2027 Taiwan Global Pathfinders Initiative - iYouth Talent Program

Opportunity Development Guidelines

Revised: July 8, 2025
Revised: November 13, 2025
Revised: March 16, 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 Proposing Units:

1. Central government ministries and their affiliated agencies/organizations.
2. Special Municipality, Country, 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 aged 15 to under 18 must participate as a group (departing and returning together). Each project may accept up to 20 participants (excluding accompanying mentors).

2. The youth aged from 18 to 30: Placements for individual or group on-site internships, training, service, and exchange opportunities are provided by overseas partner organizations or agencies developed by the proposing units. Each project may accept up to 20 youth participants (excluding accompanying mentors).

3. Eligibility Criteria:

   (1) The opportunities provided by 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) If language proficiency or professional background is required for project execution (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.

(3) Other professional requirements specified by the proposing units.

(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 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, 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 do 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, 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, and format; 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 six months.

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 Dream Fund", aiming to subsidize the necessary expenses for youth participating in overseas dream projects. All expenditures are processed on a reimbursement basis upon verification. Proposing units must attach legal and valid receipts for reimbursement; unless specifically exempted, all items must be accurately reported based on actual expenses. Budgets must be compiled 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. Should a participant fail to execute the project as

planned, and their performance is deemed substandard by mentors or the partner organizations and fail to remediate, the YDA reserves the right to proportionally reduce the awarded funds and reclaim any disbursed grant amounts.

4. Eligible Budget Items (For detailed calculation methods, please refer to the sample budget calculation table):

(1) Airfare:

i. Round-trip economy class tickets between Taiwan and the host city (budgeted according to market rates).

ii. Airfare for accompanying mentors can be included in this item.

(2) Living Expenses: Includes meals, accommodation, and local transportation.

i. This must include a 5% allowance, clearly specified in the expenditure details along with a calculation formula for review.

ii. Receipts are not required for meals, local public transportation, and miscellaneous expenses; however, receipts are required for accommodation, local car rentals, chartered vehicles, and cross-border/cross-regional transportation. (Budget referencing the "Table of Daily Living Allowances for Central Government Personnel Dispatched Abroad": Days 16-30 capped at 75%; Days 31-90 capped at 50%; from Day 91 onwards capped at 25%. Travel days for outbound and return flights are budgeted at 30% of the daily rate).

iii. Living expenses for accompanying mentors can be included here.

(3) Registration/Enrollment Fees for Conferences/Events/Visiting Institutions: The unit price for each registration must be clearly listed, and receipts must be attached.

(4) Insurance Fees: Must cover at least NTD 2 million to 3 million in accident insurance and NTD 200,000 to 500,000 in overseas medical insurance, budgeted

according to actual market rates, including coverage for accompanying mentors.

(5) 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 the aforementioned Registration/Enrollment Fees.

(6) Printing Fees (Capped at 1% of total budget): Printing and binding costs for necessary documents.

(7) Mentor Consultation, Counseling, and Guidance Fees (Cannot be budgeted if the plan includes accompanying mentors):

i. NTD 1,000-2,000 per youth per session (Once a week for projects under 1 month; once every 2 weeks for projects over 1 month. Do not duplicate if a mentor is accompanying the trip).

ii. One session each can be budgeted for pre-departure and within one month after returning, based on needs.

(8) Venue Rental Fees: Rental costs for domestic pre-

departure and overseas venues, with clear unit prices, reimbursed upon verification.

(9) Equipment Rental Fees: Shared costs for computers, instruments, or software (domestic and overseas). Strictly limited to rentals (no purchases), reimbursed upon verification.

(10) Visa Fees: Specific visa types must be stated, and processing fees (including for mentors) must be budgeted upon verification.

(11) Translation Fees: General translation/interpretation is handled by mentors. If professional translation is strictly necessary in a classroom setting, limit to one translator per day, providing justifications. Budgeted by required hours/days, capped at NTD 8,000 per day.

(12) Administrative Fees (Capped at 3% of total budget): To cover administrative overhead.

