



Frequently Asked Questions

Joint Intake Exercise 'H' (JIE 'H') - Direct Entry Scheme to Polytechnic Programme (DPP)

January 2026 Intake

Q1) If I do not get posted to a DPP *Higher Nitec* course during the main application phase, can I appeal for another DPP course? What are the appeal procedures?

A1) Applicants can submit an appeal via the ITE website (<http://www.ite.edu.sg>) after the release of the DPP application results. Actual dates of the appeal period will be published on the ITE website upon release of the 2025 GCE N-Level examination results.

Q2) How do I apply for the DPP?

A2) Upon the release of the GCE N-Level examination results, eligible Secondary 4N(A) students can apply for the DPP using their GCE N-Level examination results and school-based O-Level preliminary examination results (if applicable).

You need a Singpass account to apply. Please visit the Singpass website at <https://www.singpass.gov.sg> for information on Singpass application and password reset. For further assistance, please refer to the Singpass FAQ page at <https://go.gov.sg/singpass-faq>, call the Singpass helpdesk at +65 6335 3533 or email support@singpass.gov.sg.

Upon release of the DPP posting results, students who have been offered a place must indicate acceptance of the offer by end December, failing which the offer will lapse and the place will be offered to another student. More information on the admission procedures can be found in the DPP admissions webpage (<https://www.ite.edu.sg/secondary-school-students/admissions/entry-qualifications/gce-n-level/for-gce-n-students-jie-h>).

Eligible Secondary 4N(A) students who have sat for both GCE N- and GCE O-Level examination subjects in 2025 may also apply for the DPP.

Successful applicants will be posted to respective DPP 2-year *Higher Nitec* courses, which will commence in January 2026. Students who have received and accepted a DPP offer by end 2025 need not report for Secondary 5 on 2 January 2026.

Q3) Can I use my school-based O-Level preliminary results to apply for DPP?

A3) Yes. Secondary 4N(A) students can combine their GCE N-Level examination results and school-based O-Level preliminary examination results to apply for the DPP. Students who are successful in their DPP application will receive an offer for a DPP course. If a student takes the same subject at both N- and O-Levels, only the better grade will be used for computation of his/her ELMAB3 aggregate.

Q4) Can Secondary 4 N(A) students who are newly eligible for DPP after the release of the GCE O-Level results apply for the DPP using a combination of their GCE O- and N-Level results?

A4) Yes, after the release of the GCE O-Level results in January 2026, students who were not previously eligible but are now eligible will also be allowed to apply for the DPP.

Q5) How many course choices do I have?

A5) Eligible students are allowed to submit up to 12 DPP course choices in their application. Similar 2-year *Higher Nitec* courses conducted at different ITE Colleges are considered as separate choices (e.g. *Higher Nitec* in Electronics Engineering at ITE College East and *Higher Nitec* in Electronics Engineering at ITE College Central are taken as two choices). Students are strongly encouraged to consider their course choices carefully together with their parents and teachers and make decisions in line with their interests and aptitudes.



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Q6) I am interested in both the Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP) and the DPP. What should I do, given that the DPP application is in December and the PFP application is in January?

A6) Before applying for the PFP and/or the DPP, students are encouraged to consider carefully their interests and strengths, as well as the courses offered under both programmes. For more information on the PFP and DPP, as well as the courses offered, students may refer to the PFP website (<https://pfp.polytechnic.edu.sg/PFP/index.html>) or the DPP website (<https://www.ite.edu.sg/secondary-school-students/admissions/entry-qualifications/gce-n-level/for-gce-n-students-jie-h/>). One option for Secondary 4 Normal (Academic) students who are interested in both the PFP and DPP is to first progress to Secondary 5 and then apply for both the PFP and DPP upon release of the GCE O-Level examination results in January.

Q7) Can I apply for both the PFP and DPP at the same time in January?

A7) Yes. However, if the student is offered a place in both the PFP and DPP, he/she must choose between both offers and accept only one course offer. He/she will not be allowed to accept both course offers.

Q8) When will I know my application results for the DPP?

