

FACTSHEET ON NATIONAL INFOCOMM SCHOLARSHIP

The National Infocomm Scholarship (“NIS”) was launched by IDA in 2004 to develop infocomm leaders and ensure a future pipeline of talent for the infocomm industry. Specifically, it aims to:

- Make infocomm a top career choice among top students;
- Create ‘industry-ready’ scholars to drive Singapore’s infocomm industry; and
- Ensure that the industry has a fair share of top talent to sustain its future growth.

Scope

NIS offers the unique opportunity for scholars to be nurtured by leading MNCs, local companies and government agencies during their course of study. The sponsoring organisations range from diverse sectors including banking and finance, defence, energy, entertainment, and infocomm. These sponsoring organisations will nurture national infocomm scholars through mentorship and overseas work attachments of up to six months. At the end of their studies, all NIS scholars would go on to serve their bond with their sponsoring organisations.

NIS is open to both local and foreign students who have completed their junior college or polytechnic studies and are keen to pursue a fulltime infocomm-related degree in either a local or foreign university. “Partial Scholarships” are also awarded to deserving students in their final year of their infocomm degree programme at the three local universities (i.e., NUS, NTU and SMU).

NIS covers tuition and exam fees, hostel fees, annual allowance and cost of the scholar’s six-month overseas attachment. Top performing undergraduate scholars may be given an opportunity to pursue another year of sponsored postgraduate studies.

Talent Management Programme

From 2008, the NIS Talent Management Programme (or TMP for short) has been further strengthened. The aim of the TMP is to ensure that the scholars are plugged into the latest infocomm developments and have the opportunities to upgrade themselves with industry-relevant skills while they are studying. Under this programme, the scholars could choose to attend development courses, besides the NIS education, to enhance their professional capabilities. IDA is committed to sponsoring up to S\$7,000 for each scholar, over the next three years till 2010. The development courses seek to provide vendor-specific expertise, business domain knowledge, client management, business communication and soft skills. Specific examples include:

- ITIL V3 Foundation;

- Microsoft Certified Application Developer (MCAD);
- Microsoft Certified IT Professional (MCITP): Database Administrator;
- Red Hat Certified Engineer; and
- Sun Certified Java Developer.

Flagship Infocomm Programmes

Under the NIS programme, IDA launched three Flagship Infocomm Programmes in 2006. This was done in collaboration with the three local universities and top overseas universities. The aim of this programme is to provide top quality courses for talents interested to pursue infocomm education and careers. Graduates will be awarded with both Bachelor and Masters degrees from the respective universities.

The three Flagship Infocomm Masters Programmes are:

- SMU-Carnegie Mellon University Fast Track Programme awarding a Bachelor of Science (Information Systems Management) degree and a Master's of Information Technology degree with seven possible areas of specialisation (e.g., infocomm security, e-business, etc);
- NUS-Carnegie Mellon University Entertainment Technology Centre Programme in Interactive Digital Media awarding a Bachelor of Computing (Media & Communication) degree and Master of Entertainment (Entertainment Technology); and
- NTU-Georgia Institute of Technology Integrated Programmes awarding either a BEng (Computer Science) degree and a MS (Computer Science) degree, or a BEng (Electrical and Electronic Engineering) and MS (Electrical and Computer Engineering) degree.

Industry Partners

The 27 participating organisations for NIS include the following. IDA will continue to engage top companies and invite them to come on board as our NIS partners.

1. Accenture Pte Ltd
2. Avaya Singapore Pte Ltd
3. Aztech Systems Ltd
4. Barclays Capital (*joined in 2008*)
5. BT Frontline Pte Ltd
6. Centre for Strategic Infocomm Technologies
7. DBS Bank Ltd
8. Fujitsu Asia Pte Ltd
9. e-Cop (S) Pte Ltd (*joined in 2008*)
10. IBM Singapore Pte Ltd
11. ILOG (S) Pte Ltd
12. IDA
13. Intel Technology Asia Pte Ltd

14. MediaCorp Pte Ltd
15. Microsoft Singapore Pte Ltd
16. MobileOne Ltd (*joined in 2008*)
17. NCS Pte Ltd
18. Novell Singapore Pte Ltd
19. Oracle Corporation Singapore Pte Ltd
20. SAS Institute Pte Ltd (*joined in 2008*)
21. Singapore Computer Systems Pte Ltd
22. Singapore Power Ltd
23. Singapore Telecommunications Ltd
24. ST Electronics (Training & Simulation Systems) Pte Ltd (*joined in 2008*)
25. StarHub Ltd
26. Symantec Singapore Ltd (*joined in 2008*)
27. United Overseas Bank Ltd (*joined in 2008*)

Number of Scholarships

Since the launch of NIS in 2004, a total of 155 scholarships have been given out.

- 2004 – 12 scholarships
- 2005 – 20 scholarships
- 2006 – 36 scholarships
- 2007 – 39 scholarships
- 2008 – 48 scholarships

For more information, please visit www.ida.gov.sg.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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