

2026 Best AI Awards – Competition Guidelines

I. Statement of Purpose

The **Best AI Awards** encourages teams from schools and companies to showcase a diverse range of innovative AI applications that drive industry development and cultivate talent for businesses. The competition features two categories: **AI Applications** and **IC Design**. Students and companies are encouraged to submit innovative projects with strong potential for real-world industry adoption.

II. Event Schedule (Taiwan Time GMT+8)

- a. **Online Registration:** January 19, 2026 (Mon) 9:00 - March 16, 2026 (Mon) 17:00 (GMT+8)
- b. **Preliminary Round (Proposal Review):** March 24, 2026 (Tue) - April 2, 2026 (Thu)
- c. **Final Round (Presentation):** April 25, 2026 (Sat) 8:00 - 17:00 @ Taipei Nangang International Exhibition Center, Hall2 (No.2, Jingmao 2nd Rd., Nangang District, Taipei City, Taiwan)

III. Organizers

- a. **Advisor:** Ministry of Economic Affairs
- b. **Organizer:** Department of Industrial Technology, MOEA
- c. **Hosting Organization:** Taipei Computer Association

IV. Competition Categories

Category	Description
AI Application	Utilizing AI technologies to develop innovative applications or services for all industries.
IC Design	Using AI for IC circuit design or using IC for AI Innovation technologies, from design, manufacturing, packing, testing to EDA Innovation technology.

※Each project can only be registered for ONE category.

V. Eligibility

International Student	1. The competition is open to all students currently enrolled in undergraduate, postgraduate, or PhD program at accredited colleges or universities. 2. Participants must be foreign nationals (non-Taiwanese). 3. Participant from China (including Hong Kong and Macau) are not eligible to participate. 4. Each team may consist of up to 8 eligible students and may have no more than 2 mentors. Mentors are not included in the team members.
International Company	1. Legal companies with overseas Taiwanese-invested or foreign-invested and companies are registered under foreign laws are eligible to register. 2. A team may consist of up to 8 members. 3. Participants must be foreign nationals (non-Taiwanese). 4. Companies, participants from China (including Hong Kong, Macau) are not eligible to participate. 5. Companies, individuals, juristic persons, organizations, other institutions from China (including Hong Kong, Macau) and the companies they invest into in a third area, are not eligible for the Best AI Awards. 6. The invested companies in a third area mentioned in the preceding paragraph refer to the individuals, juristic persons, organizations and other institutions from China (including Hong Kong, Macau), and in one of the following situations: ● Directly or indirectly holding the shares issued by a company in a third area or the total contributing amount exceeding thirty (30) percent. ● Having the controlling power over the companies in a third area.

VI. Awards and Prizes

Category	Groups	Prize	Note
AI Application	Student	Gold: NTD 300,000 Silver: NTD 200,000 Bronze: NTD 100,000 Honorable Mention: NTD 50,000 *Mentor of the winning team will receive NT\$10,000 per team.	- Winning teams and mentors are awarded award certificates issued by the organizer. The finals must attend final round in-person in Taipei, Taiwan on April 25, 2026. The organizer will provide travel subsidies for two team members per team, covering international round-trip flight and three-nights of accommodation (April 24-27, 2026).
	Company	Gold: NTD 1,000,000 Silver: NTD 700,000 Bronze: NTD 500,000 Honorable Mention: NTD 200,000	
IC Design	Student	Gold: NTD 300,000 Silver: NTD 200,000 Bronze: NTD 100,000 Honorable Mention: NTD 50,000 *Mentor of the winning team will receive NT\$10,000 per team.	
	Company	Gold: NTD 1,000,000 Silver: NTD 700,000 Bronze: NTD 500,000 Honorable Mention: NTD 200,000	

Remarks:

- Winners who publish their project in journals and mention the usage hours of "high-end GPU computing power" in paper will have priority to participate in the industry-academia matchmaking events.