A8) Dates for release of the DPP application results will be published on the ITE website upon release of the 2025 GCE N-Level examination results. Applicants are required to log into the ITE website (<https://student.ite.edu.sg>) to check their results. Successful applicants have to accept the offer during the acceptance period stated in ITE website. If they do not accept the offer during that stipulated period for course acceptance, they are deemed to have forfeited their DPP offer.

Q9) Can I apply for 2-year *Higher Nitec* courses under the DPP and 3-year *Higher Nitec* under the Joint Intake Exercise at the same time?

A9) Yes, applicants can submit separate applications to 2-year *Higher Nitec* courses under the DPP JIE 'H' and 3-year *Higher Nitec* courses under the JIE 'N'. However, once an applicant is successful for a DPP 2-year *Higher Nitec* course, he/she will not be offered a 3-year *Higher Nitec* course.

Q10) Why can't all students be offered a course of their choice?

A10) Admission to DPP courses are highly competitive and based on merit. Students may speak to ITE's course counsellors or Education and Career Guidance Counsellors to learn more about the various DPP *Higher Nitec* courses. Students can also choose not to accept DPP offers that were not among their choices, and instead progress to Secondary 5 - this allows them the option of re-applying for admission into a course of their choice in the polytechnics or ITE through either the Early Admissions Exercise (EAE) or Joint Admissions Exercise (JAE).

Q11) Are there courses that are suitable for students with specific learning needs?

A11) Students with special educational needs are advised to consult the respective ITE Colleges Learning Accessibility Office to discuss the range of DPP courses that meet their needs before submitting their DPP application. For further assistance on course advising, applicants may contact one of the Learning Accessibility Office (<https://for.edu.sg/LAO>) located at each ITE College.



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Q12) How do I accept the course offer?

A12) You need to key in the One Time Passcode (OTP) to accept the course offer, the OTP can be sent to your mobile phone or email provided during your application. Please get ready the information as listed in the table below before proceeding to accept the course offer. If the required information is not provided when completing the course acceptance, your training place offered will be withdrawn.

1	Parent(s)/ guardian particulars (if you are not staying with your parent(s), please provide your guardian's particulars)	Fields required are: 1. Name 2. NRIC / FIN 3. Citizenship 4. Contact No. 5. Email (optional)
2	No. of family members in your household (including yourself)	-
3	Total gross household monthly income	In Singapore dollars and round-off to nearest hundred
4	Details of personal particulars	Birth Country, Marital Status, Religion, House Type

Following the course acceptance, successful applicants can proceed to apply for bursary/financial assistance (if eligible), upload photo for application of ITE Student Concession Card online and submit Post-Secondary Education Account Standing Order (PSEA SO) form online (only for Singapore Citizens who are using PSEA to make fee payment for ITE full-time courses).

Q13) How do I apply for bursary/financial assistance, upload photo and submit PSEA SO form online?

A13) Upon course acceptance, successful applicants can proceed to apply for bursary/financial assistance (if eligible), upload passport size photo for the application of ITE Student Concession Card, and submit PSEA SO form online.

(i) Bursary/Financial Assistance

To apply for bursary/financial assistance, eligible applicants will need to provide the following information of all family members in the same household:

- Name
- Relationship to you
- Age
- Occupation / school
- Marital status
- Gross monthly income of each working adult

You are required to upload one supporting income document (e.g. latest income tax statement or CPF transaction history or latest payslips of not more than 3 months old or letter from employer indicating income) for each working adult subsequently. Alternatively, applicants may exit the browser at any time and apply for bursary/financial assistance later at <https://student.ite.edu.sg> (click Student Admissions tab then click FAS/Photo/PSEA) 2 working days after course acceptance.

(ii) Photo Upload

Applicants are required to get ready a softcopy of passport size photo before uploading. The guidelines for the photo are:

- Be in colour, taken against white background without shadow
- Taken within the last 3 months
- Show full face without headgear
- Show your hair neatly combed or tied up and must be of natural colour



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- (For female students) Only one pair of simple earrings may be worn, one on each ear lobe. No earrings allowed for male students.

