

Examination Directions of Entrepreneur Visa Qualification for Foreign Nationals

2017/4/26 revised

Appendix

Qualification Requirement		Documents to be Submitted	Agencies Participating in Review
S i n g l e i n d i v i d u a l	1.1 The applicant has secured investment from a domestic or overseas venture capital firm, or obtained funding of at least NT\$2 million from a government-approved international fund-raising platform	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An investment commitment letter or similar documentary evidence signed by the promoter of a yet-to-be-established startup and the domestic or overseas venture capital firm(s). 2. A photocopy of the corporate registration document (or <u>the legal certification document issued by the authority</u>), or document confirming amendment of the corporate registration document, of the domestic or overseas venture capital firm(s). 3. From the legal representative of a newly-established startup (in existence for less than one year) in which a domestic venture capital firm(s) has invested: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A detailed breakdown of share subscriptions paid by shareholders issued no more than two months prior to the date of submission of application (the “Shareholders” field must give the name of the investing domestic venture capital firm). (2) A photocopy of the corporate registration document (or equivalent written evidence of lawful establishment), or document confirming amendment of the corporate registration document, of the domestic venture capital firm. 4. From the legal representative of a newly-established startup (in existence for less than one year) in which an overseas venture capital firm(s) has invested: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A detailed breakdown of share subscriptions paid by shareholders issued no more than two months prior to the date of submission of application (the “Shareholders” field must give the name of the investing overseas venture capital firm, such as “XXX Venture Partners” or “XXX Venture Capital”). (2) A photocopy of a document issued by an overseas competent authority (or agency commissioned to issue such documents by an overseas competent authority) authorizing the overseas venture capital firm to undertake investment activity (the areas in which the firm is permitted 	Ministry of Economic Affairs (Industrial Development Bureau, Department of Commerce, and Investment Commission); National Development Council.

		to invest much include the business area of the start-up being invested in).	
		5. Documentary evidence verifying the securing of funding from a government-approved international fund-raising platform.	
	1.2 The applicant has received approval to reside at <u>a central or local government-approved</u> international innovation park, or in an incubator facility that is approved by <u>central or local government</u> and is either directly run by the MOEA, operated in collaboration with the MOEA, or has been rated by the MOEA as a first-class incubator facility within the past three years, <u>or other incubator facility that is approved by the authority.</u>	A photocopy of the collaboration agreement, contract or MoU etc. (covering the provision of incubator services, operational guidance, or business cultivation etc.) signed by the applicant and the park or incubator in which the applicant has received approval to locate itself.	National Development Council; Ministry of Economic Affairs (Small and Medium Enterprise Administration); Ministry of Education; and <u>the relevant central or local government authorities</u>
	1.3 The applicant has been awarded a patent either in Taiwan or overseas, or can demonstrate other evidence of professional expertise.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A photocopy of a patent certificate issued by Taiwan's Intellectual Property Office, MOEA. 2. A photocopy of a patent certificate issued by a patent issuing agency in a foreign country. 3. Other evidence of professional expertise. 	Ministry of Economic Affairs (Intellectual Property Office, Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Industrial Development Bureau, Department of Commerce, and Department of Industrial Technology); and other central industry competent authorities
	1.4 The applicant has won an award in a leading domestic or overseas business start-up or design competition, or has had an application approved to participate in a government project to encourage overseas entrepreneurs to invest	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A photocopy of a Ministry of Science and Technology Innovation & Startups Award of Excellence certificate. 2. A photocopy of a Small and Medium Enterprise Administration (MOEA) Taiwan Innovation Competition (TIC) award certificate. 3. A photocopy of a DEMO God Awards award certificate. 4. A photocopy of a Red Dot Awards award 	Ministry of Science and Technology; Ministry of Economic Affairs (Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Industrial