- The winning team will have priority access to the following resources:

Target	Contents
Taiwanese company	■ The winners of Gold, Silver and Bronze who pass the "A+ industrial innovation R&D program" review will receive an additional 10% subsidy; the merit winner will receive an additional 5% subsidy. ■ Access to exhibition and business matching opportunities in InnoVEX. ■ Investment advisory services and fund matching opportunities. ■ Having an advantage in applying residency in Startup Terrace Kaohsiung.
International company	■ Having an advantage in applying residency in Startup Terrace Kaohsiung. ■ Best AI Awards is listed as a recognized award by Taiwan Employment Gold Card in the digital field.

VII. Evaluation Process

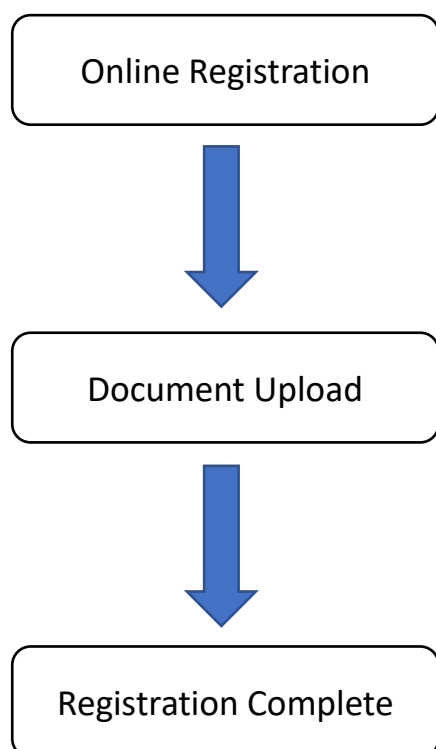
a. Selection Process

Stage	Method
Preliminary Round (Proposal Review)	Teams will be evaluated based on submitted documents, including the Project Description file and the Project Introduction Video . No attendance required.
Final Round (Presentation)	The finalist must attend to final round in-person in Taipei, Taiwan on April 25, 2026. - Teams will be evaluated based on their presentation. Each team is given 13 minutes total; including 6 minutes for presentation and 7 minutes for Q&A.

b. Evaluation Criteria

Category	Criteria	Description	Weight
AI Application/ IC Design	Industry Application	Value creation and application benefits of the project.	40%
	Technology and Innovation	Uniqueness and differentiation from existing technology or products.	30%
	Project Completeness	Overall content integrity and the degree of technical verification	30%

VIII. Registration Process



<Step 1> Visit the Best AI Awards official website(www.bestaiawards.com.tw), go to the Registration page and complete the online registration.

<Step 2> Upload the required documents:

- **Appendix B:** Participation Agreement and Personal Data Consent Form (Submit in PDF format with a maximum file size of 2MB).
- **Appendix C:** Project Description (Submit in MS Word format (.doc or .docx) with a maximum file size of 10MB).
- Supporting Documents (Submit in PDF format):

International Student	1. Proof of foreign nationality (passport or national ID copy) 2. Proof of enrollment status (Student ID with registration year or tuition receipt)
International Company	1. Proof of foreign nationality (passport or national ID copy) 2. Proof of company registration

- 3-Minute Project Introduction Video:
The video should be uploaded to YouTube as **"Unlisted."** Please submit the URL to the unlisted video in the registration form.

※All registration and documents upload must complete before March 16, 2026 4:59:59pm (GMT+8), the system will be close at 5:00pm.

