

HEO'S GUIDANCE FOR GRADUATED STUDENTS 2026

What you will find in this guide

- ✓ Counsel on making your Singapore course choices
- ✓ IGPs and calculation of UAS/RP
- ✓ Links to the autonomous universities, IGPs and more
- ✓ On personal statements, interviews and aptitude-based admissions (ABA)
- ✓ If you are looking to apply overseas in the cycle of 2026/2027



COUNSEL IN MAKING YOUR COURSE CHOICES



1 AWARENESS OF WHAT IS OUT THERE



Be aware that there are **seven** autonomous universities alone, so there is a plethora of choices available. We don't know what we don't know, so take the chance of the Open Houses to **explore and be open** to what is out there. Nowadays, there are many new majors and interdisciplinary courses available, that were not possible before.

2 HOW TO MAKE AND RANK CHOICES?

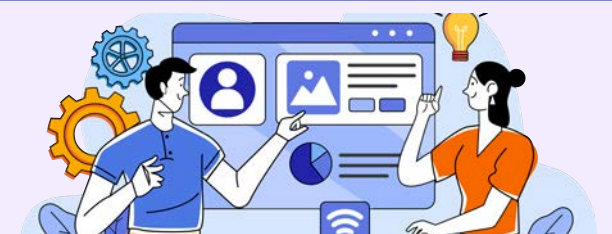


Balance between aspiration and reality. The truth is that many pathways lead to the same careers. So **avoid fixation**. You have your actual results. Consider: What are the IGPs of the courses you are interested in? Measure that against your results, to know the chances you stand. Cast your net wide, go into applications with an open mind.

Tip: The different universities consider you independently: this means that your choices in one university do not affect your other university applications. However, your rank order in each university matters: what you put as your top choice(s) will consider your application for admissions first.

In short: your rank order in each university matters, so be wise in your choices. However, given that each university assesses you separately, it is possible to cast your net widely by looking at a variety of options, all of which may well lead you to the same or similar career outcomes.

3 HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM INTERESTED IN A PARTICULAR COURSE?



When shortlisting majors: Take a practical look at the curriculum and modules studied. Do they spark interest? Are you open to pursuing this for the next **3-4 years**? What experiences have you gained thus far, that lets you know you are really interested in your chosen majors?

4 **IMPORTANT:** APPLICATION PERIOD & REFERENCES

Application period: For almost all programmes & universities: from A-Level release date, to **19 Mar 2026**. Exceptions: University of the Arts Singapore: **31 Mar 2026**. Some unique programmes, such as the EBAS scheme for NUS Medicine, have an earlier deadline (**10 Mar 2026**). Check out your specific programme, and adhere to the deadlines.

References: If you require references, please be considerate and ping your teachers early. You do **not** need to complete your app before you ping your tutors from the different university portals. Please avoid waiting until the last minute: give your teachers time to help all of you. Also resist asking for additional references if they are not required: avoid spamming universities.

INDICATIVE GRADE PROFILES (IGPS) AND CALCULATIONS OF UAS/RP



1 HOW, WHERE, WHEN TO APPLY?



All applications are done directly and independently on each university's admissions portal. Please be aware that certain faculties (like Medicine) have separate apps to be completed on top of the standard app portal requirements, and some special schemes have earlier deadlines. Refer to the links on the next page for more details.

The application deadline for all local universities is **19 Mar 2026** (except University of the Arts Singapore: **31 Mar 2026**). Do **not** miss the deadline! Portals open from the day of results release.

2 ESTIMATED CALCULATION OF RANK POINTS/UNIVERSITY ADMISSION SCORE (RP OR UAS)



The graduated cohort of 2025 is the first on the new three H2 + GP admissions criteria. This means your UAS is calculated on a basis of 70 points total, with your best three H2s being counted, alongside GP. This forms one score count.

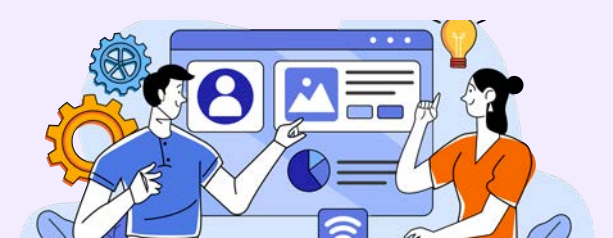
Then: your fourth content subject (be it H1 or H2) is tabulated in a second score, and rebased upon 70. The higher of the two scores is taken to be your UAS. (The terms UAS and RP are used interchangeably.). Do refer to the universities' websites directly for more information.