The photo image requirements are:

- Format: JPEG/JPG
- Named as: NRIC.jpg (e.g. T1234567A.jpg)
- Dimension: 240 X 320 pixels
- File size: about 150 kbytes

You may resize your photo at: <https://for.edu.sg/ite-student-card>.

Alternatively, applicants may exit the browser at any time and upload their photo later at <https://student.ite.edu.sg> (click Student Admissions tab then click FAS/Photo/PSEA) 2 working days after course acceptance.

(iii) Submit PSEA SO Form

Singapore Citizens can submit PSEA Standing Order (SO) form at <https://for.edu.sg/psea-iteso>. **If you are below 21 years of age, your parent/legal guardian will need to submit the online PSEA SO form on your behalf using his/her Singpass.** Your parent/legal guardian can register for Singpass at <https://www.singpass.gov.sg>. An acknowledgement email (from: donotreply@mail.form.gov.sg) will be sent to the email address provided in the PSEA SO form upon submission. Applicants can call the 24-hour automated PSEA hotline number (6260 0777) to check if they have an active account and their PSEA balance.

Q14) If a student has already accepted a DPP offer in December, will he be able to apply for the PFP in January?

A14) If the student has already accepted his/her DPP offer, his/her secondary school will contact him/her if he/she is eligible for PFP and the collection of the PFP eligibility form (Form P), after the release of the GCE O-Level results. If the student decides to apply for and accepts his/her PFP offer in January, he/she will need to apply for withdrawal from the DPP course. Applicant can apply for refund of his/her DPP enrolment fees, subject to ITE's approval.

Q15) What are the fees for the Higher Nitec courses under the DPP?

A15) For more information on the fees payable for DPP preparatory course and the 2-Year *Higher Nitec* course fees, please visit <https://www.ite.edu.sg/admissions/full-time-courses/higher-nitec-dpp/fees>.

Q16) Is there any refund of fees if I decide to withdraw from the DPP 2-year *Higher Nitec* course?

A16) Refund of fees is not an automatic process. Applicants must apply for refund before ITE can process the request. The total fees paid may be refundable under the following conditions:

Date of Application for Refund	Amount of Refund*
2 weeks or more before start of course/term	100% of refund
Less than 2 weeks before start of course/term	50% of refund
After start of course/term	No refund

*All requests for refund are not guaranteed and are subject to approval by ITE.

Q17) Are ITE financial assistance schemes available to DPP students?

A17) Yes. DPP students can apply for ITE's financial assistance schemes if they are eligible, at the respective ITE Colleges upon admission to the course.

Q18) How do I pay fees for my enrolled course?

A18) For more information on fee payment instructions, please click <https://www.ite.edu.sg/current-full-time-students/admissions/fees/>.



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Q19) When do I need to pay fees for my enrolled course?

A19) Upon acceptance of offer, all DPP students are required to pay their course fees by the respective deadlines to secure the training place, otherwise the training place will be withdrawn. Those who have accepted offers from the DPP Main Application and Appeal phases are required to pay their course fees by **Mon 12 Jan 2026** while those from the Final Application phase are required to pay their course fees by **Mon 26 Jan 2026**. For more information on fee payment instructions, please visit: <https://www.ite.edu.sg/current-full-time-students/admissions/fees/>.

Q20) Which Higher Nitec courses are offered under the DPP?

A20) ITE offers 18 full-time 2-year *Higher Nitec* courses under the DPP for eligible N(A) students.

Applied Sciences

- *Higher Nitec* in Bio-Chemical Technology

Engineering

- *Higher Nitec* in Civil & Structural Engineering Design
- *Higher Nitec* in Electrical Engineering
- *Higher Nitec* in Electronics Engineering
- *Higher Nitec* in Mechanical Engineering
- *Higher Nitec* in Mechatronics Engineering

Info-Communications Technology

- *Higher Nitec* in Business Information Systems
- *Higher Nitec* in Cyber & Network Security
- *Higher Nitec* in Immersive Applications & Game
- *Higher Nitec* in IT Applications Development
- *Higher Nitec* in IT Systems & Networks

Business & Services

- *Higher Nitec* in Accounting
- *Higher Nitec* in Business Administration
- *Higher Nitec* in Customer Experience
- *Higher Nitec* in Event Management
- *Higher Nitec* in Hospitality Operations
- *Higher Nitec* in Logistics & Supply Chain Management
- *Higher Nitec* in Tourism

Q21) Who can apply for the DPP?