in Taiwan.	<p>certificate.</p> <p>5. A photocopy of an iF Design Awards award certificate.</p> <p>6. A photocopy of a Good Design Awards (G-Mark awards) award certificate.</p> <p>7. A photocopy of an IDEA award certificate.</p> <p>8. A proposal for an entrepreneur venture in Taiwan that has been approved by the Taiwanese government.</p> <p>9. Documentary evidence of another award of a type approved by the central industry competent authority.</p>	Development Bureau, Department of Commerce and Department of Industrial Technology); National Development Council; and other central industry competent authorities
<u>1.5 The applicant has been, or is currently, located in a startup accelerator facility approved by the central competent authority.</u>	<u>A photocopy of the collaboration agreement, contract or MoU etc. (covering the provision of incubator services, operational guidance, or business cultivation etc.) signed by the applicant and startup accelerator facility in which the applicant has received approval to locate itself.</u>	<u>National Development Council; and The relevant government authorities</u>
<u>1.6 The applicant has ever been shortlisted or awarded in significant domestic or foreign film festivals.</u>	<u>The documents of shortlisted or awarded certification issued by the film authorities.</u>	<u>Ministry of Culture</u>
<u>1.7 The applicant has ever been granted above NT3 million subvention for startup or related project by central government, or has ever been granted above NT1 million subvention for startup or related project by local government.</u>	<u>The documentary evidence of subvention issued by the central or local government.</u>	<u>The relevant central or local government authorities</u>
1.8 The applicant possesses such other innovation capability as may be specified or recommended by the central competent authority.	Such documentary evidence as may be specified by the central industry competent authority.	The relevant central industry competent authorities.
1.9 The applicant has already established an enterprise in Taiwan that has been in existence for less than five years, is serving as the legal representative, manager or director of the enterprise, and has invested at least NT\$1 million in the enterprise, and to which at least one of the following applies.	<p>1. An investment authorization letter, and a letter confirming the amount of investment, issued by the government agency responsible for approving foreign investment (or another agency commissioned to undertake this task on its behalf).</p> <p>2. The corporate registration document (or document confirming amendment thereof) or permit allowing establishment of a foreign-owned company (or document confirming amendment thereof).</p>	Ministry of Economic Affairs (Department of Commerce ,and Investment Commission)

	<p>1.9.1 The enterprise has obtained funding of at least NT\$2 million from a domestic or overseas venture capital enterprise, or from international fund raising platform approved by government.</p>	<p>1. From a startup in which a domestic venture capital firm(s) has invested:</p> <p>(1) A detailed breakdown of share subscriptions paid by shareholders issued within two months prior to the date of submission of application (the “Shareholders” field must indicate the name of the investing domestic venture capital firm).</p> <p>(2) A photocopy of the corporate registration document (or equivalent written evidence of lawful establishment), or document confirming amendment of the corporate registration document, of the domestic venture capital firm.</p> <p>2. From a startup in which an overseas venture capital firm(s) has invested:</p> <p>(1) A detailed breakdown of share subscriptions paid by shareholders issued no more than two months prior to the date of submission of application (the “Shareholders” field must give the name of the investing overseas venture capital firm, such as “XXX Venture Partners” or “XXX Venture Capital”).</p> <p>(2) A photocopy of a document issued by an overseas competent authority (or agency commissioned to issue such documents by an overseas competent authority) authorizing the overseas venture capital firm to undertake investment activity (the areas in which the firm is permitted to invest much include the business area of the start-up being invested in).</p> <p>3. <u>Documentary evidence verifying the securing of funding from a government-approved international fund-raising platform.</u></p>	<p>Ministry of Economic Affairs (Department of Commerce, and Investment Commission); <u>National Development Council</u></p>
	<p>1.9.2 The enterprise is already listed on the Go Incubation Board for Startup and Acceleration Firms (GISA), Taipei Exchange (TPEX).</p>	<p>A photocopy of the letter issued by the Taipei Exchange agreeing to the listing of the enterprise on the Go Incubation Board for Startup and Acceleration Firms (GISA), TPEX.</p>	<p>Financial Supervisory Commission</p>
	<p>1.9.3 The enterprise has been awarded an invention or design patent in Taiwan, or the holder of a Taiwanese invention or design patent has transferred or licensed its patent rights to the</p>	<p>1. A photocopy of the patent certificate issued by the Intellectual Property Office, MOEA.</p> <p>2. A photocopy of the document issued by the Intellectual Property Office, MOEA, authorizing the transferring or licensing of the patent.</p>	<p>Intellectual Property Office, Ministry of Economic Affairs</p>