IX. Competition Rules

1. Participating teams are agreed to abide by all competition guidelines and decisions made by the organizer, including evaluation criteria and results.
2. The organizer reserves the right to disqualify teams and revoke awards, including prize money and certificates, under the following circumstances:
 - a. Submission of false or misleading information.
 - b. Plagiarism, unauthorized use, or infringement of patents, proprietary technologies, copyrights, or other intellectual property rights.
 - c. Conduct that disrupts the competition or unfairly impacts other teams.
 - d. Violation of any competition rules or regulations.
 - e. Submitting multiple entries from the same team or submitting the same project under different team names or members.
 - f. Failure to comply with registration procedures or incomplete submission of required materials.
 - g. Applying software or hardware developed in China to your product.
3. After registration, team members may not be changed, nor may new members be added.
4. Teams are responsible for managing internal roles, including prize distribution. The organizer will not intervene in any internal disputes.
5. Winning teams must participate in media interviews and promotional events and provide materials (e.g. project summary, video) for non-commercial use, both domestically and internationally.
6. The organizer reserves the right to adjust award numbers, modify event details, and announce changes on the official website.
7. Prize recipients are subject to taxation according to Taiwan's tax laws (foreign nationals: 20%). Winners must complete all necessary tax forms before receiving their prize. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of the award.
8. Participation in the competition implies full acceptance of all terms and conditions.
9. The organizer reserves the right to amend the competition rules as necessary and will announce updates on the competition website. Participants are responsible for staying informed about any changes.

X. Contact Information

Email: kay_wu@mail.tca.org.tw

Phone: +886-2-2577-4249 ext. 368 (Ms. Wu)

Appendix A: Basic Information

Best AI Awards Registration Form

(Online registration fields here for reference only, please complete the information online)

Company name/ Team Name	
Project Title	
Project Summary	(Max 500 words)
Subsidy, Awards or Recognition	Please list in point form of any subsidy, awards or recognition you have received in Taiwan related to this product. If none, please key in 0.
Competition Category	☐ AI Application ☐ IC Design
Competition Group	☐ Student ☐ Company
Project Introduction Video	(YouTube URL)
Company information (Company Group Only)	Incorporation date, company address and Description of business scope
Application Field	☐ Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, and Animal Husbandry ☐ Manufacturing ☐ Wholesale and Retail ☐ Transportation and Storage ☐ Hospitality and Food Services ☐ Information and Communications ☐ Finance and Insurance ☐ Public Administration and National Defense ☐ Education Services ☐ Healthcare and Social Services ☐ Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation ☐ AI intermediary platforms ☐ Others: ____ (Please Specify)

Team Member Information		
(1-8 members, please make sure that the contact information is valid)		
Member 1 (Team Leader – Main Contact)	Full Name	First, Last
	Prefix	Mr. / Ms. / Miss. /Mrs./ Dr
	Email	
	University/ Institution	For students group only
	Faculty/Department	For students group only
	Cell Phone	
	Nationality	
	Current residential address	
Member 2	Full Name	First, Last
	Prefix	Mr. / Ms. / Miss. /Mrs./ Dr
	Email	
	University/ Institution	
	Faculty/Department	For students group only
	Cell Phone	For students group only
	Nationality	
	Current residential address	
students group : mentor (please fill in if you have mentors)	Full Name	First, Last
	Prefix	Mr. / Ms. / Miss. /Mrs./ Dr
	Email	
	University/ Institution	
	Faculty/Department	
	Position	
	Cell Phone	
	Nationality	

Appendix B: Participation Agreement and Personal Data Consent Form

Best AI Awards

Participation Agreement and Personal Data Consent Form

Company/Team Name: _____

Project Title: _____

Our team, in participating in the "Best AI Awards" (hereinafter referred to as "the Competition"), agrees to guarantee the following terms as the basis for eligibility:

1. Our team has thoroughly reviewed and agrees to abide by the competition guidelines. We pledge to comply with all relevant regulations throughout our participation. If our entry or participation involves plagiarism, misrepresentation, impersonation, or any other unlawful acts, or if we violate any rules set forth by the competition, the organizer reserves the right to disqualify us and revoke any awards received. We also agree to return any prize money and certificates obtained. Furthermore, if our actions result in damages to the organizer, the executing unit, or any third party, our team will bear full legal and financial responsibility, and the organizer and executing unit shall not be held liable.
2. Our team will not engage in any actions at the competition venue that may disrupt other participants or compromise the fairness of the competition. If such misconduct is verified, the organizer reserves the right to disqualify our team and revoke any awards received. We also agree to return any prize money and certificates obtained.
3. Our team agrees to cooperate with the organizer's promotional and publicity efforts by providing relevant materials related to our submission (including the project summary and video) free of charge. We also agree to participate in interviews, event photography, and video editing for use in competition-related publications, promotional videos, reports, or social media campaigns. These materials may be used domestically and internationally for non-commercial purposes to foster information exchange and creative innovation.
4. Collection, Processing, and Use of Personal Data:
 - a. The organizer, Department of Industrial Technology, Ministry of Economic Affairs, has commissioned the Taipei Computer Association (hereinafter referred to as "the Association") to execute the Best AI Awards. In compliance with the Personal Data Protection Act and relevant regulations, we are legally required to inform you of the following before collecting your personal data. By signing this consent form, you acknowledge that you have read, understood, and agree to all terms stated herein.
 - b. Purpose and Types of Data Collected: Your personal data is collected for purposes related to the competition's administrative management, notifications, event announcements, surveys, outcome tracking, networking activities, and statistical

