

## Eligibility Guidelines for MOE Subsidy

### (1) Students with a Higher Degree Qualification

Students (all nationalities) who already hold a higher degree qualification and wish to pursue a second graduate programme of the same or lower level will be eligible for the MOE subsidy provided the fees for their first higher degree qualification attained were not subsidised by the Singapore government or sponsored by a Singapore government agency (such as scholarships offered by the Ministries, Public Service Commission and Statutory Boards for both their local and overseas graduate programmes).

Students who have previously enjoyed government subsidies/scholarships in a graduate programme will not be eligible for MOE subsidy<sup>1</sup> in another graduate programme at the same or lower level. Instead, such students will be liable to pay a higher fee without MOE subsidy for the graduate programme that they now wish to undertake. For example, students who had previously enjoyed subsidies/scholarships in a Master's programme, and have attained the Master's degree will not be eligible for subsidy in another programme at Master's degree or lower level. For such students who are upgraded from Master's to PhD, if their date of upgrading is after Instructional Week 2 of the semester, the subsidy will only be effective the following semester. In addition, if they are upgraded to a programme which has a combination of Master's and PhD candidature, they will not be eligible to enjoy subsidy during the Master's candidature.

### (2) Transferred or Readmitted Students

Students (all nationalities) who did not complete an earlier graduate programme (e.g. Programme A) and are now transferred or readmitted to another programme (e.g. Programme B) at the same level within NUS or across Autonomous Universities<sup>2</sup> will be eligible for MOE subsidy depending on duration of Programme B less the equivalent number of semester(s)<sup>3</sup> of government subsidies/sponsorships received for the Programme A. Duration of Programme B is defined as such:

- with effect from Semester 2, AY2008/09, duration refers to Maximum Course Duration (MCD) for Research-based programmes.
- with effect from Semester 1, AY2019/20, duration refers to Normal Course Duration (NCD)<sup>4</sup> for MOE-Subsidised Graduate Coursework programmes.

For readmission to programmes of different levels, please refer to (1) *Students with a Higher Degree Qualification* above.

### (3) Conversion of Academic Workload

According to the interim subsidy conversion policy for government-subsidised graduate coursework programmes, students who convert their academic workload (from full-time (FT) to part-time (PT) or vice versa) will be eligible for MOE subsidy in their converted programmes as follows:

- a) **FT to PT:** Subsidy eligibility for PT programme = Normal Candidature Duration of PT programme – (Number of subsidised semesters consumed under FT programme x 2)
- b) **PT to FT:** Subsidy eligibility for FT programme = Normal Candidature Duration of FT programme – (Number of subsidised semesters consumed under PT programme / 2), rounded up.

MOE is currently reviewing the candidature transfer policy of government-subsidised graduate coursework programmes in a broader perspective. Relevant updates will be publicised when available.

Note:

International students admitted from Semester 1 of AY2015/16 are no longer eligible for MOE Subsidy and would be required to pay full fees unless they are on MOE PGR Scholarship or sign the MOE Service Obligation Agreement.

<sup>1</sup> *Students who are not eligible for MOE subsidy are also not eligible for some other scholarships, such as, the President's Graduate Fellowship, NUS Research Scholarship, Tuition Fee Allowance, ISEP (NGS) Scholarship, etc.*

<sup>2</sup> *Autonomous Universities refer to NUS, Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore Management University (SMU), Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD), Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) and Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS).*

<sup>3</sup> *For graduate coursework programmes done on a part-time basis, the subsidy for two semesters of parttime studies is equivalent to one semester of full-time studies. For graduate research programmes, there is no differentiation in subsidy between full-time and part-time studies.*

<sup>4</sup> *Normal Course Duration (NCD) of MOE-subsidised Graduate Coursework programmes can be found [here](#).*

As at 8 February 2021