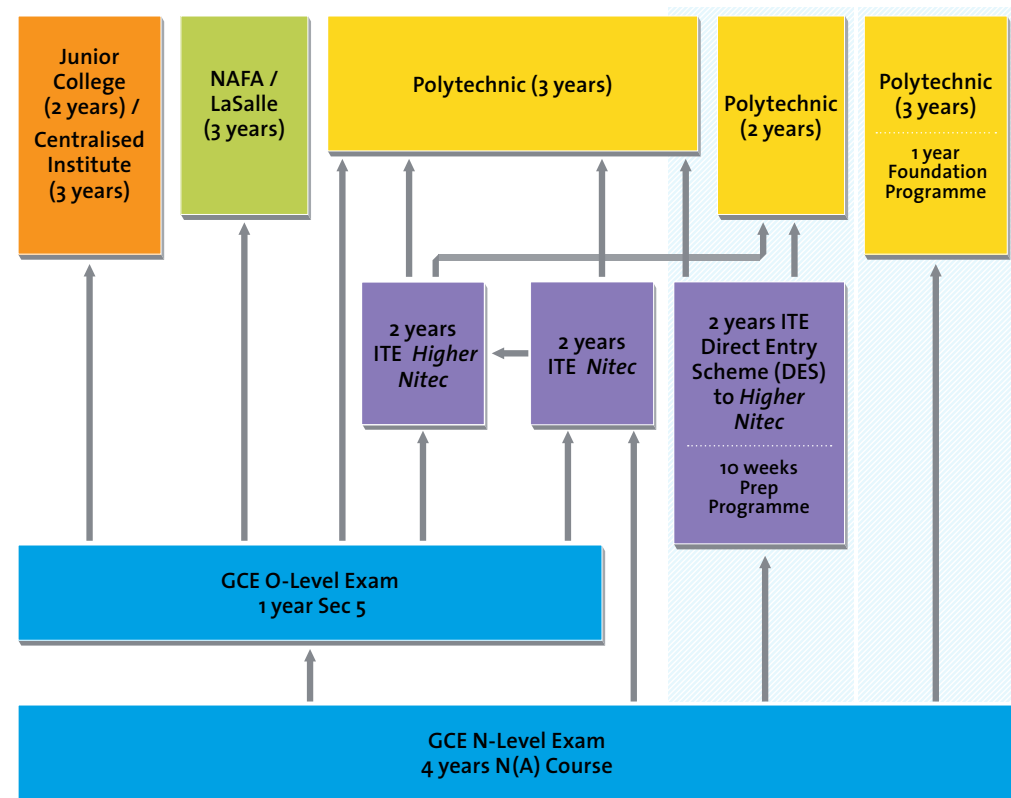




Pathways for Normal (Academic) Students



* Progression to first-year and second-year Polytechnic Diploma course from ITE Higher Nitec is based on merit.



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Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE



New Through-Train Pathways for Normal (Academic) Students

Diverse pathways to fulfil your potential



Exciting times are ahead as you prepare for your GCE N-Level examinations and think about your education ahead. You may wonder: **So what's next after secondary school?**

The post-secondary education landscape is a diverse one. Various options have been designed to cater to the different interests, aptitudes and learning styles of the students.

Currently, most Normal (Academic) [N(A)] students will progress to the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) or the polytechnics. From 2013, you will have two new options to choose from if you do well in your Singapore-Cambridge GCE N-Level examinations.

The two new "through-train" pathways by which you can progress to the polytechnics are:

- (i) **A one-year polytechnic Foundation Programme; and**
- (ii) **A two-year Higher Nitec pathway (building on the existing ITE Direct Entry Scheme)**

These new pathways will cater to about 30 per cent of each Secondary 4 N(A) cohort.

This brochure will help you understand more about these new pathways so that you can decide on the option that best matches your interest and talents.

One-year Polytechnic Foundation Programme



What is it?

The Polytechnic Foundation Programme is a one-year programme that will prepare top Secondary 4 N(A) students for entry into the relevant diploma courses at the polytechnics. It will offer a practice-oriented curriculum taught by the polytechnic faculty.

Students will gain admission into specific diploma courses upon entry to the Foundation Programme. At the end of the Foundation Programme, the polytechnics will conduct assessment of the students' performance to confirm their progression to the diploma course.

The Foundation Programme will be available for polytechnic courses in various fields including engineering, applied sciences, design, digital media and nursing, among others.

