

# More students prefer local university scholarships: Survey

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

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

The survey showed that 22.4 per cent of Singapore-Cambridge GCE 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, the National University of Singapore and the Nanyang Technological University continued to hold first and second place among A-Level and IB diploma graduates, according to the survey.

The Singapore Management University made it to the top five scholarship provider rankings by jumping

16 notches to fifth place.

The survey, which polled 3,100 respondents, also found that the most popular industry is still banking and financial services — with 39.1 per cent of A-Level, IB diploma graduates and 28 per cent of first and second-year university graduates voting for it.

The hotel and hospitality industry, however, is becoming less attractive to A-Level and IB diploma graduates. The industry was ranked 16th this year, compared to eighth place in 2009.

The survey is aimed at potential scholarship recipients who are A-Level and IB diploma graduates, final-year polytechnic students, and first and second-year undergraduates from local universities.

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