

Implementation Guidelines for the TKU Honors Program

Secretariat Regulation No. 1140000014 (17/06/2025)

(英文譯本僅供參考，法規之實施概以中文版為準。)

The English version is provided for reference only. The practice of the regulations shall be based on the Chinese version.)

Article 1 Purpose

The purpose of the TKU Honors Program (hereinafter referred to as “this Program”) is to integrate professional studies, general education, and extracurricular activities (the “Three Circles” of education) into one program to train and nurture outstanding students from TKU’s regular degree programs. In doing so, its objective is to help students become gifted scholars with the skill set required for professional innovation and independent research, to groom talented and aware professionals with global perspectives and the ability to thoughtfully examine and care for the broader community and produce skillful leaders with innovative ideas and the aptitude to guide others – in the hope of enhancing the competitiveness of TKU graduates.

Article 2 Eligibility and Requirements

- A. Freshmen admitted through the Star Recommendation program can submit an application for enrollment.
- B. Applicants who apply via interview and whose overall entrance score places them in the top 10% of applicants in the department (or division) for which they applied.
- C. The weighted total score of the applicants entering the university will be distributed within the top 10% of applicants in the department (or division) for which they applied.
- D. From the second semester of the freshman year to the second semester of the junior year (the second semester of the senior year of the Department of Architecture), students who have taken more than 12 credits in the previous semester and whose academic average is within the top 10% of the class.
- E. Eligible individuals may submit an application prior to the commencement of each academic semester. Upon review and approval by the Office of Academic Affairs, applicants will obtain the qualification to enroll in this Program.
- F. Students enrolled in this Program should have an average grade in the top fifteen percent of their class of the department (division) each semester. Those who fail to meet this standard will have their enrollment qualification revoked by the

Office of Academic Affairs. However, circumstances such as studying abroad for credits or taking a leave of absence may retain the qualification for this Program; students who meet the standards but wish to discontinue their study in this Program may apply in writing to waive their qualifications. Should they later meet the eligibility requirements, they may reapply for this Program.

Article 3 Curriculum Design and Arrangement of Instructors

A. Each college and department:

- i. Each college shall set up an “Honors Program” Advanced Professional Curriculum Promotion Group. The dean of the college must serve as the group convener. The advanced professional curriculum, established to nurture students’ professional innovation and independent research ability, is provided for the students enrolled in this Program.
- ii. Each of these advanced professional courses should be offered in a seminar or investigation-style format.
- iii. Each department shall appoint each student with one academic supervisor; each academic supervisor should supervise up to five students; they should offer academic counseling, help students identify academic interests, and suggest suitable areas for professional research to assist students in developing assertiveness and creativity in the context of learning and in research activities.
- iv. Academic departments should provide students of this Program with advice and guidance in various areas, including academic studies, lifestyle, further studies, and potential options for future employment.

B. The Center for General Education and Core Curriculum:

The Center for General Education and Core Curriculum must set up an “Honors Program” General Education Curriculum Promotion Group. The panel convener shall be filled by the Chair of the General Education Committee. The general education curriculums, established to nurture students’ global vision, reflection on the status quo, and ability to care for social groups, are provided for the students enrolled in this Program.

C. The Extracurricular Activities Guidance Section:

The Extracurricular Activities Guidance Section must set up an “Honors Program” Extracurricular Curriculum Promotion Group. The group convener will be filled by the Dean of Student Affairs. These extracurricular activities courses, established to nurture students’ ability to innovate and communicate, and to lead and serve the community, are provided for the students enrolled in this Program.

The courses from the preceding paragraph may be scheduled for evenings or weekends to avoid conflicts with class schedules.

Article 4 Required Courses for Students of This Program

- A. Starting from the second year, students must take a total of four advanced professional courses. The students must complete a minimum of eight credits.
- B. Starting from the first-year studies, students are required to take a total of three general education curriculums, each worth two credits, with a maximum of one such course per semester.
- C. Starting from the first-year studies, students are required to take a total of two extra-curricular curriculums, each worth one credit, or one subject for two credits taught in English, with a maximum of one subject per semester.

Article 5 Rules on Course Enrollment

- A. Eligibility for course enrollment: courses offered as part of this Program are only available for students who have gained approval from the Office of Academic Affairs.
- B. Extra credits: the credits taken from courses in this Program shall be included in the student's overall tally of credits obtained in the semester, but are not subject to restrictions on course selection outlined in the *TKU Regulations on Student Course Selection*: Article 7 (restrictions on extra credits) and Article 8 (restrictions on credits from other sources).
- C. Time limit on graduation: Students are not allowed to extend their time limit for graduation due to taking This Program.

Article 6 Student Grade Assessment, Credit Recognition, and Credit Transfer

- A. Calculation of grades: The grades of each subject in this course are included in the academic grade average of the semester.
- B. Grade Assessment: The grade assessment of the advanced specialized curriculums, general education curriculums, and extracurricular curriculums all are given number grades according to the regular percentile standard.
- C. Validation of Credits: The subjects that the student has taken and passed in this program may be counted towards graduation credits. However, only all English-taught courses can be counted towards graduation credits of the English-Taught Bachelor's Program and the Division of Global Commerce (English-Taught) of the Department of International Business. Advanced professional curriculums may be validated as elective credits of the department in which they are enrolled; general education curriculums may be validated as compulsory credits of the

department. Students must apply for credit validation to the Office of Academic Affairs before the graduation examination week for the next semester of the senior (the next semester of the fifth year of the Department of Architecture).

- D Recognition of Credits: Those who have implemented and completed the "National Science and Technology Council College Student Research Program" may apply for the maximum of recognition of two credits for the advanced professional course "National Science and Technology Council Research Program" before March 31st in the next semester of the senior year (the next semester of the fifth year in the Department of Architecture). Applicants may apply for two credits of the advanced professional curriculums only once, and the scoring method is "pass" or "fail".
- E Credit transfer: Students who have completed this Program, if they are admitted to the master's program of TKU, a maximum of 20 credits may be credited for those who take master's courses and advanced professional courses during their study and are not included in the graduation credits.

Article 7 Completion of Study

Students who are enrolled in this Program must meet the graduation requirements of their major department and complete the required courses and credits of this Program within the prescribed study period of their major department (excluding extended study period) to qualify for completion. Those who complete the program can obtain a certificate for this Program, and the words "Honors Student" will be noted on the degree certificate, and "Honors Program" will be noted on the transcript.

Article 8 Rewards

- A. When taking part in the selection process for admissions into TKU master's programs, graduating students from this Program or graduates (already graduated) with an Honors Program Certificate may submit relevant documentation as supporting materials to receive additional consideration upon assessment of their application, with discretionary bonus points awarded.
- B. Students with an Honors Program Certificate (certificate of completion) from this Program who are admitted into a TKU master's program will receive a subsidy of NT \$30,000 per semester for the first academic year.
- C. Students enrolled in this Program who participate in on-campus internship courses or engage in graduation project production may apply for scholarships in accordance with these Guidelines. Awarded students who pass the review must submit a learning reflection. The scholarship amount may be adjusted based on the actual approved funding. The application period will be based on the

announced schedule.

- D. Students who have completed this program may apply for a scholarship according to these guidelines. Upon completion of the program, students must submit a learning reflection and an application form to the Academic Affairs Office for review. The scholarship amount may be adjusted based on the actual approved budget. The application period will be in accordance with the announced schedule.

Article 9

The amount of each award listed in these Guidelines may be adjusted according to the approved budget for the current academic year.

Article 10

These Guidelines shall be implemented from the date of announcement after being passed by the Academic Affairs Meeting; the same applies when amendments are made.