A21) Secondary 4N(A) students who have sat for their GCE N-Level examinations in 2025 as a school candidate, and have met the following requirements are eligible to apply for the DPP:

- a) Obtained an ELMAB3 aggregate of 19 points or better (excluding CCA bonus points) and;
- b) Met the following course-specific requirements:

For Applied Sciences, Engineering and Info-Communications Technology courses:

GCE N-Level Subjects	Minimum Required Grades
English Language Syllabus A	4
Mathematics (Syllabus A/ Additional)	4
Any three other subjects excluding CCA	5



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For Business & Services courses:

GCE N-Level Subjects	Minimum Required Grades
English Language Syllabus A	3
Mathematics (Syllabus A/ Additional)	4
Any three other subjects excluding CCA	5

If you have sat for the O-Level Higher Mother Tongue Language (HMTL) examination in 2025. You may convert the better of your Secondary 3 O-Level Mother Tongue Language result or Secondary 4 O-Level HMTL result to compute your ELMAB3. In doing so, they may use the following grade conversion table for computation of their ELMAB3 aggregates:

GCE O-Level Grade	Converted Grade
A1-B3	1
B4-C6	2
D7	3
E8	4
F9*	5

*The GCE O-Level grade of F9 may be considered for the computation of the ELMAB3 aggregate score, but not for meeting subject-specific requirements.

If a student has taken the same subject at both the GCE N- and GCE O-Level examinations, only the better grade will be used in the computation of his/her ELMAB3 aggregate to determine DPP eligibility.

Students should note that eligibility to apply for the DPP does not guarantee placement in a DPP course.

Q22) Are Normal (Technical) students able to apply for the DPP?

A22) No. Secondary 4 Normal (Technical) students will continue to benefit from other available progression pathways such as the 3-year *Higher Nitec* courses at ITE that provide a strong skills-based foundation for employment.

Q23) What is the Direct Entry Scheme to Polytechnic Programme (DPP)?

A23) The DPP allows Secondary 4N(A) students to be admitted directly into a 2-year *Higher Nitec* programme at the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) without having to sit for the O-Level examinations. DPP students who successfully complete their 2-year *Higher Nitec* courses and attain the required minimum qualifying *Higher Nitec* Grade Point Average (GPA) scores are guaranteed a place in one of the polytechnic diploma courses that are mapped to their 2-year *Higher Nitec* course.

Q24) What is the age requirement for DPP applicants?

A24) Applicants must be at least 16 years old as of 1st January for the intake year (i.e. 2026).

Q25) What is the training duration of the *Higher Nitec* courses under the DPP?

A25) The total training duration of the *Higher Nitec* courses under the DPP, excluding the 10-week preparatory course, is 2 years. This is similar to other non-DPP 2-year *Higher Nitec* courses.



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Q26) Do I need to attend any preparatory course as part of the DPP?

A26) Yes. If students are successful in their DPP application, they will need to attend a 10-week preparatory course starting in January 2026 before the 2-year *Higher Nitec* course commences in April 2026. The preparatory course comprises:

- Oral & Written Communication Skills; and
- Mathematics, Science or Business Skills topics.

Q27) Must I apply for deferment from National Service (NS) in order to study in ITE?

A27) NS-liable males will be granted NS deferment for the pursuit of full-time studies at pre-university government-funded institutions including ITE if they attain a place and are pursuing a course for higher academic qualifications from what they have previously attained (e.g. from N/O Levels to *Nitec/Higher Nitec*, from *Nitec* to *Higher Nitec* or from *Nitec/Higher Nitec* to ITE Work-Study Diploma/Technical Engineer Diploma/Technical Diploma courses) and NS deferment will no longer be subject to cut-off ages. For the latest updates on NS deferment eligibility and policy, you can visit <https://for.edu.sg/ns-deferment>. Students who are not eligible for NS deferment will need to withdraw from the course that they are enrolled in.