



Applying to East Asia

July 2014

APPLYING TO EAST ASIA

A number of universities in Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia provide education in English. Details of some of these universities are provided in this section along with some guidance about visa processes in these areas. Of course, there are many other high quality universities in the Asia region, for example in China and Japan, but these will require you to have sufficient command over the language of instruction used.

Most new academic sessions start from July to September. Deadlines for applying tend to be from December to March. Please check individual universities for their specific deadlines. Please be aware of any additional conditions attached to your specific course. For example, to pursue a degree in Dentistry or Medicine in Singapore, you must sign an agreement with the government that you will work for the Ministry of Health for five and six years respectively (excluding housemanship / first year residency training). Most universities in this region generally do not offer financial aid for international students, but a few scholarships may be available. Check the institutional websites for details of any scholarships for which you may be eligible.

Singapore

Universities: The universities in Singapore that admit foreign undergraduates are:

1. National University of Singapore

Website: www.nus.edu.sg

Admissions & Applications: Apply online by the end of February. If you are applying before completion of your A levels (the likely situation), you must also submit results for the SAT Reasoning Test (SAT I) and three SAT Subject Tests (SAT II), including Mathematics Level II. For more information see:

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/oam/apply/international/admissionreq/BYA-admissionreq.html>.

The university is ranked first in Asia for Medicine, Engineering, IT, Mathematics, Metallurgy and Materials and second in Asia for Chemistry, Physics and Astronomy, and Environmental Sciences in the latest QS rankings.

2. Nanyang Technological University

Website: <http://www.ntu.edu.sg/Pages/home.aspx>

Admissions & Applications: Apply online between early October and early April. A Level results must be uploaded within 3 days from the release date. For more information, see:

<http://admissions.ntu.edu.sg/UndergraduateAdmissions/Pages/ApplytoNTU.aspx>

3. Singapore Management University

Website: www.smu.edu.sg

Admissions & Applications: Applications are accepted from mid-October to early April. The SAT Reasoning Test (SAT I) is required, with a minimum score of 1900. For more information, see:

<http://admissions.smu.edu.sg/apply/admissions-requirements>.

Courses in general education (arts and sciences) and career skills, an internship and community service are compulsory components of all undergraduate degrees. Degrees are offered in Accountancy, Business Management, Economics, Information Systems, Law and Social Sciences. Most degrees take four years to complete. The new academic session starts in mid-August, earlier than other Singaporean universities.

Visas:¹

Once you have been offered a place at a university, you must apply for a Student's Pass (which will also grant you an entry visa) at least one month and not more than two months before the start of your course. Your university will help you register for this pass with the relevant authority, SOLAR. Once you have been registered, you may log in to SOLAR to submit eForm 16 and pay the processing, issuance and multiple-entry fees (totalling Singapore Dollars 120) to apply for the Student's Pass. The processing time is generally ten days. During the July/August peak period, applications may take a longer time to process. Students are strongly advised to submit their applications early.

On arrival in Singapore you will have to go to the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) by e-appointment with your documents to complete the formalities of the Student's Pass. For more details, see: <http://www.ica.gov.sg/page.aspx?pageid=325&secid=182>

Hong Kong

Universities: Given below are some universities in Hong Kong which attract foreign undergraduates.

Please note that this list is not exhaustive.

¹ Please note that you are responsible for ensuring that visa application instructions and requirements are up to date. We would advise you to check the link provided before proceeding.

1. The University of Hong Kong

Website: www.hku.hk

Admissions & Applications: Both paper and online applications are accepted. Applications must reach the university by the end of December. For more information on admissions, see: www.als.hku.hk/intl/. The university is ranked as one of the top university in Asia in the latest QS World University Rankings.

2. The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Website: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/english/index.html>

Admissions & Applications: Both paper and online applications are accepted. Applications must reach the university by mid-November for early consideration, early January for regular applications and mid-March for late applications (which are subject to availability of places). For more information on admissions, see: <http://www5.cuhk.edu.hk/oafa/index.php/international>.

Degrees are taught in English, but students are required to take an intensive programme in Putonghua, Cantonese and English in the first year. Most degrees take four years to complete. General Education, Information Technology and Physical Education are compulsory components of a degree.

3. The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Website: www.ust.hk

Admissions & Applications: Apply online between early September and mid-November for Early Decision, or till mid-January for Regular Decision. Supporting documents must be uploaded electronically, see: http://join.ust.hk/international/applyhere/date_to_remember.html for more information.

Visas:²

Applications for a student visa can be made through the student centre of your university once an offer has been made. When your completed application has been processed, you will receive a student visa label from your university which you can use with your passport to enter Hong Kong. For more information, see the International Students sections of the university websites.

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Malaysia

Four foreign universities have campuses in Malaysia. These universities follow the curricula and award the same degrees as the campuses in their countries of origin. These universities are given below (country of origin in brackets):

1. The University of Nottingham (UK)

Website: <http://www.nottingham.edu.my/index.aspx>

Admissions & Applications: Print out and complete the Undergraduate Application Form from the website <http://www.nottingham.edu.my/Applications/International/apply.aspx>. Also print out the Undergraduate Reference Form and ask your counsellor to give this to you in a sealed envelope when completed. Send your completed form along with your supporting documents (transcripts, reference in sealed envelope, predicted grades, proof of English language competency, copy of your passport and application fee form) and \$50 application fees to the university by post/ courier, fax or e-mail.

