

# 新大放宽经济援助计划申请条件

## 每年受益学生料大增至3000多

新加坡籍新大生人均家庭月收入不超过1100元，无论住房类型，今年新学年起学费全免；人均家庭月收入不超过750元，每年还可获4000元生活费补贴。明年新学年起，人均家庭月收入不超过2500元的本科生，无论国籍都可在四年里获得4000元补贴，减轻海外交流的负担。

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为了支持更多较低收入家庭的学生，新加坡管理大学新学年起加强经济援助计划，接下来每年预计可惠及超过3000名学生，人数远远超过计划自2017年推出至今所援助的200人。

名为SMU Access Plus的新版计划，把申请者的人均家庭月收入从750元提高至1100元，并取消须住在三房式或更小组屋等限制。换句话说，新加坡籍新大生人均家庭月收入不超过1100元，无论住房类型，今年新学年起学费全免。计划将帮他们承担扣除各奖助学金后的剩余学费。其中，人均家庭月收入不超过750元的学生，每年还可获4000元生活费补贴。

此外，明年新学年起，所有人均家庭月收入不超过2500元的本科生，无论国籍都可在四年里获得4000元的“拓展国际视野补



贴”，即一年最多1000元，减轻到海外交流学习的开销负担。

新大校长江莉莉教授星期五（1月10日）在新大25周年校庆晚会上宣布这项消息。

江莉莉说，除了全额学费资助，新大将为贫困学生提供额外生活费补贴，并资助他们参加大学的海外交流项目。新大借此重申对学生的承诺，即确保学生的教育不会因经济困难而受影响。

江莉莉日前接受《联合早报》和《海峡时报》访问时，强

调学生参与海外交流计划的重要性。新大是本地首个、目前也是唯一一把参与海外交流作为毕业要求的大学。江莉莉指出，大学生有机会出国交流，除了有机会建立人脉，也能开拓视野和发掘新的发展契机。

“学生可通过这些项目培养独立、同理心、适应能力以及沟通和团队协作等重要软技能。这些特质可塑造品格，有助学生在日益复杂的职场中游刃有余。这样的机会应开放给每个学生……

我们加强经济援助计划，就是要确保没有学生错失这些机会。

### 校长：新大主要特质是创新灵活与具影响力

回望新大走过的25年，江莉莉认为，大学的主要特质可归纳为创新、灵活，以及具有影响力。她说，从许多学生和毕业生持续给予的反馈可见，新大的教育模式所展现的创新与灵活性，让学生的学习和成长有突破性的转变。新大也是首个要求所有学

生须参与社区服务和实习项目的本地大学。

以持续教育与专业培训来说，在本地公立大学开办的技能创前程课程中，新大课程占超过45%，凭借与市场需求对接度高而受到青睐。此外，她也指出，新大在研究领域也发挥显著的学术和社会影响力。

江莉莉说，新大校史相对较短，打从创校初期就致力展现不同作风，培养独树一帜的毕业生。她坦言，相对其他大型大

学，新大属于中型规模，这有助于它维持灵活应变。新大向来也有意识地培养创新文化，例如大学有跨部门合作项目，让教职员了解不同观点，避免思维固化。

新大星期五在主宾尚达曼总统见证下，宣布更新版愿景和使命宣言。

展望未来，江莉莉强调，大学会继续提升多年来融入自身DNA的灵活、创新特质，立志成为一所扎根亚洲、放眼国际的顶尖城市大学。新大也希望在管理学、社会科学及科技的交叉点上，推动创新、突破界限，以及改变人们的生活。

大学会从多方面落实上述愿景。本科教育方面，新大多年来在课程和辅助学习项目上展现开创精神。例如，2022年成立的综合学科学院（College of Integrative Studies），就允许学生自主决定主修。为进一步培育学生自主学习、推动变革的能力，大学会开办一系列选修课，包括支持学生自行开发起步公司，以及配合兴趣和目标，设计自己的实习项目等。研究生将有更大灵活性，包括在主修硕士课程以外，从跨学科课程选项中选一门副修。

此外，新大会进一步推动社区服务元素，鼓励学生反思服务的宗旨和影响力，也将在核心课程中加强亚洲的内容，提升学生与亚洲各地联系的能力。

◀ 总统尚达曼（左二）星期五在新大25周年校庆晚会上，将一份新大永续发展蓝图放入时间囊。上台见证时间囊封盖仪式的包括新大董事会主席高博德（左一起）和新大校长江莉莉教授。时间囊将在2050年开封。（关俊威摄）

## **SMU enhances financial assistance scheme, easing application criteria; Over 3000 students expected to benefit annually**

In order to support more students from lower-income families, SMU will enhance its financial assistance scheme in the new academic year (AY). The enhanced scheme is expected to benefit over 3,000 students annually, a significant increase compared to the 200 students who qualified since the scheme was introduced in 2017.