The Polytechnic Foundation Programme will be offered in all five polytechnics starting from 2013. The polytechnics will offer about 1,000 places in the Polytechnic Foundation Programme in a range of diploma courses.

How do I apply for the Polytechnic Foundation Programme?

Upon the release of the 2012 GCE N-Level results, eligible Secondary 4 N(A) students will be invited to apply for the Polytechnic Diploma courses of their choice under the Polytechnic Foundation Programme.

If you are eligible, you can opt for this pathway instead of taking O-levels in Secondary 5.

If you are successful in your application, you will be posted to the corresponding Foundation Programme for the diploma course that you have been offered a provisional place in. The Polytechnic Foundation Programme will begin in April 2013.

Direct-Entry-Scheme-to-Polytechnic (DES-to-Poly) Programme

What is it?

For students who have performed well in the N-level examination and can benefit from a more hands-on preparation at the Institute of Technical Education (ITE), you can take up a *Higher Nitec* programme at the ITE and subsequently be assured of either a first- or second-year place in a related polytechnic course, provided you achieve the qualifying GPA scores in your *Higher Nitec* programme.

Eligible Secondary 4 N(A) students will enrol in ITE in January after the release of the N-Level results. You will take a 10-week preparatory course before joining the *Higher Nitec* programmes in April.

This new option builds on the ITE Direct Entry Scheme (DES) which was introduced in 2008 as a pathway for students who do well in their N-Level examination to progress to ITE, instead of taking their O-Levels in Secondary 5.



How do I apply for the DES-to-Poly Programme?

Upon the release of the 2012 GCE N-Level results, eligible Secondary 4 N(A) students will be invited to apply to the ITE under the DES-to-Poly Programme. If you are successful in your application, you will be posted to the *Higher Nitec* DES Programmes, which will begin in January 2013.

In your final year in *Higher Nitec*, you will be invited to apply to the Polytechnic Diploma courses mapped to the relevant *Higher Nitec* programmes and be assured of a place in one of these Diploma courses, provided your final ITE raw Grade Point Average (GPA) meet the Qualifying GPA.

Am I Eligible to Apply to these Programmes?

	Polytechnic Foundation Programme	DES-to-Poly Programme
ELMAB₃ (English, Maths, Best 3 subjects) raw aggregate score at the GCE N-Level	ELMAB ₃ ≤ 11 (excluding CCA bonus points), provided that EL ≤ 3 and MA ≤ 3. Some courses may require ≤ 3 for relevant subjects. Some courses may also require EL ≤ 2.	ELMAB ₃ ≤ 19 (excluding CCA bonus points), provided that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EL ≤ 4 and MA ≤ 4 for Applied Sciences, Engineering and Info-Communications Technology <i>Higher Nitec</i> DES programmes EL ≤ 3 and MA ≤ 4 for Business & Services <i>Higher Nitec</i> DES programmes
Bonus points	Bonus points will be awarded for good Co-curricular Activity (CCA) grades, and will be used in computing your ELMAB ₃ net aggregate score for selection and posting to the Polytechnic Foundation Programme or <i>Higher Nitec</i> DES programme	

For details on the various Foundation Programme courses and *Higher Nitec* DES programmes offered and their specific subject score requirements, please visit www.polytechnic.edu.sg and www.ite.edu.sg/definitely

