

MSc in Applied Finance Employment Report (Class of 2018)



SMU

SINGAPORE MANAGEMENT
UNIVERSITY

Where financial theory
and practice find synergy

MASTERS

LEE KONG CHIAN
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



86%

ACCEPTED A JOB OFFER
WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF
GRADUATION

MAF GRADUATES
RECEIVED JOB OFFERS
FROM **5** COUNTRIES

AROUND THE WORLD

STARTING SALARY
OF UP TO

\$72,000

PER ANNUM

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF POSTGRADUATE CAREER SERVICES

“ Our MSc in Applied Finance (MAF) programme had an excellent run this year and I’m delighted to share that it is ranked 4th among Asian business schools, as well as 45th in the world by the Financial Times Business School Rankings. The SMU Lee Kong Chian School of Business (LKCSB) is also the only institution in Singapore and South-east Asia to be ranked for its finance programmes.

Consequently this year, the MAF programme attracts a cohort of diverse nationalities, comprising of students from 7 nationalities, all of whom are bilingual or better.

In spite of the challenging job market, the MAF cohort continues to gain strong employment traction. 86% of the 2017/2018 batch of MAF graduates accepted a job offer within 6 months of graduation, over 5 countries worldwide. As a testament to the rigour of our programme, we see top employers from key Asian countries and across various industries, with the majority in Financial Services (54%), while the rest from sectors including Audit/Accounting, Consulting and Technology.

With the demands of today’s competitive market, we prepare professionals for a wide range of finance roles and functions in the industry. A third of these job offers were in Research/Analyst roles and 7% of graduates landed in management trainee programs. Other functions range from front-facing positions like Investment Manager and Corporate & Institutional Banker, to backroom roles in Accounting/Audit and Risk & Compliance.

In terms of remuneration, our MAF graduates have also done well, earning as much as \$72,000 per annum, 6 months after graduation.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the team of certified career coaches in the Postgraduate Career Services team, who have provided strong support to every SMU students from day one. In addition to building active recruiting relationships with over 350 companies around the world, and over 1,000 job opportunities for our students, the Careers team also run workshops for the students in the areas of resume writing, interview skills, digital profiling, assessment centres, and business case reviews, amongst others. I am confident our graduates are well prepared to achieve their career aspirations.

Once again, we congratulate the latest MAF cohort for their achievements. As the chapter segues into a new batch of to-be MAFs beginning their journey, we look forward to a new year of growth and great possibilities for them.

Henry Yeo Kok Chye
Head, Postgraduate Career Services

For more information on Postgraduate Career Services, please visit bit.ly/2KriGH8

**4TH AMONG ASIAN INSTITUTIONS
AND 45TH GLOBALLY**
2018 FT MASTERS IN FINANCE PRE-EXPERIENCE RANKING

CLASS SIZE

110 

AVERAGE
AGE

23 


WORKING
EXPERIENCE

0-5
YEARS 

NATIONALITIES

7 

INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS

93% 

AVERAGE
GMAT
SCORE

650 

MAF 2018 CLASS PROFILE

- ▶ Class of 2018 is made up of 7 nationalities with 93% international students.





“

The SMU MAF program provides a strategic platform for deeper understanding of the ever-changing financial market. The expertise and experience of the faculty members help to narrow the gap between classroom knowledge and practical skills required in the market. The vibrant discussions during classes not only enrich knowledge but also sharpen one's thoughts. The networking sessions organized by the career services team also added much insight what employers are looking for. Indeed, it had been a full year of intensive yet rewarding experience being in the program.

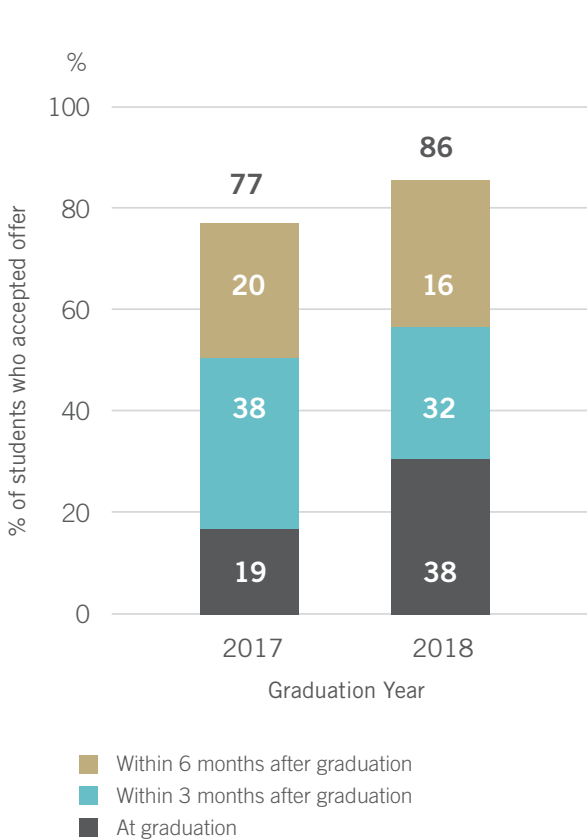
Anita Suwandi Jie,
Class of 2016

”



