FAQS ON HIGHER DEGREE ADMISSION

Q: When can I apply for the programme?
A: We have two intakes a year—in January and August. You are advised to visit the NIE Website and look out for announcements in April/May and October/November to confirm if the programme will be open for application at any particular intake.

Application periods for the upcoming January 2022 Intake:
- Doctor in Education: 01 Apr – 15 Jun 2021
- PhD and Masters by Research: 03 May – 30 Jul 2021
- Masters by Coursework: 10 May – 05 Jul 2021

Q: How can I apply for admission?
A: Applications are to be made online at:

NIE website (www.nie.edu.sg) > Higher Degrees > Admissions > How To Apply

Q: Is there an application fee?
A: A non-refundable application fee is payable as follows:
- $21.40 (inclusive of GST) per application for coursework programmes
- $53.50 (inclusive of GST) per application for research programmes

Q: What are the entry requirements?
A: For Doctor in Education (EdD)*:
You must hold a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree with good grades from an approved university which we judge to be of satisfactory standing, plus at least four years’ relevant experience in education or education-related fields. You may, in addition, be required to pass an approved English language test at a specified level and other prescribed tests. You will be interviewed by the Academic Group that offers your selected specialisation courses, and may be required to have gained educational and work experience as a prerequisite to these courses.

For Masters by Coursework:
Please refer to the relevant programme webpages for the specific requirements for individual programmes:

NIE Website (www.nie.edu.sg) > Higher Degrees > Masters by Coursework

The Postgraduate Diploma in Education is an example of teaching qualifications required for application into the Master of Education programme.
For Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)*:
A Bachelor’s degree with honours at least at Second Class Upper level, a Master’s degree in the relevant areas and the ability to pursue research in the candidate’s proposed field of advanced study. Shortlisted applicants will undergo an interview session as part of the selection process.

For Masters by Research*:
A Bachelor’s degree with honours at least at Second Class Upper level in the relevant areas and the ability to pursue research in the candidate’s proposed field of advanced study. Shortlisted applicants will undergo an interview session as part of the selection process.

*Note: You are advised to browse through the various Academic Groups’ webpages to contact a potential supervisor in NIE before making a formal application. As a guide, you may wish to briefly introduce yourself, explain your research interests and mention the supervisor’s research that you find interesting.

NIE website (www.nie.edu.sg) > Our People > Academic Groups

Q: What are the IELTS / TOEFL requirements for admission?
A: International applicants whose first language is not English and graduates of universities with non-English medium of instruction are required to submit an official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) score. These tests dates must be no more than two years before the date of application.

| Master of Arts (Leadership and Educational Change) | 600 | 100 | 7.0 |
| Master of Arts (Teaching Chinese as an International Language) | 500 | 61 | 6.0 |
| Other Masters by Coursework | 580 | 92 | 6.5 |
| Doctor in Education | 600 | 100 | 7.0 |
| Doctor of Philosophy and Masters by Research | 600 | 100 | 7.0 |

Q: What are the GRE / GATE requirements for admission into PhD and Masters by Research?
A: Except for graduates of the Autonomous Universities in Singapore, applicants pursuing research programmes are required to submit a good Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score, the test taken not more than five years before the date of application.

In lieu of GRE, applicants from India may use the Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) score of at least 90%, the test taken not more than three years before the date of application.

GRE - Minimum score of 319 for both Verbal and Quantitative sections. Minimum score of 3.5 for Analytical Writing section.

Autonomous Universities refer to Nanyang Technological University (NTU), National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore Management University (SMU), Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS), Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) and Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD).
**Q:** How long is the candidature period?

**A:** Generally, the candidature periods are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Masters by Coursework</th>
<th>Masters by Research</th>
<th>PhD</th>
<th>EdD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>Maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Full-time</strong></td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>2-3 years</td>
<td>Up to 3</td>
<td>Up to 5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>years</td>
<td>years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Part-time</strong></td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>Up to 3</td>
<td>Up to 5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>years</td>
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<td>Up to 7</td>
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However, the candidature period for some programmes may differ slightly. Please refer to the relevant programme webpages for details.

**Q:** Can an International Student apply to study part-time in NIE?

**A:** The Singapore Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) does not issue Student Pass for part-time programmes. An international student who wishes to pursue the part-time programme must have either a valid Employment Pass or Dependent Pass from ICA to reside in Singapore throughout the course of study. If the validity of the Employment Pass or Dependent Pass expired before the student can complete the part-time programme, NIE will have to withdraw him/her from the programme as he/she does not have a valid pass to stay on in Singapore.

