

## NTU's Class of 2018 well sought after and earn higher salaries

Fresh graduates from the Class of 2018 at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) are well sought after by employers and earn more than their 2017 seniors. 90 per cent of NTU Class of 2018 graduates in the labour force found a job within six months after completing their final examinations, higher than 87 per cent in the previous year. The proportion of graduates in the labour force who obtained full-time permanent employment also increased from 76 per cent in 2017 to 82 per cent in 2018.

A total of 4,479 NTU graduates from the Class of 2018 and 27 follow-up Biomedical Science graduates from the Class of 2017 responded to the survey.

### NTU graduates continue to be in high demand

Graduates in Business & Computing (double degree) achieved full employment, while Accountancy & Business (double degree), Accountancy, Civil Engineering, Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Maritime Studies, and National Institute of Education (NIE) recorded full-time permanent employment rates of 90 per cent or more. In addition, graduates from 23 courses achieved a higher overall employment rate in 2018, compared to 2017.

Business & Computing (double degree) graduates continued to earn the highest median gross monthly salary at \$4,575, followed by Accountancy & Business (double degree) and Computer Science graduates at \$4,000. Accountancy & Business (double degree) also had the highest pay jump of 14.5 per cent in their mean gross salary, with their median gross salary increasing from \$3,600 in 2017 to \$4,000 in 2018.

The overall mean gross monthly salary for NTU's Class of 2018 improved 4.2 per cent to \$3,634, compared to \$3,487 in 2017, while the median gross monthly salary increased to \$3,500 in 2018, up from \$3,306 in 2017.

**Professor Tan Ooi Kiang, NTU's Associate Provost (Undergraduate Education)** said, "This year's Graduate Employment Survey shows that employers continue to value our graduates who bring highly relevant skills to the global workplace. Our graduates possess real-world experience in and out of the classroom, including international exposure, overseas exchanges and internships that give them the confidence and competence to perform well. This is why our graduates' employability remains high and their starting salaries have also increased.

"The Class of 2018 have also benefited from a full slate of career training and support services, thanks to the Margaret Lien Centre for Professional Success, which was established in 2014, and NTU expanding its team of career consultants and career coaches. Today, students complete about 26 hours of learning on career skills and values for the duration of their study as part of their compulsory career preparation programme."

## **Global exposure and internships give NTU graduates competitive edge**

Fierce competition for talent worldwide has sparked a trend for more global exposure and industry placements among undergraduates.

At NTU's Nanyang Business School, more than one in three Business & Computing graduates were hired by their internship companies. Nine in 10 of the Business School's graduates in the labour force found full-time permanent[1] jobs six months after completing their final examinations. Many of them received more than one job offer – some from as early as their second-year internships.

“Students who return from a work attachment or internship are much more self-driven and ready for the global workplace. This also gives us confidence about the job prospects for our Class of 2019, despite the global headwinds and uncertainty,” Prof Tan said.

NTU students do 10 to 30 weeks of internship or work attachment either locally or overseas for the duration of their study. Of the 6,000 students in each cohort, some 4,800 students intern in 1,600 organisations for credit-bearing internships annually. This excludes students who went for additional internships during their vacation on a non-credit basis.

NTU is doing more to deepen students' industry exposure by providing longer opportunities for practical work experience. Starting this August, students in NTU's new Co-operative Education track for Mathematical Sciences, Chemistry & Biological Chemistry, and Physics/Applied Physics will complete three mandatory internships – 50 weeks in total – within their four years of undergraduate studies.

This combination of classroom-based education and practical work experience closely follows the Applied Wealth Management track, which was jointly launched last year by NTU and DBS Bank. Under this programme, students undergo two internships with DBS Bank to gain a thorough understanding of wealth management, first-hand client relations and immersion in DBS' digital banking environment.

“It's not uncommon for some students to do more than one internship to explore multiple interests and learn from those experiences. Employers expect more from job candidates, and internships can open the door to multiple job offers well before graduation,” said Prof Tan.

The Graduate Employment Survey results for NTU are available on [this website](#).

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