	enterprise and this has been registered with the Intellectual Property Office, MOEA.		
	1.9.4 The enterprise has located itself within an innovation park which has been approved by central or local government, or in an incubator facility that is approved by central or local government and either directly run by the MOEA, operated in collaboration with the MOEA, or has been rated by the MOEA as a first-class incubator facility within the past three years, or in another incubator facility approved by the competent authority.	A photocopy of the collaboration agreement, contract or MoU etc. (covering the provision of incubator services, operational guidance, or business cultivation etc.) signed by the applicant and the park or incubator in which the applicant has located itself.	National Development Council; Ministry of Economic Affairs (Small and Medium Enterprise Administration); Ministry of Education; and other competent authorities; and <u>the relevant central or local government authorities</u>
	1.9.5 The enterprise or its legal representative has won an award in a leading domestic or overseas business start-up or design competition.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A photocopy of a Ministry of Science and Technology Innovation & Startups Award of Excellence certificate. 2. A photocopy of a Small and Medium Enterprise Administration (MOEA) Taiwan Innovation Competition (TIC) award certificate. 3. A photocopy of a DEMO God Awards award certificate. 4. A photocopy of a Red Dot Awards award certificate. 5. A photocopy of an iF Design Awards award certificate. 6. A photocopy of a Good Design Awards (G-Mark awards) award certificate. 7. A photocopy of an IDEA award certificate. 8. Documentary evidence of another award of a type approved by the central industry competent authority. 	Ministry of Science and Technology; Ministry of Economic Affairs (Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Industrial Development Bureau, Department of Commerce and Department of Industrial Technology); <u>National Development Council</u> and other central industry competent authorities

	<u>1.9.6 The enterprise has been, or is currently, located in a startup accelerator facility approved by the central competent authority.</u>	<u>A photocopy of the collaboration agreement, contract or MoU etc. (covering the provision of incubator services, operational guidance, or business cultivation etc.) signed by the applicant and startup accelerator facility in which the applicant has received approval to locate itself.</u>	<u>National Development Council; The relevant government authorities</u>
	<u>1.9.7 The enterprise or its legal representative has ever been shortlisted or awarded in significant domestic or foreign film festivals.</u>	<u>The documents of shortlisted or awarded certification issued by the film authorities.</u>	<u>Ministry of Culture</u>
	<u>1.9.8 The enterprise has ever been granted above NT3 million subvention for startup or related project by central government, or has ever been granted above NT1 million subvention for startup or anything relates to startup by local government.</u>	<u>The documentary evidence of subvention issued by the central or local government.</u>	<u>The relevant central or local government authorities</u>
	1.9.9 The enterprise conforms to such other requirements as may be specified by the central competent authority.	Such documentary evidence as may be specified by the central industry competent authority.	The relevant central industry competent authorities.
2 . T e a m o r G r o u p (t h a t h a	2.1 The applicant has secured investment from a domestic or overseas venture capital firm, or obtained funding of at least NT\$2 million from a government-approved international fund-raising platform.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An investment commitment letter signed by the overseas corporation and the domestic or overseas venture capital firm, or other documentary evidence of inward remittance. 2. A photocopy of the corporate registration document (or <u>the legal certification document issued by the authority</u>), or document confirming amendment of the corporate registration document, of the domestic or overseas venture capital firm(s). 3. A photocopy of a document issued by an overseas competent authority (or agency commissioned to issue such documents by an overseas competent authority) authorizing the overseas venture capital firm to undertake investment activity (the areas in which the firm is permitted to invest much include the business area of the start-up being invested in). 	Ministry of Economic Affairs (Industrial Development Bureau, Department of Commerce, and Investment Commission); National Development Council

