

Study in Singapore

DXB → SIN • Singapore

Singapore offers international students respected universities, English-medium education and direct exposure to one of Asia's leading centres for technology, finance, business, logistics and research. Its compact size, efficient infrastructure and international economy make it an attractive, though highly competitive, study destination.

AT A GLANCE

Quick Facts

TUITION FEES (INDICATIVE)

**S\$18,050 – 40,600 / year (NTU
2026 undergraduate, by subsidy
status)**

LIVING COST

**S\$1,500 – 3,000 / month
(excluding tuition)**

TEACHING LANGUAGE

English

WORKING WHILE STUDYING

**Up to 16 hours per week during
term time at approved
institutions**

WHY SINGAPORE

Why Study in Singapore?

- ✓ Autonomous universities, specialist institutions and approved private education institutions with academically rigorous, professionally relevant qualifications
- ✓ Teaching that combines lectures with research, projects, internships and industry collaboration
- ✓ English as the principal language of instruction, in a multilingual society shaped by Chinese, Malay, Indian and international communities
- ✓ An important centre for banking, fintech, international trade, logistics, biotechnology, semiconductors, AI, cybersecurity, aviation and professional services
- ✓ Universities that work closely with companies and public research organisations
- ✓ Reliable public transport, modern digital services, strong international air links and a highly organised urban environment
- ✓ Well positioned for travel and professional connections across Southeast Asia
- ✓ Permitted part-time work of up to 16 hours per week during term time for eligible students at approved institutions

COSTS

Tuition & Living Cost

Fees vary by institution, programme, nationality and whether an international student receives the Ministry of Education Tuition Grant. For illustration, NTU's published 2026 undergraduate fees for many programmes are shown below, alongside indicative private-sector ranges:

PROGRAMME OR STUDENT CATEGORY	INDICATIVE TUITION
NTU 2026 undergraduate: subsidised ASEAN international students	≈ S\$18,050 per year
NTU 2026 undergraduate: other subsidised international students	≈ S\$21,400 per year
NTU 2026 undergraduate: non-subsidised international students	≈ S\$36,350 – 40,600 per year
Private and overseas-linked programmes	≈ S\$20,000 – 50,000 or more for a qualification
Specialised master's programmes	S\$30,000 – 70,000 or more

Other courses, including medicine, use different fee levels. NUS, SMU, SUTD and other institutions publish their own annual schedules. These figures are indicative; exact tuition, GST and compulsory fees must be confirmed from the institution.

MOE Tuition Grant and three-year bond: eligible international students at participating institutions may apply for the MOE Tuition Grant, which subsidises a substantial portion of tuition. It is competitive and not guaranteed. International recipients must generally work full-time for a Singapore entity for three years after graduation. This is a legally significant obligation and should not be confused with a no-conditions scholarship.

Entry Requirements

| Diploma and pathway programmes

Applicants normally need:

- ✓ A recognised secondary-school qualification
- ✓ Required grades and subjects
- ✓ English-language evidence where requested
- ✓ Passport and official academic records

| Bachelor's programmes

Applicants normally need:

- ✓ A strong recognised school-leaving qualification, such as A levels, IB Diploma or an accepted national qualification
- ✓ Excellent grades in prerequisite subjects
- ✓ Evidence of English proficiency where the previous curriculum does not meet the institution's exemption rules
- ✓ Official certificates, results and identity documents
- ✓ Standardised tests, portfolio, interview or admissions assessment where required

Singapore's autonomous universities are highly selective. Meeting minimum entry requirements does not guarantee an offer.

| Master's programmes

Applicants normally need:

- ✓ A recognised bachelor's degree in a relevant subject
- ✓ Strong academic results
- ✓ English-language evidence where required
- ✓ CV, statement of purpose and references
- ✓ GMAT, GRE, portfolio, interview or professional experience for selected programmes

| Doctoral programmes

Applicants usually need an excellent relevant degree, research experience or proposal, academic references and a suitable research match. Some departments require applicants to identify a supervisor; others allocate supervision after admission.