(13) Miscellaneous Expenses (Capped at 3% of total budget): E.g., postage or other necessary fees

5. Excluded Budget Items:

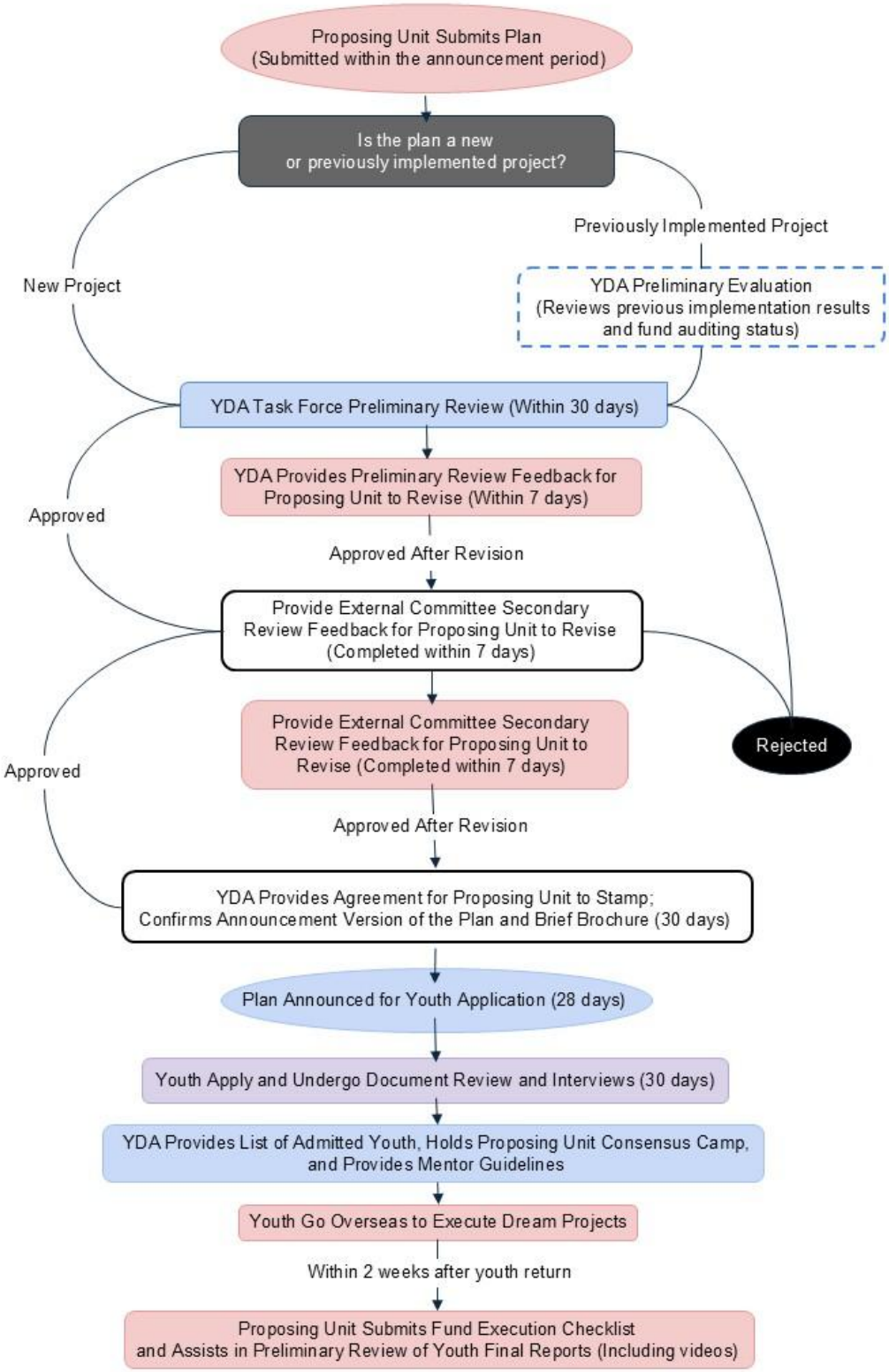
(1) Transportation and Accommodation for Pre-departure

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 Fees".

VII. **Project Review and Approval Notification:** Process and Notification Implementation plans submitted by proposing units will undergo a preliminary review by the YDA and a secondary review by an external expert committee.


