

NEA-Industry Scholarship Programme

FAQs

1. What is the application process like for the NEA-Industry Scholarship?

Applicants are to submit their application via an online form provided as a link during the application period. Based on the applicants' choices, their applications will be surfaced to the industry firms accordingly for further selection interviews. Only successful applicants will be notified and receive a scholarship offer letter.

Note: Depending on the suitability of candidates and manpower needs of the industry firms, only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for selection interviews.

2. How will I know that I have been successfully shortlisted and offered the scholarship?

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted by NEA to participate in interviews from September onwards. Only successful applicants will be notified and receive a scholarship offer letter.

3. How will the assessment be conducted?

Assessment and selection practices may differ based on the needs of the firms. Besides interviews, shortlisted applicants may be required to write responses to essay questions prior to/after the interview or complete certain tests. You will receive more information during the shortlisting process.

4. Can graduating students (i.e. final semester/term) apply and be considered for the scholarship?

No. As sponsoring companies will require scholars to intern with the company during their course of study, applicants who have already completed their internship and are in their final semester will not be eligible.

5. Which are the ES relevant courses?

You may refer to the list of applicable ES relevant courses downloadable from the NEA webpage.

6. Do I have to indicate which industry firm I am interested in and how many firms can I select? Do I have to rank them?

You may be invited to participate in the interview of more than one industry firms.

Shortlisted applicants may indicate up to five firms from the available list of industry firms and rank them accordingly.

Note: Shortlisted applicants should consider carefully the level of interest to work and grow in that specific firm when ranking your choices. The ranking will be taken into consideration by the firms during the final selection process.

7. If more than one industry firm offers me the scholarship, can I choose which to accept?

Based on your ranked choices, you will be offered according to the following scenarios:

- a) If all three participating firms offers the scholarship, highest ranked firm will offer the scholarship to the applicant.

- b) If two out of three participating firms offer the scholarship, highest ranked firm will offer the scholarship to the applicant.
- c) If only one firm offers the scholarship, applicant will receive scholarship offer from that specific firm.

8. What does the scholarship offer letter comprise?

The scholarship offer letter informs applicants of the scholarship scheme that he or she has been offered, the selected firm, the course of study that the firm is willing to support, the institution that the scholarship is tenable for and some basic terms and conditions.

Successful applicants need to sign a Letter of Undertaking which is attached to the scholarship offer letter and return the Letter of Undertaking to NEA by the stated deadline as acknowledgement and acceptance of the terms and conditions of the scholarship offer.

9. Will I be liable for any penalty if I decide not to take up the scholarship after accepting the offer?

If successful applicant chooses not to take up the scholarship after submitting the Letter of Undertaking, the applicant will be liable to pay a penalty to NEA and selected firm.

10. When will I receive my annual allowance?

The Scholarship annual allowance will be disbursed to you in tranches, based on the semesters in the polytechnic/ ITE academic calendar (i.e. twice per academic year). NEA will make payment of tuition fees directly to the school and disburse the remaining allowance upon submission of your results.

11. Can I concurrently hold other scholarships?

You are not allowed to hold other scholarships that come with any obligations or bonds. For awards that do not have any obligations or bonds, you would need to seek concurrence from NEA.

12. What is a Scholarship deed? Who is required to sign on the deed?

The Scholarship deed is a legal document which binds you to the Scholarship obligations. To be awarded the Scholarship, you and two other sureties are required to sign a deed with NEA with/ without an industry firm. Both sureties must be:

- ✓ Singapore Citizens or Singapore Permanent Residents residing permanently in Singapore;
- ✓ above 21 years and preferably under 65 years of age;
- ✓ gainfully employed and drawing an income of at least \$1,000 per month;
- ✓ not a declared bankrupt; and
- ✓ not a party to an existing scholarship, bursary or study loan agreement, and
- ✓ not bonded to an existing scholarship, bursary or study loan agreement.

13. What are the supporting documents required for the application?

- ✓ Singapore-Cambridge General Certificate Of Education (compulsory)
 - Ordinary Level
 - Normal (Academic/Technical) Level
- ✓ ITE or Polytechnic transcripts with your accumulative GPAs

- ✓ CCA records
- ✓ Other Certificates (achievements, volunteering, etc)

14. What is the academic performance expected for scholars?

You are expected to maintain good academic results and to attain a Nitec, Higher Nitec or Diploma certificate at the end of the programme.

15. How do I fulfil my Scholarship bond?

You will be required to work in a Singapore-registered firm which is recognised by NEA and related to the ES sectors. Your employment at such firms need to be a minimum of 2 years or 3 years, depending on the bond obligations.

16. Is there any penalty if I break bond?

Yes, a penalty will be issued if you have been awarded the NEA-Industry Scholarship and decided to break the bond subsequently. Should you decide to break the bond, a penalty of the total liquidated damages (i.e. scholarship funds + compounded interest) will be imposed.

17. Do I need to serve the bond immediately after graduation? Can I defer the bond and further my studies?

You are required to complete the bond before pursuing further studies in any other Institutes of Higher Learning. However, should you wish to defer the bond for further study upon graduation, you will need to seek for NEA and firm's approval.

18. Can I choose not to accept an industry firm's offer of scholarship?

Yes, you can choose not to accept an industry firm's offer of scholarship. However, you will be required to provide valid reasons for rejecting the offer.

19. Are the benefits of Stage 2 guaranteed after graduation (i.e. \$5,000 bonus)?

Yes, you will need to secure a firm within the ES sector to be eligible for the benefits.