2. Monash University (Australia)

Website: www.monash.edu.my

Admissions & Applications: Applications can be made by completing the International Undergraduate Application Form (and the MBBS Application Form if relevant) and submitting it by post or online. There are two major intakes in the year, in February and July. For the July intake (the more likely scenario), you must submit your application by end of May (date varies each year). For more information, see <http://www.monash.edu.my/study/apply/>

3. Curtin University of Technology (Australia)

Website: www.curtin.edu.my

Admissions & Applications: International applicants must download and print the application for admission from the website http://www.curtin.edu.my/future/apply_online.htm. Certified copies of transcripts must be attached. There is no application fee.

4. Swinburne University of Technology (Australia)

Website: www.swinburne.edu.my

Admissions & Applications: Download and print the application form from the website <http://www.swinburne.edu.my/international/apply/foundation-degree.htm>. Send the completed application along with the necessary documents (including transcripts) to the university by mail, courier, fax or e-mail. There are no fees at this stage. There is no official application deadline but students are advised to apply as early as possible. Applications received after classes have commenced will not be considered until the next term.

There are also a number of local universities that teach in English. However, you will probably have to take some courses in the Bahasa language and Malaysian studies as part of your degree programme. Universities which attract foreign undergraduates include, but are not limited to:

5. Limkokwing University of Creative Technology

Website: www.limkokwing.edu.my

Admissions & Applications: There are intakes in July and September. Students should download the application form from <http://media.limkokwing.net/pdf/forms/malaysia2.pdf>. The completed form should be sent with the necessary documents (including certified transcripts and proof of English competency) and the registration fee to the university. For more details, see: http://www.limkokwing.net/malaysia/academic/application_procedures.

The university has courses in traditional subjects such as Architecture, Business Administration, Accounting and Computer Science and Journalism, but is particularly known for its varied range of Design courses. Some of the more unusual degree courses on offer include Games Design, Event Management and Fashion & Retailing. For the full list of degree courses available, see: <http://www.limkokwing.net/malaysia/academic/courses/>.

6. International Islamic University of Malaysia

Website: www.iium.edu.my

Admissions & Applications: Students must have passes in three principal A level subjects in one sitting, including in Mathematics. The university reserves the right to decide if an alternative subject is acceptable if Mathematics has not been studied at A level. Medicine, Pharmacy and Engineering have additional subject requirements. Applicants must have a score of 550 in TOEFL or Band 6.0 in IELTS

or obtain a minimum of 6.0 points in the IIUM-administered English Placement Test. If deemed necessary, students may be required to attend an interview and/ or take an entrance test.

Application forms should be downloaded from <http://www.iium.edu.my/admissions/undergraduates> and submitted to the e-mail address provided. Certified transcripts and financial statements must be included. Intakes are in February, June and September with closing dates on December 1, April 1 and July 1 respectively. For more details, see <http://www.iium.edu.my/admissions/international>.

7. Malaysia University of Science and Technology

Website: www.must.edu.my

Admissions & Applications: Students must have passed at least two A level subjects with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 (C grade average). Some subjects may have specific requirements. Students must submit the online application form:

http://www.must.edu.my/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=231&Itemid=198

8. Sunway University

Website: www.sunway.edu.my

Admissions & Applications: Download and complete the application form

[http://sunway.edu.my/university/sites/default/files/admission/docs/11.%20SUN-U%20APPLICATION%20FORM%20\(International\)%20\[17022014\].pdf](http://sunway.edu.my/university/sites/default/files/admission/docs/11.%20SUN-U%20APPLICATION%20FORM%20(International)%20[17022014].pdf). The completed form should be sent along with the necessary documents (including certified transcripts and a medical health examination report) and the application fees to the university by mail, courier or fax. Intakes are in June, September and February with closing dates on April 1, July 1 respectively and December 1. Applications must be received at least 15 days before the intake date in the first week of July. For more information, see: <http://sunway.edu.my/university/internationals/application-procedures>

9. International Medical University

Website: <http://www.imu.edu.my/>

Admissions & Applications: The intake dates depend on the course. The intake for Medicine is in February and August, Dentistry in February, Pharmacy in July and Psychology in February and September. International applicants are advised to check with Admission Counsellors at the university on their eligibility to apply. All applicants for Medicine and Dentistry are expected to obtain an overall band score of 7.0 or better in IELTS at the time of submission. Complete the online application form:

http://slim.imu.edu.my:8080/ps/ps/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/IMU_ONLINE_ADM_APPL_MENU.IMU_USER_REG_CT.GBL. For more information, see: <http://imu.edu.my/imu/admissions/procedures>.

Visas:³

Once you have been accepted to a university course, you must apply for a Student Pass (valid for one year and requiring renewal annually) at least three months before the commencement of your course by submitting the required documents to the university itself. The university will apply for the Student Pass on your behalf and notify you by e-mail one month before your course begins whether your application has been successful or not. Upon approval by the Malaysian Immigration authorities, you will be sent a copy of the 'Approval for Foreign Student Studying in Malaysia Letter' which you must take to a Malaysian Embassy or Consulate Office to apply for an Entry Visa.

The Ministry of Higher Education of Malaysia via its private arm Education Malaysia Global Services (EMGS) has enacted several new measures in order to streamline and facilitate visa processes for international students who wish to enrol at Higher Education Institutions in Malaysia.

As part of these new arrangements, EMGS will now coordinate the International Student's Pass (Visa), the provision of Medical Insurance and the arrangements for health checks. To cover the costs associated with providing this service, EMGS has imposed a number of new charges which amount to a minimum of RM1830 for all new applications and a minimum of RM 950 for the renewal of a student pass.

For more details, see the International Students sections of university websites or the Visa section of the Immigration Department of Malaysia's website: <http://www.imi.gov.my/index.php/en/main-services/visa>.

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