For international students who are offered full-time study with the Institute, they will be issued Student Pass by the Singapore Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) in order to remain in Singapore throughout the course of study. The issuance of the Student Pass is subject to the medical clearance of the international students.

**Q:** Can I get my reporting supervisors of my organisation or friends to write the academic referee reports required for PhD and Masters by Research programmes?

**A:** Applicants pursuing research programmes are required to submit two academic referee reports to support their application.

An academic referee must be a faculty member who has taught you before in an academic capacity and be able to write about your academic capabilities as well as your suitability for higher education.

Hence, you cannot get the reporting supervisors of your organisation, colleagues or friends to write the referee reports.

**Q:** What are the fees payable for the programmes?

**A:** Fees are reviewed every academic year. More details can be found at:

*NIE website* ([www.nie.edu.sg](http://www.nie.edu.sg)) > Higher Degrees > Admissions > Fees

Payment of fees can be done by Interbank GIRO or credit card online. We also accept NETS, cheque and credit card.
**Q:** Is the SkillsFuture Mid-Career Enhanced Subsidy applicable to the higher degree programmes?

**A:** With effect from 1 July 2015, Singapore Citizens (SC) students aged 40 years and above will pay fees that are 60% lower than the standard subsidised fees payable by other Singaporean students who are below 40 years old. However, this is not applicable to students paying full fees. For more information, please visit [www.skillsfuture.sg](http://www.skillsfuture.sg).

The SkillsFuture Mid-Career Enhanced Subsidy is applicable only to the MOE-subsidised programmes. For the list of programmes, please refer to Masters by Coursework (MOE subsidised programmes) document:

*NIE website ([www.nie.edu.sg](http://www.nie.edu.sg)) > Higher Degrees > Admissions > Fees*

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**Q:** Can SkillsFuture Credit be used for the higher degree programmes?

**A:** Yes, it is applicable to all higher degree programmes offered by NIE.

SkillsFuture Credit is a grant from the Government to Singapore Citizens aged 25 and above.

For more information, please visit [www.skillsfuture.sg](http://www.skillsfuture.sg).

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**Q:** Are there scholarships available?

**A:** Please refer to the following website for the list of scholarships/grants offered by NIE and external agencies:

*NIE website ([www.nie.edu.sg](http://www.nie.edu.sg)) > Higher Degrees > Scholarships & Awards*

Please note that the University does not provide any assistance towards all travels or other costs nor does it guarantee employment to scholars on the successful completion of their degree candidature.

The following is a list of the scholarships administered by the Institute. Please visit the NIE Website for more details:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Scholarship</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Master of Arts (Applied Psychology)</td>
<td>Ong Tiong Tat Master’s Degree Scholarship / Irene Tan Liang Kheng Master’s Degree Scholarship¹</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Master of Arts (Counselling and Guidance)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Master of Arts (Humanities Education)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Master of Arts (Leadership and Educational Change)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Master of Arts in Professional Education (Training and Development)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Master of Education (Early Childhood)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Masters by Research</td>
<td>• Pradap Kow Scholarship²</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Nanyang Technological University Research Scholarship³</td>
<td>• NIE Masters by Research Scholarship³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Philosophy</td>
<td>• Nanyang President’s Graduate Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nanyang Technological University Research Scholarship³</td>
<td>• NIE PhD Scholarship³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor in Education</td>
<td>Tan Poey Quee Doctor in Education Scholarship⁴</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Open to Singaporeans and Singapore Permanent Residents. There is no separate application form. You may apply for the scholarships by indicating in the online application form.

² Open to full-time applicants. Applications must be made on the prescribed forms (available in NIE website) and uploaded to the online application system for admission.

³ Open to full-time applicants. There is no separate application form. You may apply for the scholarships by indicating in the online application form.

⁴ Open to full-time and part-time applicants. The application form is available in the NIE Website.
Q: When will I know the results of my application?
A: You will be notified in November for the January intake and June for the August intake.

Q: Who can I contact if I have enquiries on the programmes?
A: For admission and application related enquiries, please contact nieadmpp@nie.edu.sg.

For administrative matters related to the programme such as time-table, study plans, please contact higherdegrees@nie.edu.sg.

For specific academic enquiries related to the programme such as curriculum requirements, you may contact the appropriate programme leader. Please refer to the relevant programme webpages under ‘Contact Us’ for the programme leader’s contact details.