldg., Administration Bldg, TPE Veterans General Hospital, MRT Shihpai Station (the stop post is located on the diagonally opposite of the station), and Campus Gate every 15-30 minutes depending on the need. **The campus shuttle bus schedule during summer vacations (July, August, and the beginning of September) and winter vacations (the end of January and February) is different from the usual. You can check the schedule on the stop post.**

**Please note: ICDF-Taiwan DOES NOT allow international students to drive or ride motorcycle in Taiwan.**

## **8. Life at National Yang Ming University**

### **About Taipei city**

#### **-People**

Twenty-three million residents work diligently to strive on the Formosa Island. People in Taipei are typically friendly, hospitable, and busy. It might be a relief for foreign visitors to find that goods are sold as the labeled price, and taxi charges are exactly the numbers on the meter. You will find all walks of life within a short distance; world-leading computer and biotech industries sit together with the most traditional carpentry.

#### **-Language**

The official language in Taiwan is Mandarin Chinese, but international visitors will find it easy to get around in Taipei, as the majority of residents have taken more than six years of English courses in their education. Nevertheless, the mastery of Mandarin will be helpful, especially when the students want to work independently in field practices.

### **-Living**

International students are expected to bring their own personal belongings including clothes. Generally speaking, the neighborhood is friendly and convenient; shops can be found within walking distance which open even till late hours. The Metropolitan Rapid Transit System offers convenient transportation to downtown Taipei, and the station is 10 minutes' walk from the University.

### **About National Yang-Ming University**

The National Yang-Ming University was founded in 1975 as National Yang-Ming Medical College and has since been one of the leading institutes for teaching and research in health sciences and public health. The university is located on a hill in northern part of Taipei, the administrative center of Taiwan. Taipei is a vibrant and modern city with 2.5 million people and a variety of cultural and business activities.

The National Yang-Ming University now has five schools: School of Medicine, School of Dentistry, School of Nursing, School of Medical Technology and Biomedical Engineering, and School of Life Sciences. Approximately 2,000 students gather on the campus to study basic and applied biomedical sciences. The undergraduates aim to serve as health professionals in various part of the health care system, while the graduate students pursue knowledge and skill in health sciences.

Public health is a significant component in the School of Medicine, which is comprised of the Department of Social Medicine and graduate Institutes of Public Health, Health and Welfare, Environmental Health Sciences, Health Care & Hospital Administration, and Health Information & Decision Making. These institutes are heavily involved in many important public health policies and researches. The International Health Program is an interdisciplinary functional unit based primarily on



faculty members from these institutes, joined by members of the Institute of Parasitology, the School of Nursing, and various Departments of clinical medicine.

## **About the School of Medicine**

### **-Teaching**

Emphasis is placed on basic and clinical education in both the faculties of Medicine and Dentistry. Small classes, small groups, problem-based and interactive learning form the cornerstone of Yang-Ming's teaching philosophy. Consistent with educational reforms, clinical instructors are invited to actively participate in basic education.

Both faculties actively pursue reform, class reduction, curricula simplification, increased emphasis on humanities, fostering of active learning, and preparations for Internet teaching to provide students with convenient, dynamic and effective interactive means, improvement of teaching facilities, computerization and promotion of informatics.

The curricula for medical and dental students are basically identical to those offered by the School of Life Sciences, most of which enjoy the joint participation of faculty members who are experts in their fields so that specialized instruction is provided for the students. Professional acumen is achieved by small class instruction, instructor-student interactions and student initiated discussions. Licensed senior clinicians from Taipei's Veterans General Hospital conduct clinical training with dual emphasis on basic and clinical instructions to uphold high professional standards. Again, interactive and bi-directional communication forms the backbone in clinical training. Through the integration of basic knowledge with clinical observations, students are encouraged to pursue in depth study of key concepts in disease etiology and management in order to stimulate interests in life sciences. The Faculty of Medicine also sponsors summer camps and research studentships to encourage participation in research projects.

Teaching in the graduate school is based on systematic approach. Courses are organized according to students' fields of interests. Research is supervised by full time faculty members as well as invited experts. Discussions, seminars and written reports are part of the training programs, supplemented by periodic special lectures by

renowned experts from other reputable medical institutions. Students are encouraged to engage in an in-depth study of research themes.

