2016 WeTech Qualcomm Global
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the WeTech Qualcomm Global Scholars program?

The Women Enhancing Technology (WeTech) Qualcomm Global Scholars program is a partnership between the Institute of International Education (IIE) and Qualcomm that invests in young women and future leaders in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) in China, India and Taiwan.

The program consists of two components:
1. A US $2,500 scholarship that will go towards the cost of the Scholars' university studies for the 2016-2017 school year
2. A 6-month guided mentorship program where Scholars will be matched in one-on-one mentorship pairs with experienced mentors from Qualcomm

What are the eligibility requirements and key dates for Taiwan?

The Taiwan scholarship eligibility requirements are as follows:
1. Application must be filled out in English
2. Applicant must be female
3. Applicant must be a citizen of Taiwan
4. Applicant must be a current undergraduate student in either her **second** or **third** year of studies at one of the participating universities:
    • National Cheng Kung University
    • National Chiao Tung University
    • National Taiwan University
    • National Tsing Hua University
5. Applicant must be seeking a degree in Engineering or Computer Science or other STEM-related academic fields
6. Applicant must be able to demonstrate leadership potential in their chosen field (reference letters will be required)
7. Applicant must be willing and available to participate in a 6-month virtual mentoring program from January to June 2017 (the mentorship will be conducted in English)

Timeline:
• September 15, 2016: Scholarship application opens
• **October 30, 2016: Scholarship application closes**
• November 2016: Independent selection committees review applications and scholarship winners announced
• January – June 2017: Six-month virtual mentorship. Scholars are matched individually with a mentor from Qualcomm

Link to Taiwan application

How many students will be selected for this opportunity?

Separate $2,500 scholarships will be awarded to **16 female students across Taiwan**. Each award recipient will also be placed with a Qualcomm mentor for a virtual mentorship.

What are the characteristics of a competitive applicant?

The program is looking for **passionate, committed, and innovative young women** who already have a track record, both academic and extracurricular, in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). Preference will be given to candidates who have community engagement or entrepreneurial experience and who demonstrate a desire to make a meaningful difference for women in STEM in their home country. And, of course, all candidates should have an **advanced level of English** in order to effectively take part in the mentorship portion of the program.

Do you have any tips about how to best fill in the application? What exactly are you looking for in each section?

In general, please be as **specific and relevant** as possible when answering each question. The more that you are able to demonstrate a concrete idea of who you are and why you are a good fit for this opportunity, the more likely it is that you will be considered a strong candidate! But keep in mind each essay question has a maximum word requirement.

For more advice on what kinds of things the program is looking for in each section, please see the tips below.

Activities & Awards
- Range of extracurricular activities, particularly those that demonstrate long-term dedication that is preferably STEM-related;
- Leadership experience is highly favored;
- Academic achievements and academic recognition should be highlighted;
- Work, internship, or volunteer history that is related to the student's studies.

Short Answer Questions
- Applicants should be actively pursuing study and career paths that are compatible with this particular program;
- Show how this opportunity will help you achieve your academic and professional ambitions;
- What is it that you hope to get out of the 6-month mentorship – share your goals for the mentorship and how this will help you in future studies and career in as much detail as possible.

Personal Statement
- Showcase your passion and demonstrate why you are the best candidate for this opportunity;
- Share your background and how this led you to where you are now;
- Strong candidates will be able to show how the scholarship and mentorship program will clearly help them achieve their academic and professional goals.

Transcripts
- Scholarship applicants do not need to have flawless transcripts, but students who have demonstrated potential to succeed in STEM-related career paths will be more competitive.

Recommendations
- Provide at least TWO recommendation letters (at least one of them must be academic in nature);
- Applicants should choose recommenders wisely – those people who can speak to your personal and professional abilities and potential specifically relating to STEM;
- Generic reference letters will not be considered favorably, especially if both reference letters from the two recommenders are nearly identical.

When will scholars receive the scholarship funds?

Scholarship funds will be distributed in installments: 1) after award recipients have been selected in November 2016, and 2) the end of the mentorship period in June 2017. The payment schedule will be highlighted in the award letters that are distributed to the final candidates chosen for this opportunity.

Can the funding be used to cover more than just tuition?

The award may be used to cover fees associated with your academic course of study and is not strictly limited to tuition. This may include books, room and board, and other costs related to supporting yourself during the academic school year. Further details will be provided in the award letter after an offer has been made to the student.

Explanation/proof of how these funds are spent may be requested by IIE during the program.

Can you share more about the mentorship portion of the program?

WeTech's Qualcomm Global Scholars Program uses an online mentoring platform that will enable Scholars to virtually connect with their mentors who are professional women and men working for Qualcomm across Taiwan and various offices throughout the world.

The **mentorship period will take place from January – June 2017**. Please **expect a 1-2 hour per week commitment** during this time.

After award recipients have been announced, each Scholar will be matched with a mentor who will work with her to create concrete goals for the six-month mentorship. WeTech will provide support and resources for each mentoring session, sharing structured content on the platform that will enable students to build their professional skills and help prepare them for a globally competitive world. The mentorship curriculum covers topics such as Assessing Strengths, Career Planning, Interview Skills, and Networking.

Scholars will be invited to visit a Qualcomm office in Taiwan to meet Qualcomm mentors and celebrate their accomplishments at the close of the mentorship period in 2017.

What if a Scholar can't complete the entire mentorship portion of the program but they are still interested in the scholarship?

All Global Scholars **MUST** complete the entire six-month mentorship in order to be eligible for the $2,500 in scholarship funds. If for any reason a Scholar is unable to complete the mentorship portion of the program, IIE reserves the right to revoke scholarship funds.

What is the contact information for the scholarship administrators?

For any queries, please contact the WeTech team at WeTech@iie.org