FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE CONDUCT OF THE EAE SELECTION PROCESS IN VIEW OF THE COVID-19 SITUATION

1. Why is MOE proceeding with the ITE and Polytechnic EAE this year? Should the EAE be delayed until the situation is more certain?

The EAE is an important admissions route that takes into account students' demonstrated aptitudes and interests, beyond academic grades. It has been a key route of admissions for many students, who aspire to pursue specific courses in the polytechnics or ITE, in line with their passions and interests.

MOE will work closely with ITE, the polytechnics and the schools to take all necessary precautionary measures to ensure that the safety and well-being of applicants and staff. The vast majority of polytechnic and ITE courses will conduct EAE selection via electronic means, and appropriate precautionary measures will be taken for the handful of courses that will proceed with on-campus selection.

2. How will the ITE and the polytechnics ensure that the online EAE selection is fair and rigorous?

Institutions will make appropriate adjustments to their assessment rubrics and criteria, to account for the changes to the selection format this year. They will also continue to document the EAE selection process, including recording interviews where appropriate, and the evaluations made by the selection panels. The assessments will continue to be carried out objectively and rigorously, in a fair and inclusive manner.

3. How will MOE and the institutions support students from disadvantaged backgrounds, who might experience difficulties with the online selection process?

Having gone through Home-based Learning (HBL), our students are much more familiar with the use of technology and would be more adept at interacting online for the purpose of interviews. The polytechnics and ITE will be ready to render additional support to applicants who face difficulties with the online selection process.

Students who require additional support with the online process can also approach their schools for assistance. For example, the online interviews and assessments may be conducted in school instead of at home, with IT equipment loaned from the school. School staff will also be present to provide technical support where necessary.

4. If the COVID-19 situation improves, will ITE and the polytechnics allow an increased number of courses to hold their EAE selection on campus?

As the COVID-19 situation may change from now till the end of the selection period, we will be watchful, and decide how to respond appropriately. We will ensure that applicants have enough time to prepare and adjust if there should be further changes to the EAE selection process.