

ANNEX B - ABOUT THE SINGAPORE COLLEGE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES (SCIS)

SCIS will be Singapore's first Islamic college dedicated to nurturing the next generation of *asatizah*, or Islamic religious teachers, who can provide religious guidance contextualised to Singapore's multi-racial and multi-religious society. The College is set to welcome its first cohort in 2028.

Academic approach and key features

- a. **Contextualised religious education.** SCIS will combine rigorous Islamic scholarship with social science perspectives and applied learning. Students will learn to analyse contemporary socio-religious issues and develop responses that are grounded in Islamic principles and attuned to Singapore's multi-racial and multi-religious context.
- b. **Broader career pathways.** Through its dual-track undergraduate degree programme, SCIS will equip students with foundational and specialised capabilities to serve in the religious sector and adjacent fields such as social work, psychology and counselling. This will enable graduates to engage with the community's lived experiences—including in marriage, family and employment—and respond to its evolving socio-religious needs.
- c. **Academic quality and partnerships.** SCIS will maintain academic rigour and deep engagement with Islamic traditions and scholarship. It will work with local and international institutions, including the Singapore University of Social Sciences, University of Jordan, Dar al-Ifta in Egypt and Al-Qarawiyyin in Morocco. Students will have opportunities to engage with international scholars and participate in immersion programmes, while these partnerships will strengthen the College's academic credibility and expand pathways for graduates.

Funding model

The Government will fund the non-religious components of SCIS's programme and infrastructure, including its social sciences programmes. The Muslim community will fund the religious education components.

Governance structure

In 2025, SCIS was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee and established key governance and advisory structures. The Board of Governors, Steering Committee and Advisory Panel each play an important role in guiding SCIS to nurture future generations of *asatizah* who are grounded in Islamic knowledge and values and able to help the community address contemporary challenges.

- a. **Board of Governors.** The Board, chaired by Mr Abdullah Tarmuggi, oversees SCIS and sets its strategic direction. Its responsibilities include endorsing academic programmes and research initiatives; safeguarding educational excellence in line with Singapore's values and standards; maintaining sound

financial stewardship and institutional integrity; and promoting transparency and accountability across the College's operations.

- b. **Steering Committee.** The Steering Committee, chaired by Mufti Dr Nazirudin Mohd Nasir, oversees SCIS's operational establishment and the implementation of its programmes, policies and institutional frameworks, translating the Board's strategic vision into actionable plans. It is an interim structure and will be absorbed into the Board of Governors once SCIS is fully established.
- c. **Advisory Panel.** The Panel strengthens SCIS's academic and scholarly standing by advising on research priorities, emerging developments affecting Muslim communities and international collaborations. Its members include prominent leaders and scholars from established local and international institutions, including Al-Azhar University, Al-Qarawiyyin University, the University of Jordan, the International Islamic Fiqh Academy, the Singapore University of Social Sciences and Singapore Management University.

Together, these structures support rigorous academic standards, sound institutional governance and continued relevance to Singapore's context.