LANGUAGE

Language Requirement

English is the principal language of instruction across most higher-education programmes. Evidence of English proficiency is required where the previous curriculum does not meet the institution's exemption rules.

Student Visa Process

Most foreign students admitted to an approved full-time programme need an ICA Student's Pass. The process depends on whether the student is attending an Institute of Higher Learning, an approved Private Education Institution or another school category.

Main process for Institutes of Higher Learning

- 1 Accept an offer from the institution.
- 2 Receive the Registration Acknowledgement Letter or application details from the school.
- 3 Submit the online ICA Student's Pass application using the relevant e-Service, commonly referred to through the SOLAR process.
- 4 Apply between two and three months before the course starts, unless the institution or ICA provides different instructions.
- 5 Pay the non-refundable processing fee, currently S\$45.
- 6 Provide any additional information or documents requested by ICA.
- 7 Receive In-Principle Approval (IPA) if the application is approved. The IPA may include an entry visa for visa-required nationals.
- 8 Travel to Singapore after approval and comply with the IPA conditions.
- 9 Complete medical examination, document verification and biometrics if required.
- 10 Pay the issuance fee and complete formalities for the digital Student's Pass.

Current ICA charges include a S\$60 Student's Pass issuance fee and S\$30 for a Multiple Journey Visa, where applicable, in addition to the S\$45 application-processing fee.

Commonly required information and documents

- | | |
|--|---|
| ✓ Registration Acknowledgement Letter from the institution | ✓ Financial-support information |
| ✓ Passport biodata page and birth certificate where applicable | ✓ Singapore address and contact details |
| ✓ Personal, educational and employment history | ✓ Passport photograph meeting ICA specifications |
| ✓ Information about parents, spouse or siblings where applicable | ✓ Medical examination report where required |
| | ✓ Official translations for documents not issued in English |

Applicants should remain outside Singapore while the application is processed unless ICA or the institution advises otherwise. A Student's Pass approval does not automatically give unrestricted work rights.

WHAT TO STUDY

Popular Courses

Popular study areas include:

Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence and Data Science

Cybersecurity, Software Engineering and Information Systems

Electrical, Electronic, Mechanical and Civil Engineering

Business Administration, Management and Entrepreneurship

Banking, Finance, Economics and FinTech

Accounting, Business Analytics and Actuarial Science

Biotechnology, Biomedical Science and Life Sciences

Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Public Health

Logistics, Supply Chain and Maritime Studies

Hospitality, Tourism and Event Management

Architecture, Urban Planning and Sustainable Design

Media, Communication, Animation, Arts and Design

International Relations, Public Policy and Asian Studies

Applicants considering medicine, dentistry, law, architecture or other regulated professions should verify professional recognition, licensing conditions and eligibility for international students before applying.

WHERE TO STUDY

Popular Universities

The following institutions are widely considered by international applicants. This is not a definitive ranking.

- National University of Singapore: computing, engineering, business, science, medicine-related fields, law and social sciences
- Nanyang Technological University: engineering, computing, business, science, communication, education and research
- Singapore Management University: business, accountancy, economics, computing, law and social sciences
- Singapore University of Technology and Design: engineering, architecture, design, computing and technology
- Singapore Institute of Technology: applied degree programmes, engineering, computing, health and industry-focused education
- Singapore University of Social Sciences: business, social sciences, law, education and applied learning
- University of the Arts Singapore: fine arts, design, music, performance and creative industries
- Duke-NUS Medical School: graduate-entry medicine and biomedical education
- INSEAD Singapore: MBA, executive education and management
- ESSEC Asia-Pacific: business, finance, management and executive education
- TUM Asia: engineering, technology, logistics and science programmes
- James Cook University Singapore: business, psychology, IT, tourism and environmental science

Students considering private institutions should check registration, EduTrust status, programme ownership and the awarding body. Eligibility for a Student's Pass and part-time work depends on the institution and course.

Ready to study in Singapore?

Admission is competitive and application windows open early. Our counsellors plan your programme choice, scholarship strategy and ICA Student's Pass file properly.

+44 7442 978718 · +971 58 275 0963

info@edu-consultancy.com

www.edu-consultancy.com

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