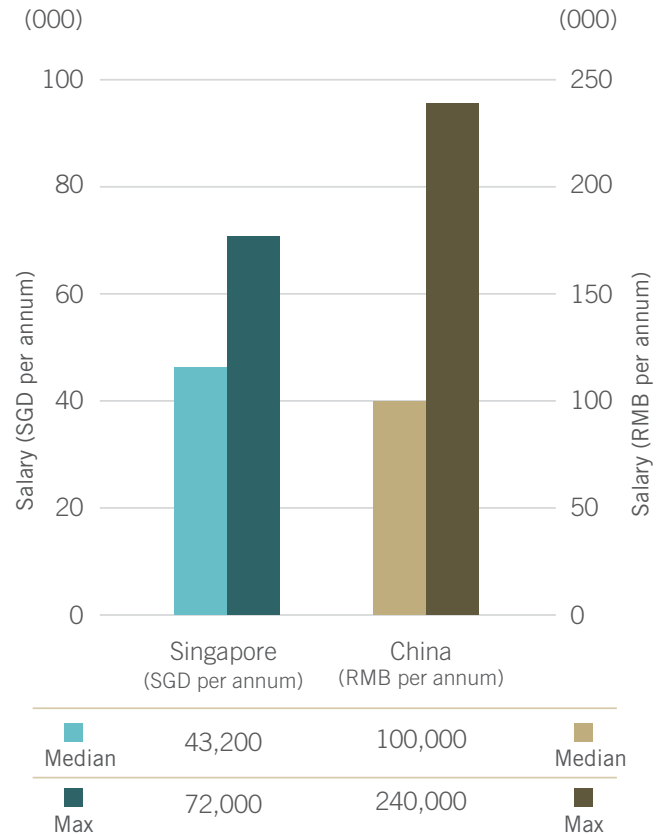
PERCENTAGE OF MAF STUDENTS WHO ACCEPTED A JOB OFFER WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF GRADUATION

The percentage of MAF graduates accepting job offers at graduation doubled from 19% to 38%. 86% of MAF graduates received job offers within 6 months of graduation.



SALARY INFORMATION AT GRADUATION

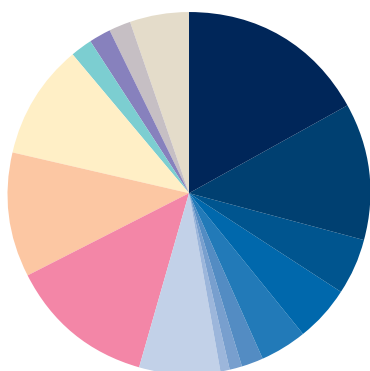
Our MAF graduates continue to command competitive post programme salaries and are hired across a geographical spread. Singapore based graduates saw their median salary at \$43,200.





JOB OFFERS BY INDUSTRY

MAF graduates are offered jobs across a wide range of industries. Financial Services is at 54% and is made up of Asset/Investment Management (17%), Commercial Banking (12%) and others (25%). Other industries in demand for MAF graduates include Audit/Accounting (13%), Technology (11%) and Consulting (10%).

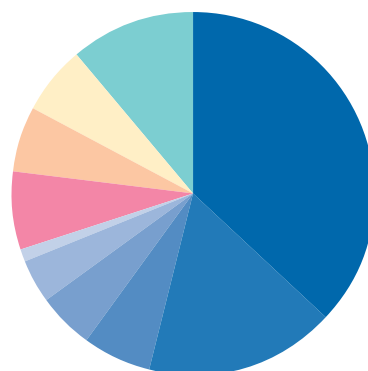


- 13% Audit / Accounting
- 11% Technology
- 10% Consulting
- 2% PE / VC / Incubator
- 2% Education
- 2% Real Estate
- 5% Others

- Financial Services (54%)**
- 17% Asset / Investment Management
 - 12% Commercial Banking
 - 5% Brokerage
 - 5% Insurance
 - 4% Hedge Funds
 - 2% Exchanges
 - 1% Data Vendor
 - 1% Investment Banking
 - 7% Others

JOB OFFERS BY FUNCTION

70% of the job offers are in the Finance function, of which majority are Research/ Analyst roles. 12% of the MAF graduates are in consulting and 7% of them accepted management trainee roles.



