

Bulk of uni grads find jobs within 6 mths after exams

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CLOSE to 90 per cent of fresh graduates from the National University of Singapore (NUS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Singapore Management University (SMU) found employment within six months after their final examinations, the Joint Graduate Employment Survey conducted by the three universities revealed yesterday.

As at Nov 1, 2013, 89.3 per cent of graduates were employed, with 83.4 per cent holding full-time permanent jobs. Their mean gross monthly salary was \$3,229 while their median gross monthly salary was \$3,050, comparable to what fresh graduates received in 2012.

The mean gross monthly salary for NUS graduates was \$3,206, similar to the previous year. For NTU graduates, it dropped slightly to \$3,187 in 2013 from \$3,239 in 2012. SMU graduates saw their mean gross monthly salary rise to a record high of \$3,455 since the pioneer cohort in 2004.

The overall employment rate for follow-up graduates – those who have completed their practical training after their studies in 2012 – was 98.3 per cent, with 97.9 per cent in full-time permanent jobs. Their mean gross monthly salary was \$4,575 and their median gross monthly salary was \$4,500.

Full employment rates were seen in SMU's School of Law and the National Institute of Education at NTU. NUS graduates with a degree in dentistry, an Honours degree in nursing and follow-up graduates from the School of Medicine were fully employed.

While NUS business graduates and follow-up law graduates saw slight improvements in employment rate, NTU reported an 8.2 per cent jump in employment for aerospace engineering graduates and a 5 per cent jump for economics graduates.

This is the second year the joint survey has been conducted. Respondents were 10,534 full-time fresh graduates and 579 follow-up graduates from the three universities. It was conducted six months after graduates' final examinations.