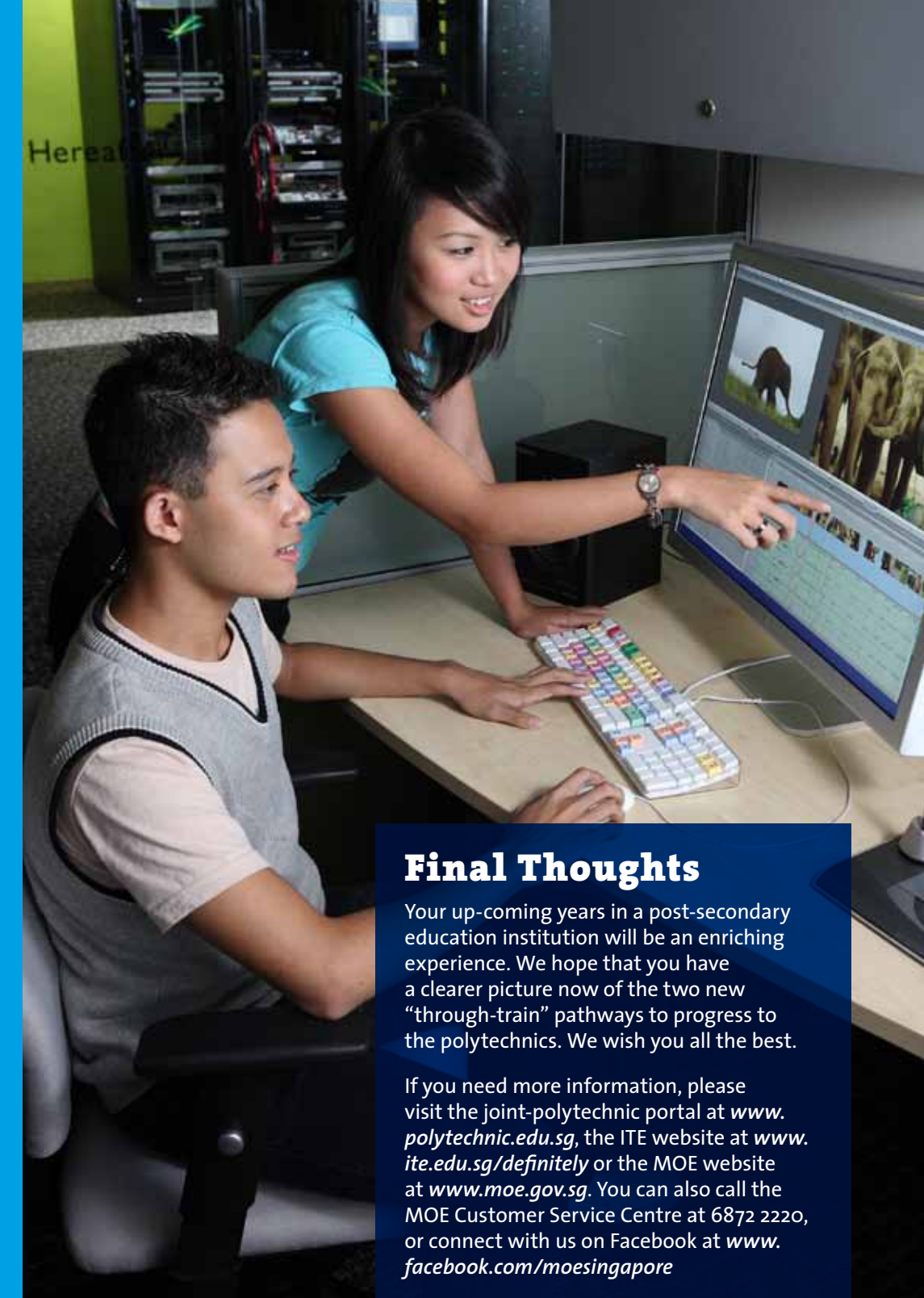
N(A) students who have sat for a mix of GCE O-Level and N-Level subjects can also be considered for the Polytechnic Foundation Programme and the DES-to-Poly Programme. You may approach your school for details on this.

Qualifying Grade Point Average (GPA) for DES students progressing into polytechnics under DES-to-Poly Programme

	Progress to first year in relevant Polytechnic Diploma course	Progress to second year in relevant Polytechnic Diploma course
Applied Sciences, Engineering or Info-Communications Technology <i>Higher Nitec</i> DES programme*	ITE raw GPA ≥ 2.5 points (excluding CCA bonus points)	ITE raw GPA ≥ 3.5 points (excluding CCA bonus points)
Business & Services <i>Higher Nitec</i> DES programme	ITE raw GPA ≥ 3.0 points (excluding CCA bonus points)	N.A.

* For *Higher Nitec* DES courses in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Info-Communications Technology, in addition to the qualifying GPAs, students are required to offer and pass a Math elective at ITE to be eligible to articulate into polytechnic courses under the DES-to-Poly Programme.

CCA grades will be used for computing your ITE net GPA for selection and posting to a Polytechnic Diploma course.



Final Thoughts

Your up-coming years in a post-secondary education institution will be an enriching experience. We hope that you have a clearer picture now of the two new "through-train" pathways to progress to the polytechnics. We wish you all the best.

If you need more information, please visit the joint-polytechnic portal at www.polytechnic.edu.sg, the ITE website at www.ite.edu.sg/definitely or the MOE website at www.moe.gov.sg. You can also call the MOE Customer Service Centre at 6872 2220, or connect with us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/moesingapore