Important: be aware that some courses have specific H2 subject requirements for entry. Check out your specific course of interest thus for more details, to ensure you fulfil subject requirements.

Score*	H2	H1
A	20	10
B	17.5	8.75
C	15	7.5
D	12.5	6.25
E	10	5
S	5	2.5
U	0	0

All scores shown here are indicative.

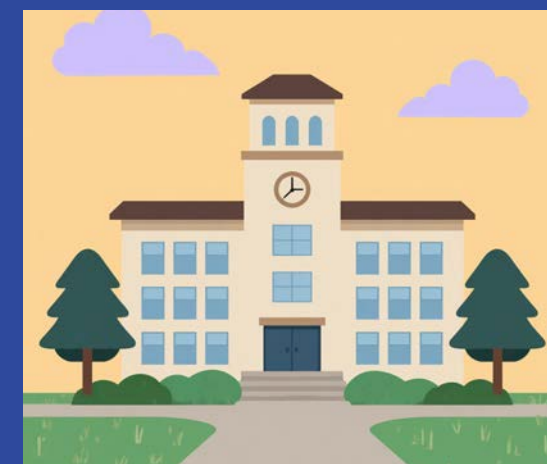
3 HOW TO LOOK AT THE INDICATIVE GRADE PROFILES (IGPS)



The IGPs indicate the representative grades of applicants who gained entry in the previous year. E.g. a major that quotes 90th percentile as "AAB/B" means that at the 90th percentile of admission, students achieved H2 subject grades of AAB and H1 content subject B. For purposes of estimating your competitiveness this year, look at the three H2 grades (i.e., what is before the /), and take that as the estimated entry bar, for the H2 content subjects.

Counsel in making choices: while it's fine to go for your aspirational top course(s) of choice, it is also wise to ensure a decent margin of safety: by your 2nd or 3rd choice in at least one university, have a course option where your achieved three H2s are comfortably above the indicated 10th percentile. This ensures you will move on to university.

LINKS TO THE UNIVERSITIES, IGPS AND MORE



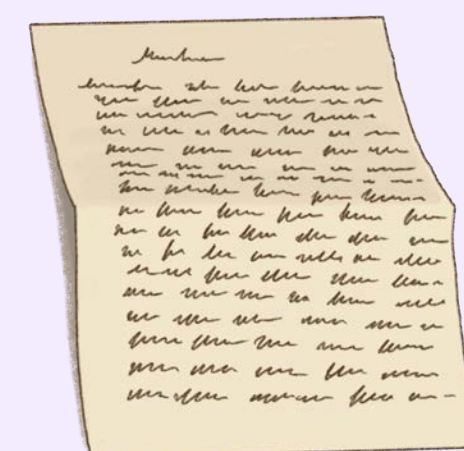
1 LINKS TO THE AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITIES

- [NTU admissions portal](#)
- [NUS admissions portal](#)
- [SIT admissions website](#)
- [SMU admissions portal](#)
- [SUSS admissions website](#)
- [SUTD admissions website](#)
- [UAS admissions website](#)



2 LINKS TO THE INDICATIVE GRADE PROFILES/ENTRY REQUIREMENTS OF THE UNIVERSITIES

- [NTU IGP and admissions guide](#)
- [NUS IGP and admissions guide](#)
- [SIT's IGP and admissions guide](#)
- [SMU's IGP and admissions guide](#)
- [SUSS' IGP and admissions guide](#)
- [SUTD's profile and admissions guide](#)
- UAS degree programmes & entry requirements: [LaSalle](#) & [NAFA](#)



3 LINK TO SCHOLARSHIPS & INFORMATION ON HEO'S SCHOLARSHIP SESSION

A [good resource](#) for looking at scholarships, if you are interested.



Headsups! HEO is conducting a special alumni session, [Compass of a Scholar](#), for students who are interested in scholarships. This will be on **7th Mar, Sat, 9am-12pm**. Please [register](#) via our MOE forms, if interested (link also available from our open web). **This is only for Raffles Institution students.**

Importantly: Please be mindful that scholarships should not be pursued for the reasons of financial support for studies or prestige. It is a work commitment to be undertaken, from the perspective of careers. This alumni session is meant to take you through the considerations and guide you in a) clarifying and aligning your personal purpose, with b) dedication to causes greater than the self, and c) how you can prepare yourself consequently, in specific sectors of interest. Should you decide not to take a scholarship after the session, that is fine! The key thing is knowing who you are and what you are willing to commit to.

