

August 15, 2024

CAMP Philippines **SINGAPORE**

by Caitlin Daphne Tan Chiang





TABLE OF CONTENTS

- ABOUT ME
- MY APPLICATION JOURNEY
- FINANCIAL AID
- COMPARISON OF UNIVERSITIES
- ADAPTING TO SINGAPORE
- Q&A

ABOUT ME



Education

- Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD)
 - Major: Design in Artificial Intelligence
 - Minors: Computer Science, Digital Humanities
- Immaculate Conception Academy (San Juan)
 - Batch 2021 (Xenix), International Baccalaureate

Work Experience: Software Engineer

- Freelance: Small Businesses, Dragonpay Corp.
- Volunteer: PH Red Cross
- Full-Time: Dashlabs.ai
- Internship: Jublia
- Researcher: SUTD
- School Affiliated: Development Bank of Singapore (DBS), Procter & Gamble (P&G)

Scan Here!



<https://caitlinchiang.xyz/camp-speaker-notes>

MY APPLICATION JOURNEY



Singapore vs. Philippines

- The only difference is that Singapore values interviews during their university applications. Otherwise each school also has their own portal.

Recommendation Letters

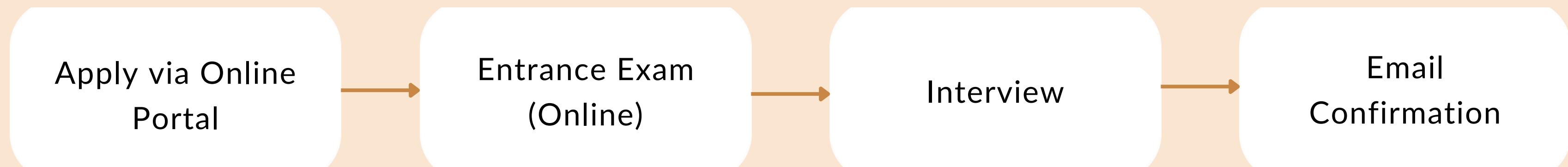
- Request letters from the teachers that are aligned with your course.

Safeties, Reach, and Target Schools in Singapore

- It depends on your goal.
- Singapore is incredibly difficult to get into. ‘Safety’ schools are still hard, and getting in one doesn’t guarantee you a good job after.



Personal Timeline (SUTD)



FINANCIAL AID



- **Tuition grant subsidy**: Discount on the tuition fee, with a clause of having to work in Singapore for 3 years.
 - **MOE Tuition Grant application procedure**:
<https://tgonline.moe.gov.sg/docs/Activation-ApplicationGuide.pdf>
 - Almost always guaranteed
 - Apply during the first term of university
- Universities offer their respective scholarships
- Externally sponsored scholarships by various companies



FINANCIAL AID



- NUS
 - <https://www.nus.edu.sg/oam/financial-aid>
- NTU
 - <https://www.ntu.edu.sg/admissions/undergraduate/scholarships/freshmen>
 - <https://www.ntu.edu.sg/admissions/undergraduate/financial-matters/financial-aid>
- SMU
 - <https://admissions.smu.edu.sg/financial-matters/financial-aid>
- SUTD
 - <https://www.sutd.edu.sg/Admissions/Undergraduate/Financing-Your-Studies/Financial-Options-Financial-Aid/Financial-Aid>
- SIT
 - <https://www.singaporetech.edu.sg/admissions/financial-aid/financial-assistance-faqs>
 - <https://www.singaporetech.edu.sg/admissions/financial-aid>



COMPARISON OF UNIVERSITIES

	NUS	NTU	SMU	SUTD	SIT
CREDENTIALS	Grades	Grades	CCAs + Leadership	Portfolio	Portfolio + Certs
APPLICATION	Portal, Interview	Portal, Interview	Portal, *Interview	Mentioned Previously	Portal, Interview, Exam
ACADEMIC RIGOR	8/10	7/10	5/10	7/10	5/10
MODULE BIDDING	Receive Desired Modules	First Come First Serve	E-Credits, Need Planning	First Come First Serve + Need Planning	A Lot of Preselected Modules
TEACHING STYLE	Lecture, Seminar, Tutorials	Seminar (Interactive), Tutorials	Seminar (Interactive)	Seminar, Labs, Hands on Projects	Lecture, Tutorials, Labs
INTERNSHIPS	Guidance Available	Guidance Available	10 Weeks	16 Weeks	8-12 Months
SOCIAL LIFE	Depends on the Major	Easy to Make Friends	Depends on CCAs	Small Close Groups	Easy to Make Friends
CCAs	Competitive	Highly Encouraged	Highly Encouraged	Not a Strong Culture	Highly Encouraged
ACCOMODATION	1st Year Guarantee	1st Year Guarantee, Point System	1st Year Guarantee	1st-2nd Year Guarantee	No Accommodation
COMMUNITIY	Community Available	Community Available	Community Available	No Community	Many Filipinos

ADAPTING TO SINGAPORE



Healthcare

- Physical: Free for students (Basic Checkups, Medicine, etc.)
- Mental: Mental health is a taboo topic and therapy is not accessible.

Social

- Patience in finding the right friend group as it is competitive
- Different male-female ratios for different courses
- Different sizes of Filipino communities
- Language: Singlish slang, English, Mandarin
- Cultural diversity, though there is subtle / passive racism
- Sexism in the work-force for some companies, but not in university



ADAPTING TO SINGAPORE



Transportation

- High levels of safety
- Convenient
- MRT System (Mass Rapid Transit)
- Buses, Taxis, Grab
- Concession discounts for students

Food

- Lack of Filipino food
- Lucky Plaza in Orchard (chips, sisig, adobo)
- Huge variety of other cuisines
- Big on Japanese food



DAILY LIFE



Cost of Living

- Generally high especially with inflation
- Higher pay/salaries
- Typical expenses
 - MRT rides: about \$1 to travel to a place (P42)
 - Hawker center food / canteen food: \$4.00 - \$7.00 (P168 - P294)
- Purchasing items from Shopee will cost 2-3x more than the price for the same product in the Philippines



Safety

- High safety when traveling around
- Women do not have to worry
- No major health risks, government manages outbreaks/pandemics well

THANK YOU

Q&A

Feel free to ask questions!