### **-Research**

Continuous upgrading of research standards is one of the stated goals of the school. In recent years the school has recruited a number of experts as faculty members in both clinical and basic disciplines who have been active and dynamic in research endeavors. Research areas cover mechanistic elucidation, clinical investigation and practical disease management. Results are often published in nationally and internationally reputable journals, reported at international symposia or in invited speeches. Recognition nationally and internationally attests to the high level of the research work.

Collectively, faculty members publish approximately 300 scientific articles annually, mostly in Scientific Citation Index abstracted journals. Research projects number well over 100. A number of faculty members have been multiple winners of the coveted Outstanding Achievement and Meritorious Awards by The National Science Council and Ching-Ling Research Foundation's Award for Research Excellence, accounting for Yang-Ming's being ranked among the leading research institutes in the nation.

## **9. Brief introduction to Other Administrative Offices at NYMU**

### **Office of the Teaching Services**

教學服務組

*Tel: 886-2-2826-7000 ext.7196*

The Office, located on the 3rd floor of Administration Building (Campus Bldg1), provides printing services of teaching paper and examination paper, editing the summary of research papers in Yang Ming, and in charge of the programs and extension education at NYMU, etc.

## **Office of the Registrar**

### **註冊組**

*Tel: 886-2-2826-7000 ext.7153*

Students have to finish the registration through a Web system before classes start. Yang-Ming's registration system is accessible from a PC wherever the Internet is connected. Please pay attention to the registration period designated for each individual program. Once registration is finished, a valid student ID will be issued from the Office of Registrar. Students assume full responsibility of paying fees in full by the prescribed due date. For those international students enrolled in International Health Program, notification should be given to the Program Office once registration is finished. This office is also responsible for issuing diploma when student's program is finished.

## **Office of the Curriculum**

### **課務組**

*Tel: 886-2-2826-7000 ext.7004*

The office, located on the 3rd floor of Administration Building (Campus Bldg1), is in charge of all the affairs about curriculum, including the graduate and undergraduate; business of the graduate diploma; maintenance and arrangement of teaching buildings; remuneration of instructors; paperwork of visiting outside the school, etc.

## **Department of the Overseas Chinese Students**

### **僑輔組**

*Tel: 886-2-2826-7000 ext.2329*

The office, located on the 3rd floor of the School of Medicine (Campus Bldg 12), provides guidance and assistance to overseas Chinese students and international students. The services include planning activities for Chinese festival and providing information about visa application, departure and reentrance, health insurance, and working permit.

**Please note: Students who drop from the school will be cancelled for student visa and dispelled accordingly.**

**Health insurance:** All international students are required to purchase health insurance during the stay in Taiwan. Your health insurance coverage should begin when classes begin in the semester. The cost per student is approximately NT\$400/month for the first four months and NT\$600/month after that. The

Department will provide you the information on how to buy health insurance in Taiwan.

### **Department of Guidance**

生輔組

*Tel: 886-2-2826-7000 ext.7065*

The Department of Guidance, located on the 1st floor of the First Teaching Building (Campus Bldg 4), is responsible for the dormitory supervision, safety and security, regulations of the award and punishment, special events and functions.

### **Department for Student Health and Medical Care**

衛保組

*Tel: 886-2-2826-7000 ext.2358*

The office, located on the 4th floor of Auditorium and Activity Center, provides various health-related services and campaigns in an attempt to maintain and improve the health of Yang-Ming students and faculty.

Services include student health insurance, food sanitary check, guidance on health promotion, contagious disease prevention, health education, emergency medical treatment for minor injury, health awareness campaigns, etc. The subdivision also provides clinical services in general medicine. **Service hours: Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday during the semester.**

### **Division of General Services**

事務組

*Tel: 886-2-2826-7000 ext. 2214*

The office, located on 1st floor of the Administration Building (Campus Bldg. #1), provides general services to all students and faculty including official purchasing, campus security, and parking and transportation.

## 10. University Calendar

### *§Autumn Semester §*

Early September	Check-in period, Orientation
Mid September	Classes Begin
October 10	Double Ten Day (no class)
Mid November	Midterm Exam
January 1	New Year (no class)
Mid January	Final Exam
Late January	Winter Break Begins

### *§Spring Semester §*

Mid February	Classes Begin
Mid April	Midterm Exam
Mid May	Anniversary celebration of NYMU
Mid June	Final Exam
Late June	Classes End

Please visit our website for more information-- <http://www.ym.edu.tw/ihp/>