ON PERSONAL STATEMENTS, TESTS AND INTERVIEWS



1 PERSONAL STATEMENTS

Your statement should reflect the best sides of yourself, and highlight how and why you are a match for the course of study. Advocate for yourself: focus on your **strengths** and who you are. Talk about academic as well as soft skills, which are relevant to the field of choice. Use your activities (both within and without school) wisely: do not just laundry-list; give a sense of your learning and growth, intellectually and otherwise. It is through meaningful reflection that you demonstrate fit and understanding. **Keep concise.**

#HEOprotip: You may be tempted to ask your tutors for (unnecessary) references; avoid the urge to spam. It's good practice and good manners to submit only what is required. You should only ask for a reference if it is a stated requirement.

For those of you interested in applying to Medicine, you can refer to our other guide, Guide to Medicine Applications, for more details.

2 INTERVIEWS

Prepare yourself well! Know yourself, why you're interested in the course and how you're suited for it. Remember that demonstrating skills and aptitude to practice in a field is not the same as demonstrating intellectual ability to study the major. Balance between the two, as apt to your conversation with your interviewers. Why will they welcome you into their community? Convince yourself you are a fit, before you can convince others.

#HEOprotip: Practice speaking out aloud and practice listening. Remember that every interview is a conversation. Articulate your opinions and thoughts, get comfortable to the sound of your own voice, even as you get similarly comfortable with a two-way dialogue. Should your interview be online, ensure a secure connection and a conducive place for interviews. Of course, be it online or F2F, do dress smartly for the occasion.

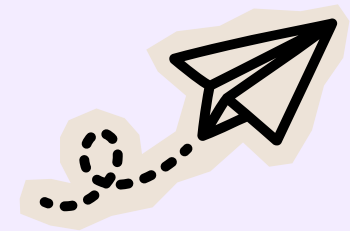
3 APTITUDE-BASED ADMISSIONS

Most local universities now look at students holistically. For universities that allow for ABA (such as NTU): do follow the specific instructions and deadlines of the specific university/course if you are putting in an ABA app. **Be aware that sometimes, this might require an earlier submission, or a tutor's reference.** If so, ensure you submit on time, and as well: ping your tutor early, so that they have sufficient time to do the necessary for you. Commonly, ABA is used only if you have exceptional accomplishments in specific fields--which are delineated by the universities. So please refer to the specific universities and your specific course choices, for what constitutes a valid ABA.

IF YOU ARE LOOKING TO APPLY OVERSEAS IN THE CYCLE OF 2026/2027



Headsup! How, when, where to apply?



For applications to the UK and US, they are **centralised via the high school**, i.e., RI. As such, if you are looking to apply to either of these destinations, headsup on the following:

a) Consider first your country and choices of majors. Be aware that in the UK, you select your major from the start. With the US, all US universities are liberal arts. So take the time after you have settled your SG apps, to shortlist your countries/majors of choice.

b) Then, **Timelines** will be published in May 2026, once this current cycle ends. Look out for it on our open webpage, and **adhere to all internal RI deadlines** please. This is to enable HEO & your teachers to do the necessary to support your apps.

c) Actual apps: UK applications go via UCAS, US applications via Common App and CIALFO. These guides will be published by mid-Jul and mid-Aug respectively, once the current cycles end and platforms are updated. Look out for our **UCAS and CIALFO guides** and follow through on how to apply. Do **not** create accounts prior. As well, to guide all of you along, we will be publishing statement writing guides (approx. May), and written feedback guidance will be available (Aug - Late Oct/Early Nov).

d) **#HEOprotip**: Once you have shortlisted your schools/majors, start writing the necessary essays, and prepare for tests (if necessary): Good apps that yield require months of effort to refine writing. Ensure you know the requirements of the universities, and fulfil them on time. All applicants register independently for any required tests (e.g., SATs, subject-specific tests). UK apps require a CT reference, and US apps require three references: your CT, and two STs. Approach them early!

As well: HEO provides guidance for other destinations. Email us if you have queries about this, and we will guide you along. A note that if you require your documents submitted to other places, please give us **at least 3-4 weeks advanced notice**, especially if hardcopy mailing is required.

All the best to all of you, as you journey onwards to your next steps in life!



**Signing off,
Your HEO counsellors**