s n o t y e t e s t a b l i s h e d a b u s i n e s s e n t e r p r i s e i n T a i w a n)		4. Documentary evidence verifying the securing of funding from a government-approved international fund-raising platform.	
	2.2 The applicant has received approval to reside at <u>a central or local government-approved</u> international innovation park, or in an incubator facility that is approved by <u>central or local government</u> and is either directly run by the MOEA, operated in collaboration with the MOEA, or has been rated by the MOEA as a first-class incubator facility within the past three years, <u>or other incubator facility that is approved by the authority.</u>	A photocopy of the collaboration agreement, contract or MoU etc. (covering the provision of incubator services, operational guidance, or business cultivation etc.) signed by the applicant and the park or incubator in which the applicant has received approval to locate itself.	National Development Council; Ministry of Economic Affairs (Small and Medium Enterprise Administration); Ministry of Education; and <u>the relevant central or local government authorities</u>
	2.3 The applicant has been awarded a patent either in Taiwan or overseas, or can demonstrate other evidence of professional expertise.	1. A photocopy of the patent certificate issued by the Intellectual Property Office, MOEA. 2. A photocopy of a patent certificate issued by a patent issuing agency in a foreign country. 3. Other evidence of professional expertise.	Ministry of Economic Affairs (Intellectual Property Office, Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Industrial Development Bureau, Department of Commerce, and Department of Industrial Technology); and other central industry competent authorities

	<p>2.4 The applicant has won an award in a leading domestic or overseas business start-up or design competition, or has had an application approved to participate in a government project to encourage overseas entrepreneurs to invest in Taiwan.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A photocopy of a Ministry of Science and Technology Innovation & Startups Award of Excellence certificate. 2. A photocopy of a Small and Medium Enterprise Administration (MOEA) Taiwan Innovation Competition (TIC) award certificate. 3. A photocopy of a DEMO God Awards award certificate. 4. A photocopy of a Red Dot Awards award certificate. 5. A photocopy of an iF Design Awards award certificate. 6. A photocopy of a Good Design Awards (G-Mark awards) award certificate. 7. A photocopy of an IDEA award certificate. 8. A proposal for an entrepreneur venture in Taiwan that has been approved by the Taiwanese government. 9. Documentary evidence of another award of a type approved by the central industry competent authority. 	<p>Ministry of Science and Technology; Ministry of Economic Affairs (Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Industrial Development Bureau, Department of Commerce and Department of Industrial Technology); National Development Council; and other central industry competent authorities</p>
	<p><u>2.5 The applicant has been, or is currently, located in a startup accelerator facility approved by the central competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>A photocopy of the collaboration agreement, contract or MoU etc. (covering the provision of incubator services, operational guidance, or business cultivation etc.) signed by the applicant and startup accelerator facility in which the applicant has received approval to locate itself.</u></p>	<p><u>National Development Council; and the relevant government authorities</u></p>
	<p><u>2.6 The applicant has ever been shortlisted or awarded in significant domestic or foreign film festivals.</u></p>	<p><u>The documents of shortlisted or awarded certification issued by the film authorities.</u></p>	<p><u>Ministry of Culture</u></p>
	<p><u>2.7 The applicant has ever been granted above NT3 million subvention for startup or related project by central government, or has ever been granted above NT1 million subvention for startup or related project by local government.</u></p>	<p><u>The documentary evidence of subvention issued by the central or local government.</u></p>	<p><u>The relevant central or local government authorities</u></p>
	<p>2.8 The applicant possesses such other innovation capability as may be specified or recommended by the central competent authority.</p>	<p>Such documentary evidence as may be specified by the central competent authority.</p>	<p>The relevant central industry competent authorities.</p>

