

Local university scholarships gaining popularity: survey

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Local university scholarships are becoming more popular among students, according to the annual BrightSparks Scholarship & Career Survey.



University students attending a lecture.

SINGAPORE: Local university scholarships are becoming more popular among students, according to the annual BrightSparks Scholarship & Career Survey.

BrightSparks is a scholarship and higher education media owned by the JobsCentral Group.

The survey shows that 22.4 per cent of Singapore-Cambridge GCE Advanced Level ('A'-Level) and International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma graduates, and final year Polytechnic students voted local university scholarships as their top pick.

This is a five-year high since 2009. The figure was 19.4 per cent last year.

In terms of the ranking of scholarship providers, National University of Singapore and Nanyang Technological University continue to hold first and second places among 'A' Level and IB diploma graduates.

Singapore Management University made it to the top five scholarship provider rankings by jumping over 16 notches to rank fifth.



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The survey also shows that the most popular industry is still Banking & Financial Services with 39.1 per cent of 'A' Level and IB diploma graduates and 28 per cent of first and second year university graduates voting for it.

The Hotel & Hospitality industry however is becoming less attractive to 'A' Level and IB diploma graduates. The industry was ranked 16th in 2013, compared to eighth place in 2009.

Over 3,100 respondents took part in the survey this year.

The survey targets potential scholarship recipients who are 'A' Level and IB diploma graduates, final year polytechnic students, and first and second year undergraduates attending local universities.