

**POLYTECHNIC EARLY ADMISSIONS EXERCISE FOR O-LEVEL STUDENTS  
(FOR ADMISSION IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2020)  
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**General**

**1. What is the Polytechnic Early Admissions Exercise (Poly EAE) for O-Level students?**

The Polytechnic Early Admissions Exercise (Poly EAE) allows students to apply for and receive conditional offers for admission prior to their GCE O-Level Examinations. Students applying through the Poly EAE are considered for admission on the basis of demonstrated aptitude and interest, beyond just academic grades.

**2. Who can take part in Poly EAE for O-Level students?**

Poly EAE is open to:

- (a) Singapore Citizens (SC) and Permanent Residents (PR) who have registered to sit for the GCE O-Level Examinations in the year of the Poly EAE application;
- (b) International Students enrolled in government, government-aided and Independent Schools during the year of the Poly EAE application, who have registered to sit for the GCE O-Level Examinations in the year of the Poly EAE application; and

**3. How many places are set aside for Poly EAE?**

In Academic Year 2019, the five polytechnics (Nanyang Polytechnic, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Republic Polytechnic, Singapore Polytechnic and Temasek Polytechnic) admitted about 20% of their Academic Year intake through Poly EAE. The EAE intake may differ from year to year, and would depend on student demand and the quality of the EAE applications.

**4. If I am really keen on a polytechnic education in a specific field, why do I still need to take the GCE O-Level Examinations? Why do I still need to meet academic criteria?**

While interest in a field of study is important, having the requisite academic foundation helps to assure that you will be able to cope with the rigour of a polytechnic education and benefit from it. It is for this reason that students seeking admission to the polytechnics are required to meet the following admissions criteria:

- (a) A net ELR2B2 aggregate score of 26 points or better for the GCE O-Level Examinations\*; and
- (b) Minimum entry requirements (MERs) for their respective diploma courses. The MERs for each polytechnic course can be found on the polytechnics' websites.

\*Results may be combined from no more than 2 sittings of the GCE O-Level examination.

## **5. What happens if I do not meet the O-Level academic criteria?**

If you do not meet the admissions criteria, your conditional offer will be automatically revoked upon the release of the GCE O-Level Examinations results. You will be eligible to participate in the Joint Admissions Exercise (JAE) and other polytechnic admissions exercises at that point.

### **Application**

## **6. When will I be able to apply through Poly EAE?**

Poly EAE applications for O-Level students will be open from 27 June 2019 to 3 July 2019.

## **7. What attributes will be considered under Poly EAE? How will I be assessed for admission through this exercise?**

Poly EAE focuses on students who have strong aptitude and interest in a field related to the diploma course they are applying for. Where relevant to the course they are applying for, the polytechnics may consider students' outstanding talents and achievements, such as in sports, arts, leadership, entrepreneurship and community service.

Polytechnics will have the discretion to determine their modes of assessment, such as portfolios, interviews and aptitude tests, where relevant and appropriate. Polytechnics may also consider participation in relevant co-curricular activities (CCAs), Advanced Elective Modules (AEMs), Applied Learning Programmes (ALP) and Applied Subjects, as well as participation in activities such as work attachments and sustained involvement in projects that are related to the course students are applying for.

## **8. Can I switch courses after the release of the GCE O-Level Examination results?**

No. Once you have accepted your conditional offer and met the admissions criteria for the polytechnic course after the release of your final results, your EAE offer will be automatically confirmed and you will not be able to switch courses within or across polytechnics. You will also not be eligible to take part in the JAE and other polytechnic admissions exercises. Students are expected to honour the commitment to their choice of polytechnic and the course under Poly EAE.

Poly EAE is targeted at students who are interested in a particular course in the polytechnics, and admission is based on the student's suitability for that course. If you are still discovering and/or developing your strengths and interests related to specific polytechnic courses, you can instead apply for a polytechnic course through the JAE after receiving your GCE O-Level Examination results.

## **9. Can I apply through Poly EAE and the Direct Schools Admission – Junior College (DSA-JC) Exercise concurrently?**

Yes, you can participate in both Poly EAE and the DSA-JC Exercise. However, you should only accept either a polytechnic or junior college offer. Students who accept both offers will be disqualified from both exercises, unless they reject one of the offers before the end of the Acceptance Stage on 29 August 2019.

### **Withdrawal**

#### **10. If I have accepted a Poly EAE offer but subsequently decide that I prefer taking part in JAE, what can I do?**

Should you wish to withdraw your acceptance of the Poly EAE offer, you must submit your withdrawal online via the Poly EAE online portal no later than 11 October 2019. Students who have accepted a Poly EAE offer but do not withdraw by the deadline will be deemed to have confirmed their acceptance and will not be eligible to participate in the JAE and other polytechnic admissions exercises.

### **Course-Level Allowances**

#### **11. What are the courses that have a course-level allowance of 50% for aptitude-based admissions? Why and how were these courses selected?**

The full list of courses with a course-level allowance of 50% for the upcoming 2019 Poly EAE will be made available by end-May 2019 at <https://eae.polytechnic.edu.sg>.

These courses have been given a higher allowance as interest and strengths in the field are particularly important, e.g. in Early Childhood, Social Work and Design.

#### **12. Why not expand the course-level allowance for these courses to 100%?**

Keeping the course-level intake allowance at 50% preserves a viable pathway into these specific diploma courses for other students who do not apply through aptitude-based admissions, whether it is because they have yet to discover or develop specific interests, or are undecided on the diploma course that they wish to apply for.

#### **13. What about other courses that do not have a 50% allowance?**

Course-level allowance for all other polytechnic diploma courses will remain at 30%.

*END*

*(Information updated as of 16 May 2019)*