3 . T e a m o r G r o u p (t h a t h a s a l l r e a d y e s t a b l i s h e d a b u s i n e s s e n t e r p r i s	The applicant team has established an enterprise in Taiwan that has been in existence for less than five years, to which at least one of the following applies, where the members of the team are serving as legal representative, executive officers or managers of the enterprise, and the members of the team have invested a combined total of at least NT\$1 million in the enterprise.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An investment authorization letter, and a letter confirming the amount of investment, issued by the government agency responsible for approving foreign investment (or another agency commissioned with authority). 2. The corporate registration document (or document confirming amendment thereof) or permit allowing establishment of a foreign-owned company (or document confirming amendment thereof). 3. Documentary evidence of the applicant team members' employment in the Taiwan-based enterprise. 	Ministry of Economic Affairs (Department of Commerce, and Investment Commission)
	3.1 The enterprise has obtained funding of at least NT\$2 million from a domestic or overseas venture capital enterprise, <u>or from international fund raising platform approved by government.</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where the start-up has received investment from a domestic venture capital firm (and the start-up is structured as a corporation limited by shares or as a limited corporation): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A detailed breakdown of share subscriptions paid by shareholders issued no more than two months prior to the date of submission of application (the "Shareholders" field must give the name of the investing domestic venture capital firm). (2) A photocopy of the corporate registration document (or equivalent written evidence of lawful establishment), or document confirming amendment of the corporate registration document, of the domestic venture capital firm. 2. Where the start-up has received investment from an overseas venture capital firm (and the start-up is structured as a corporation limited by shares or as a limited corporation): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A detailed breakdown of share subscriptions paid by shareholders issued no more than two months prior to the date of submission of application (the "Shareholders" field must give the name of the investing overseas venture capital firm, such as "XXX Venture Partners" or "XXX Venture Capital"). (2) A photocopy of a document issued by an overseas competent authority (or agency commissioned to issue such documents by an overseas competent authority) authorizing the overseas venture capital firm to undertake investment activity (the areas in which the firm is permitted to invest much include the business area of the start-up being invested in). 3. Documentary evidence verifying the 	Ministry of Economic Affairs (Industrial Development Bureau, Department of Commerce, and Investment Commission); National Development Council

e i n T a i w a n)		securing of funding from a government-approved international fund-raising platform.	
	3.2 The enterprise is already listed on the Go Incubation Board for Startup and Acceleration Firms (GISA), Taipei Exchange.	A photocopy of the letter issued by the Taipei Exchange agreeing to the listing of the enterprise on the Go Incubation Board for Startup and Acceleration Firms (GISA).	Financial Supervisory Commission.
	3.3 The enterprise has been awarded an invention or design patent in Taiwan, or the holder of a Taiwanese invention or design patent has transferred or licensed its patent rights to the enterprise and this has been registered with the Intellectual Property Office, MOEA.	1. A photocopy of the patent certificate issued by the Intellectual Property Office, MOEA. 2. A photocopy of a patent certificate issued by a patent issuing agency in a foreign country.	Intellectual Property Office, Ministry of Economic Affairs
	3.4 The enterprise has resided at an innovation park approved by central or local government, or an incubator facility that is approved by central or local government and is either directly run by the MOEA, operated in collaboration with the MOEA, or has been rated by the MOEA as a first-class incubator facility within the past three years, or is another incubator facility approved by the competent authority.	A photocopy of the collaboration agreement, contract or MoU etc. (covering the provision of incubator services, operational guidance, or business cultivation etc.) signed by the applicant team and the park or incubator in which the applicant has located itself.	National Development Council; Ministry of Economic Affairs (Small and Medium Enterprise Administration); Ministry of Education; and <u>the relevant central or local government authorities</u>
	3.5 The enterprise or its legal representative has won an award in	1. A photocopy of a Ministry of Science and Technology Innovation & Startups Award of Excellence certificate.	Ministry of Science and Technology;

