

Fostering Global Innovation and International Exchange Skills: National High School Skills Competition Winners Showcase Their Overseas Training Results

(Image/Original Text: Liao Pei-Hsuan, Division of Academic Senior High Education)



To broaden the global horizons of outstanding vocational students, the Ministry of Education (MOE) continues to promote the Overseas Professional Training Program for Winners of the National High School Skills Competition. In the 2025-2026 academic year, a total of 207 top three Golden Hand Award winners across five vocational skill categories were selected for overseas professional training programs. On June 25, 2026, MOE Inspector Chang Yung-Chieh attended the program's presentation, where he expressed his gratitude to the competition directors and organizing schools for their hard work. He also presented certificates of appreciation to domestic and foreign companies that helped arrange the training programs, encouraging continued collaboration among all partners to strengthen Taiwan's technical and vocational education.

As part of the ongoing commitment to enhancing technical and vocational education, the MOE has organized the overseas professional training program for winners of the National High School Skills Competition since the 2015 academic year. This year, the schools responsible for

coordinating the 2025 competition organized training programs in the United States and Japan, offering 12 to 14 days of hands-on training and observation visits.

The industrial category program, organized by National Kangshan Agricultural & Industrial Vocational Senior High School, took students to companies, universities, industrial exhibitions, and specialized facilities in Japan. The itinerary focused on five key areas: manufacturing systems and technologies, smart electrical engineering and innovative electronics, intelligent information technology and computer innovation, automotive technology and refrigeration and air-conditioning, and creative architecture and design communication. During the presentation, students highlighted the opportunity to gain firsthand insight into Japan's long-established corporate culture, smart manufacturing, automated production systems, lean management, architectural design, and international technological exchanges. They visited renowned organizations such as Daihatsu Motor, Daikin Industries, and the Osaka Institute of Technology to observe real-world applications of smart warehousing, Automated Guided Vehicles (AGVs), and earthquake-resistant steel structures. During the Tokyo Architecture Festival, students explored distinctive buildings and public spaces while developing a deeper appreciation for spatial design. They were deeply impressed by Japan's 5S lean management methodology and meticulous attention to detail.

The commercial category program, organized by National Tainan Commercial Vocational Senior High School, brought students to Houston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco for a two-week program on international business innovation and financial management. Students visited the U.S. headquarters of CTBC Bank to learn about Taiwan–U.S. capital management and global financial operations. They also visited Digital Domain, a leading Hollywood visual effects studio, where they were impressed by its Academy Award-winning technology for digital and virtual humans. Other activities included comparing retail space planning and brand marketing strategies between large-scale retailers and specialty grocery stores, as well as examining how Disneyland and Major League Baseball teams utilize dynamic pricing to generate revenue and expand their businesses.

The home economics category, organized by Zhong Li Home Economics and Commercial Senior High School, featured two Japan-based programs on food safety management and integrated life-skills applications. In the food safety management program, hands-on workshops at the Miyazaki Manabiya Academy demonstrated Japan's uncompromising standards for food safety and dining environments, while visits to Kuromon Market and Yanagibashi Rengo Market illustrated product display and marketing strategies in traditional markets. In the integrated life-skills applications program, students visited the production floor and listened to professional briefings on manufacturing processes at the Shiseido Kurume Factory. They also visited Children's Center and Futaba Kindergarten in Saito City, where they learned about how these

institutions design educational toys and create nurturing environments that promote physical health, independence, and personal growth.

For the agricultural category, National Minsyong Vocational High School of Agriculture & Technology organized a 12-day training program in Japan, focusing on agricultural technology and applications. Students shared that the program successfully combined theory with hands-on practice. At the Saitama Prefectural Agricultural College and the Food and Agriculture Museum at Tokyo University of Agriculture, they learned about smart agriculture, sustainable farming, and food and agricultural education in practice. Meanwhile, visits to the Daio Wasabi Farm in Azumino and rooftop farms inspired new ideas on microclimate management, landscape aesthetics, and the coexistence of urban green spaces with sustainable ecosystems. Students also participated in pressed-flower processing at Lake Kawaguchi, butter making at Isonuma Farm, and making handmade Shinshu miso, gaining firsthand experience with the successful integration of secondary processing and agritourism. In addition, through exchanges with Minamiazumi Agricultural High School and homestays on Japanese farms, students expanded their practical knowledge while internalizing the dedication of Japan's commitment to food safety and land sustainability, motivating them to pursue Taiwan's own agricultural transformation.

The maritime and fisheries category program was organized by the National Su-Ao Marine and Fisheries Vocational High School, focusing on marine industries and applications in Japan. Visits to the Fukuoka Fisheries and Marine Technology Research Center and the University of Miyazaki introduced students to integrated approaches connecting industry, research, and academia in marine biotechnology and resource management. At Miyazaki Marine High School, students also boarded a training ship for hands-on sea experience, observing modern navigation, engine-room operations, and fishing technology. Furthermore, visits to Mitsui O.S.K. Lines and the Miyazaki Central Wholesale Market provided valuable insights into the evolution of modern logistics and supply chain management. The itinerary also included in-depth visits to processing plants for mentaiko (seasoned cod roe), seafood crackers, and eel, where students learned about smart aquaculture and the development of high-value-added seafood products. Students shared that the program combined ecological observation, industry visits, and cultural experiences, providing valuable inspiration and support for their future careers in the maritime and fisheries industry.

The K-12 Education Administration stated that it will continue promoting overseas professional training programs for winners of the National High School Skills Competition, connecting students globally to expand their global horizons and boost the global competitiveness of Taiwan's technical and vocational education.