Named SMU Access Plus, the enhanced scheme raises the per capita income (PCI) criteria from S\$750 to S\$1,100 and removes the previous housing criteria of 3-room or below. In other words, SMU students who are Singapore citizens with PCI below S\$1,100 will have their tuition fees fully covered, regardless of their housing type. The scheme will cover any remaining tuition fees after accounting for other scholarships and grants. Additionally, students with PCI below S\$750 will also receive an annual living subsidy of S\$4,000.

Furthermore, from AY2026, all undergraduate with PCI below S\$2,500 per month, regardless of nationality, will be eligible for a global experience grant of S\$4,000 over four years, or S\$1,000 per year. This grant will reduce the financial burden for students who participate in overseas exposure activities.

SMU President Prof Lily Kong announced this news at the University's 25th Patron's Day dinner.

Prof Lily Kong said, beyond full tuition coverage, we will now extend additional support to students from lower-income families, enabling them to augment their living allowance as well as to support global experience through SMU programmes. This reaffirms our commitment to ensuring that financial challenges do not stand in the way of deserving students pursuing their education.

In an interview with Lianhe Zaobao and The Straits Times, Prof Lily Kong emphasised the significance of overseas experiences for students.

SMU is the only local university that has made overseas exposure a graduation requirement

SMU is the first and currently the only university in Singapore to make global exposure a graduation requirement. Prof Kong pointed out that for university students, global exposure programmes offer not only opportunities to build networks but also the chance to broaden their horizons and discover new development opportunities.

She pointed out that through overseas exposure, undergraduates can foster international networks, broadens horizons, and opens doors to new possibilities.

"Through these opportunities, students build independence, empathy, adaptability, and critical soft skills such as communication and teamwork. These qualities build character and equip our students to navigate and excel in an increasingly competitive workplace. Such opportunities for global exposure should be accessible to every student... That is why we continue to enhance the SMU Access scheme to support and enable their global experience, ensuring that no one is left behind."

Reflecting on SMU's 25-year journey, Prof Kong believes the university's key qualities can be summarised as innovation, agility and impact.

She added that feedback from students and alumni underscores how SMU's innovative and flexible education has led to transformative changes in their learning and growth. SMU is also the first local university to require all students to participate in community service and internship.

SMU offers over 45% of SkillsFuture courses among all autonomous universities (AU) in Singapore

In continuing education and professional training space, SMU offers more than 45% of the SkillsFuture courses amongst all local AUs, its relevance is the result of the high relevance of its programmes. Furthermore, Prof Lily Kong highlighted that SMU has made significant contribution in research and societal impact.

Prof Kong noted that although SMU has a relatively short history, from the onset the University has distinguished itself by nurturing a unique type of graduates. She acknowledged that compared to other larger universities, SMU's medium size allows it to remain agile and adaptable. The University has also consciously fostered a culture of innovation, such as through cross-departmental collaboration projects that help faculty and staff understand different perspectives, preventing silos.

On Friday, SMU unveiled its refreshed vision and mission statements in the presence of the Guest of Honor, President Tharman Shanmugaratnam.

Looking ahead, Prof Kong emphasised that the University will continue to enhance the agility and innovative spirit that have become integral to its DNA. SMU aspires to become a leading city university rooted in Asia and with a global outlook. The University also aims to drive innovation, transcend boundaries, and transform lives at the nexus of management, social sciences, and technology.

The University will implement its vision through various initiatives. In undergraduate education, SMU has consistently demonstrated a pioneering spirit in its curricular and co-curricular programmes. For example, the College of Integrative Studies established in 2022 allows students to create their own majors. To further nurture students' self-directedness and ability to become future change-makers, SMU will offer a series of electives that will support students in developing and scaling their own start-ups, as well as in designing their own work-study programme tailored to their interests and goals. Postgraduate students will enjoy greater flexibility, including being able to tag on tracks from other interdisciplinary programmes onto their main Masters degree.

Moreover, SMU plans to further emphasise community service and encourage students to reflect on the purpose and impact of their service. The University will also enhance its core curriculum with more focus on Asia, so as to strengthen students' ability to connect with the region.

SMU second-year business management student Gerald Boo Jian Long (25 years old) is a beneficiary of the current SMU Access scheme. As an only child whose father passed away 18 years ago, and with his mother working as a canteen assistant, Gerald shared that he would have had to take on more part-time work alongside his studies, if not for this financial assistance scheme.

"I am immensely grateful for this programme, which ensures that everyone, regardless of financial backgrounds, can have the opportunity to pursue our desired field of study.... Such programmes help to ease the financial pressures on students and to allow them to unlock their full potential," he said.