analysis. Additionally, the data may be used for event notifications, registration confirmations, industry-related updates, and internal management of the Association. The following personal data will be collected: organization name, nationality, current residence, member names, title of members, mobile phone number, email, and personal portrait.

- c. Period, Scope, Recipients, and Methods of Data Use: Your personal data will be used by the relevant authorities within the Republic of China (Taiwan) to the extent necessary and reasonable for the stated purposes of collection. Unless required for international business or activities, your data will not be shared beyond this scope. The data will be retained and used until the purposes of collection no longer apply.
- d. Data Subject Rights: Under Article 3 of the Taiwan Personal Data Protection Act, you have the right to request access to, review your personal data, obtain a copy, request corrections or updates, and request to stop its collection, processing, use, or deletion.
- e. Impact of Not Providing Personal Data: If you fail to provide accurate personal data, or if you request to stop the collection, processing, use, or deletion of your data, you may be unable to receive relevant services associated with the stated collection purposes.
- f. Portrait Rights:
 - i. Authorization Content: By signing this consent form, you agree to grant the organizer and executing unit the right to photograph, use, and publicly display your image.
 - ii. Authorization Period & Region: The authorization is perpetual and unlimited in geographic scope.
 - iii. Authorization Terms: This authorization is granted free of charge.
- g. To opt out of receiving notifications and related information, you may use the unsubscribe link provided in messages. For further inquiries, please contact Ms. Tang during office hours at (8862) 2577-4249, ext. 390. If you believe there is a violation of this personal data statement, please report it to the event coordinator.

International Company: Company seal or signature of the company representative or CEO	
International Student: Signatures of all team member(s):	

Submitted to:

Organizer: Department of Industrial Technology, Ministry of Economic Affairs

Hosting Organization: Taipei Computer Association

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

Appendix C: Project Description

Best AI Awards Project Description

- The project description should follow the provided outline and include both text and images. A single Word document (max 5 pages) should be uploaded, with a file size not exceeding 10MB. If the document exceeds the page limit, only the first 5 pages will be reviewed.
- The document should be written in English and formatted in Word, using A4-sized pages with 12pt font, 2cm margins on all sides, a 1cm binding edge, single-line spacing, and 3pt paragraph spacing.

Serial Number (Assigned by Organizer)	
Competition Group	☐ Student ☐ Company
Company/Team Name	
Project Title	
Application Field (Select all that applies)	☐ Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, and Animal Husbandry ☐ Manufacturing ☐ Wholesale and Retail ☐ Transportation and Storage ☐ Hospitality and Food Services ☐ Information and Communications ☐ Finance and Insurance ☐ Public Administration and National Defense ☐ Education Services ☐ Healthcare and Social Services ☐ Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation ☐ AI intermediary platforms ☐ Others: ____ (Please Specify)
Project Description Must Include: 1. Background and Concept 2. Project Features and Functionality 3. Development Tools and Techniques (e.g. Uniqueness and differentiation from existing technology or products, product/service iteration (expansion)) 4. Target user and environment (hardware and software specifications) 5. Industry Application (e.g. Commercial value, business potential, social impact, future cooperation partners, etc.) 6. Conclusion	