Proposing Unit Submits Plan
(Submitted within the announcement period)
Is the plan a new
or previously implemented project?
Previously Implemented Project
New Project
YDA Preliminary Evaluation
(Reviews previous implementation results
and fund auditing status)
YDA Task Force Preliminary Review (Within 30 days)
YDA Provides Preliminary Review Feedback for
Proposing Unit to Revise (Within 7 days)
Approved
Approved After Revision
Provide External Committee Secondary
Review Feedback for Proposing Unit to Revise
(Completed within 7 days)
Provide External Committee Secondary
Review Feedback for Proposing Unit to
Revise (Completed within 7 days)
Rejected
Approved
Approved After Revision
YDA Provides Agreement for Proposing Unit to Stamp;
Confirms Announcement Version of the Plan and Brief Brochure (30 days)
Plan Announced for Youth Application (28 days)
Youth Apply and Undergo Document Review and Interviews (30 days)
YDA Provides List of Admitted Youth, Holds Proposing Unit Consensus Camp,
and Provides Mentor Guidelines
Youth Go Overseas to Execute Dream Projects
Within 2 weeks after youth return
Proposing Unit Submits Fund Execution Checklist
and Assists in Preliminary Review of Youth Final Reports (Including videos)

VIII. Timeframe for Program Implementation (Rolling adjustments will be made based on requirements)

Actions to be Taken	**Phase I Schedule**	**Phase II Schedule**
Submission of Implementation Plan	Early June to July 15, 2026	Early September to October 15, 2026
Preliminary Review by YDA Task Force; Proposing units revise based on feedback (return within 7 days)	July 16 to July 31, 2026	October 16 to November 3, 2026
Secondary Review by External Experts	August 3 to August 27, 2026	November 4 to November 30, 2026
Proposing units revise based on feedback (return within 7 days), provide grant account info and contact person	August 28 to September 7, 2026	December 1 to December 9, 2026
Submission of Agreements/Partner Supporting Documents, Mentor	September 8 to October 29, 2026	December 10, 2026 to February 17, 2027

Roster, Confirmation of Announcement Draft, Stamped Agreements		
Open for Application	October 30, 2026	February 18, 2027
Application Deadline	November 30, 2026	March 18, 2027
Document Review for Youth Applications	December 8 to December 24, 2026	March 29 to April 23, 2027
Interviews for Youth Applications	February 16 to February 19, 2027	May 20 to May 23, 2027
Admission Announcement & List Shared with Proposing Units	February 16 to February 19, 2027	May 20 to May 23, 2027
Proposing Unit Consensus Camp (Providing Mentor Guidelines) (Online)	Early March, 2027	Early June, 2027
Youth Dream Fund Disbursement & Pre-departure Consensus Camp for Youth	After early April, 2027 (Please allocate time for visa processing)	After early July, 2027 (Please allocate time for visa processing)

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	
Submission of Fund Execution Checklist, Preliminary Review of Youth Final Reports and Videos	Within 2 weeks after completion of the program	

IX. Other Important Notes:

1. 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, to handle guidance records and evaluations during the trip; however, budgeted accompanying mentors must accompany the participants throughout the entire duration of the project.
2. When submitting proposals, 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).
3. Proposing units must designate 1 primary contact person when submitting the project to assist with responding to applicants' inquiries.

4. Following secondary review approval, proposing units must stamp and return two copies of the agreement provided by the YDA. 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 with the partner, provide the names of 1 to 2 mentors to arrange follow-up guidance.
5. When confirming the finalized announcement version, proposing units 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.
6. Disbursement of Youth Dream Fund (Grants):This program provides financial support through the Youth Dream Fund. The disbursement methods are outlined as follows:

    (1). The grant is first disbursed directly to the

selected youth participant, who will then transfer the required fees for the partner organization and mentor-related expenses to the account designated by the proposing unit. (Both domestic and overseas accounts are acceptable.).

(2). Method 2: The grant is first disbursed to the proposing unit (domestic or overseas accounts are acceptable), which will then allocate the relevant personal funds to the selected youth participant. (For implementation plans targeting youth aged 15 to under 18, Method 2 is generally the only applicable method).

(3). Method 3: The grant is disbursed separately to the proposing unit and the selected youth based on the specific budget items and target recipients.

(4). Proposing Unit Designated Account Notes: After reaching consensus with the partner organization, proposing units must provide grant account information and remittance

contact details to facilitate smooth fund disbursement.

(5). 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."

7. Proposing units are required to collect project completion materials from the youth (including achievement videos, final reports, social media sharing links, grant receipts, and reimbursement documents) and provide partner organizations' expenditure checklists and mentor evaluation forms. Once compiled and reviewed, these materials must be submitted to the YDA.