		a leading domestic or overseas business start-up or design competition.	<p>2. A photocopy of a Small and Medium Enterprise Administration (MOEA) Taiwan Innovation Competition (TIC) award certificate.</p> <p>3. A photocopy of a DEMO God Awards award certificate.</p> <p>4. A photocopy of a Red Dot Awards award certificate.</p> <p>5. A photocopy of an iF Design Awards award certificate.</p> <p>6. A photocopy of a Good Design Awards (G-Mark awards) award certificate.</p> <p>7. A photocopy of an IDEA award certificate.</p> <p>8. Documentary evidence of another award of a type approved by the central industry competent authority.</p>	Ministry of Economic Affairs (Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Industrial Development Bureau, Department of Commerce, and Department of Industrial Technology); National Development Council ;and other central industry competent authorities
		<u>3.6 The applicant has been, or is currently, located in a startup accelerator facility approved by the central competent authority.</u>	<u>A photocopy of the collaboration agreement, contract or MoU etc. (covering the provision of incubator services, operational guidance, or business cultivation etc.) signed by the applicant and startup accelerator facility in which the applicant has received approval to locate itself.</u>	<u>National Development Council; The relevant government authorities</u>
		<u>3.7 The enterprise or its legal representative has ever been shortlisted or awarded in significant domestic or foreign film festivals.</u>	<u>The documents of shortlisted or awarded certification issued by the film authorities.</u>	<u>Ministry of Culture</u>
		<u>3.8 The applicant has ever been granted above NT3 million subvention for startup or related project by central government, or has ever been granted above NT1 million subvention for startup or related project by local government.</u>	<u>The certification documents of subvention issued by the central or local government.</u>	<u>The relevant central or local government authorities</u>
		3.9 The enterprise conforms to such other requirement as may be specified by the central competent authority.	Such documentary evidence as may be specified by the central competent authority.	The relevant central industry competent authorities.

4 . E x t e n s i o n o f p e r i o d o f r e s i d e n c e (f o r a n e n t e r p r i s e i n T a i w a n)	4.1 The sales revenue of the applicant's enterprise for the most recent year, or the average for the most recent three years, is at least NT\$3 million.	The Profit-seeking Enterprise Annual Income Tax Return or Declaration of Sales and Business Tax by a Business Entity for either the most recent year or the most recent three years.	Ministry of Economic Affairs (Investment Commission); other relevant industry competent authorities
	4.2 The operating revenue of the applicant's enterprise for the most recent year, or the average for the most recent three years, is at least NT\$1 million.	1. The Profit-seeking Enterprise Annual Income Tax Return or Declaration of Sales and Business Tax by a Business Entity for either the most recent year or the most recent three years. 2. A detailed breakdown of expenditure on R&D, and supporting documentary evidence.	
	4.3 The applicant's enterprise employs at least three full-time Taiwanese nationality employees.	A register of employees, and documentary evidence of employees' Labor Insurance and National Health Insurance coverage.	
	4.4 The applicant's enterprise can demonstrate some other category of operational performance that leads the industry competent authority to determine that the enterprise is making a positive contribution to Taiwan's economic development.	1. Documentary evidence of the enterprise's annual purchasing in Taiwan, sales in Taiwan, or imports into or exports from Taiwan, etc. 2. Such other documents as may be required by the industry competent authority.	

Note: Regarding the scope of application of Item b and d,e,f Paragraph (1) of Article 3 of these Directions, and of Paragraphs (4) 、(5) 、(6)and(7) of Article 4, please refer to the “the official criteria for designation as a business start-up with innovation capability” and the attachments

thereto, forming part of the Plan for the Promotion of Entrepreneur Visas as approved by the Executive Yuan.