

School of Continuing and Lifelong Education (SCALE)

Frequently Asked Questions for Prospective BTech Students

General Information

1. **What is the difference between Bachelor of Technology (BTech) and the other Bachelor degrees that NUS offers?**

The BTech degree is a part-time degree programme with classes generally held on weekday evenings. All other bachelor degrees offered at NUS are full-time programmes.

The BTech degree programme is designed mainly for polytechnic graduates who are working in the local industry. Individuals with foreign qualifications equivalent to the local polytechnic diploma can also be considered for admission. Some applicants may be required to attend entrance exams to be assessed on their subject proficiency.

The part-time BTech programmes are delivered with similar academic rigour as the full-time Bachelor degree programmes so as to ensure comparable graduation standard.

2. **How demanding is the BTech degree programme?**

BTech programmes are generally demanding due to the high academic standards set by the University. Although the degree programmes are modular in nature (i.e. one can choose to read 1-3 modules per semester) individuals who are considering to enrol in the degree programme must ensure that they are able to manage their time and family/work commitment well so that they stand a higher chance of completing the degree programme successfully.

3. **How many classes do I have to attend per semester and what is the typical schedule?**

BTech programmes are modular in nature which means that the number of classes a student has to attend per week depends on the number of module(s) registered (i.e. 1 module corresponds to 1 evening of lessons per week).

In order to graduate within 4 years, students generally follow the recommended schedule of completing 32MCs in an academic year. As such, the typical schedule is as follows:

- 3 modules in each of the 2 regular semesters (August-November and January-April)
- 2 modules in the Special Term (May-July)

Classes comprise lectures, tutorials, project and laboratory work during weekdays from 6pm to 9.30pm and some classes may be held on Saturday afternoons.

Some students may take a reduced workload due to work or family commitments and attend classes for one or two evenings a week. These students will then take a longer time to graduate.

4. **How long can I take to complete my BTech degree?**

The maximum candidature is 6 years, inclusive of periods on approved Leave of Absence (LOA).

5. **Are BTech students entitled to use the NUS facilities?**

Generally, students can access and use NUS facilities such as the library, swimming pool and computer laboratories.

Admission

1. What do the Admissions Committee look for in admitting an applicant?

The Admissions Committee takes into consideration all information provided by applicants including their performance in their 'O' levels and diploma courses, relevant working experience and any other academic preparations. Based on the information, the Committee will select applicants who should reasonably be able to cope with the course. Those whose abilities to cope are not so clear to the Committee are required to attend Mathematics Bridging Course, to sit for the Mathematics test and/or to attend an interview session to enable the Committee to make a fair decision. The only objective of all the above measures is to help the Committee make a reasonable assessment as to whether an applicant can successfully complete the course, if admitted.

2. Am I eligible to apply for the course if I already have a degree?

You may submit an application even if you are a degree holder.

3. Is National Service (NS) counted as part of the working experience?

NS is not considered as relevant working experience. However, completion of NS is considered as having fulfilled one of the criteria in the admission process.

4. Can I apply if I have a GCE 'A' level certificate instead of a Polytechnic Diploma?

GCE 'A' level holders are not considered at the moment.

5. Can I apply for admission using an Advanced/Specialist Diploma?

Although an Advanced/Specialist Diploma will increase your chance of admission, you are still required to show that you have a basic diploma from a local polytechnic or its equivalent.

6. What is the minimum grade that will be considered for admission?

There are factors other than diploma grades that we may look at for admission but having very good diploma grades, e.g. better than B average, will be an advantage. Good performance in the entrance exams will also improve the chances of admission.

7. If I am a foreigner who is not working in Singapore, can I apply for admission?

You may submit for an application. However, if your application is successful and you would like to take up the offer, you must hold a valid pass for employment or residence in Singapore for you to enrol in our programmes. Otherwise, you will not be able to remain legally in Singapore to take up the BTech course. As the BTech programmes are part-time courses, being offered admission will not be sufficient grounds for you to be granted a Student Pass. This is at the sole discretion of Singapore's Immigration and Checkpoint Authority (ICA).

8. Can SCALE assist in applying for work permits or Student Passes for international students?

SCALE is not in a position to provide assistance for such applications.

9. Can I apply for multiple full-time and part-time programmes in NUS and other Universities concurrently?

There is no restriction on how many programmes you can apply for. Admission is considered separately by the various programmes/Universities. However, if you are admitted to an NUS BTech Programme, you cannot concurrently be a student of another degree programme in NUS or elsewhere.

10. Can I apply to multiple BTech Programmes at the same time?

You may submit an application for multiple BTech Programmes but you will have to pay a fee for each programme selected. The application fee paid is non-refundable and non-transferable. If you receive offers for admission to more than one programme, you can accept only one offer. Please check [here](#) for the application fees for multiple programmes.

11. I have submitted incorrect particulars in my admission application form. What should I do?

If you have not submitted your application, you may edit your application details via the [SCALE Online Application Portal](#) with your Application Number and the Password you have created.

However, if you have submitted your application and made the application fee payment, you will not be allowed to make any further changes to your application via the SCALE Online Application Portal. As such, you may send an email to the SCALE Admissions Team at scale.admissions@nus.edu.sg. You are to indicate your full name and application number in the email and clearly specify the changes required.

12. I have forgotten the password I have created and I am unable to access the application I have submitted. What should I do?

Access the '[forget your password](#)' page and enter the details as required. A temporary password will be sent to your email address. You may then follow the instructions to change your password accordingly.

13. I have taken the O Level Examinations for 3 times, how should I fill in my results?

Please indicate the best grade of the subjects that you have taken based on the multiple sittings. For example: if you have sat for History twice in 1983 and 1984 and have obtained grades of B3 and A2 respectively, please fill in grade A2 for History in the application. However, you should submit the result slips for **all** sittings taken for our verification.

14. What should I do if I have changed my mailing address or Residency (e.g. recently obtained Singapore Permanent Residence) status after I have submitted my application based on the old information?

If you have submitted your application and made the application fee payment, you will not be allowed to make any further changes to your application via the SCALE Online Application Portal. As such, you may send an email to the SCALE Admissions Team at scale.admissions@nus.edu.sg. You are to indicate your full name and application number in the email and clearly specify the changes required with the supporting documents attached.

15. How do I know that I have been offered admission?

You can check your application status via the [SCALE Online Application Portal](#) during the outcome release period. You may refer to the “Information to note before applying” at <http://scale.nus.edu.sg/admission/btech/admission-application.html> on the estimated outcome release period. An email notification will be sent to you once your application outcome is released. Please ensure you have provided a valid email address during your application.

16. What do I have to do after I have been offered admission?

- i. Decide if you would like to accept the offer by clicking on the appropriate button before the specific acceptance deadline and if you have received admission offers to more than one course, you are only able to accept ONE offer.
- ii. You will be required to upload a recent passport-size photograph of yourself for the purpose of preparing your Student Card which you will be collecting during the Orientation Session.
- iii. You will need to undergo a pre-admission medical examination and X-ray, either at NUS Health and Wellness Centre, or by any Singapore-registered physician.
- iv. You will have to drop by SCALE for documents submission and original documents verification purpose.

After accepting your admission offer, information on the online Registration process (comprising Part 1 and Part 2) and Orientation Session will be shared with you via email for your necessary action. You will need to respond in a timely manner for each before you are able to start your studies at NUS.

17. I have more queries on Admissions, who can I contact?

Please email your queries to scale.admissions@nus.edu.sg