- 7% Management Trainee
- 6% Consulting - Strategy
- 6% Consulting - Systems
- 11% Others

- Finance (70%)**
- 37% Research / Analyst
 - 17% Accounting / Audit
 - 6% Corporate & Institutional Banker
 - 5% Investment Manager
 - 4% Trading / Broking
 - 1% Risk & Compliance

HIRING COMPANIES

CHINA

- ANT Financial
- Bank Of China
- CCB Fintech Company
- China Continent Insurance
- China Futures Ltd
- China International Marine Containers Group
- China Merchants Security
- Computershare
- Deloitte China
- Entropy Capital
- Ernst & Young China
- Guangzhou Rural Commercial Bank
- Guosen Securities Co., Ltd.
- Hangzhou Olive Tree School
- Henan Tianlun Investing Company
- HSBC China
- ICBC
- Industrial Securities Co. Ltd.
- Jiangxi Joint Equity Exchange
- KPMG China
- Kylin Investment
- Ministry Of Industry And Information Technology
- Ping An Insurance (Group)
- PwC China
- Savills
- Shanghai Electric Group
- Shanhe Group
- Shenzhen Stock Exchange, China
- Sinolink Securities
- Tianhong
- Tianhuiyu
- Transfar
- Western Future
- Zhejiang Zibo Rui Asset Management Co., Ltd.
- Zheshang Asset Research Institute

HONG KONG

- Bank of China (Hong Kong)
- Titto & Jacobs

INDIA

- ABM India
- Bank Of America
- BlackRock
- Dion Global Solutions
- Ernst & Young India
- Peepul Capital
- Switchme Technologies And Services
- Tip Sons Financial Limited

INDONESIA

- PwC INDONESIA

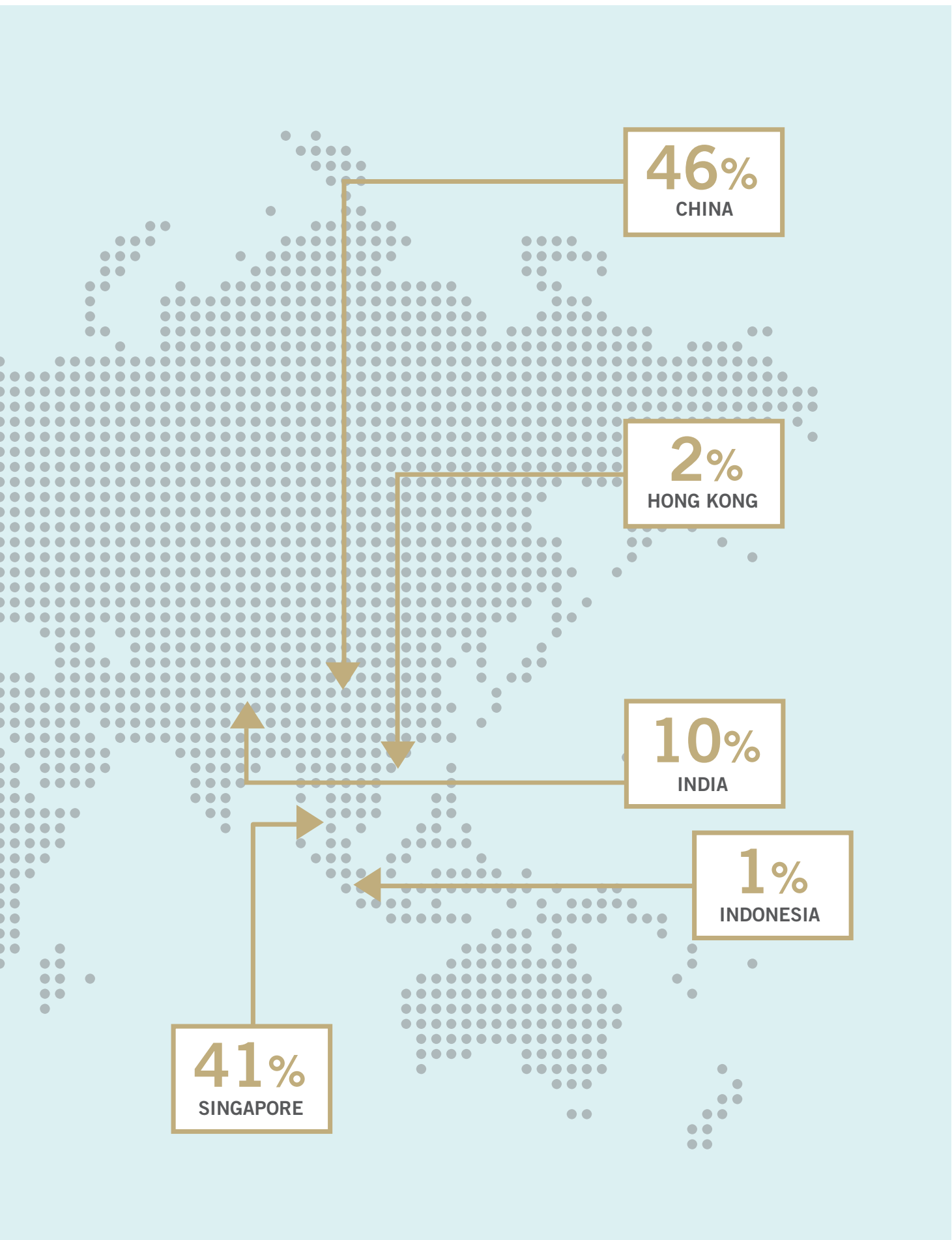
SINGAPORE

- AXA Insurance
- Bank Of China
- Bechtel Financing Services
- Bizgo
- Conduit Asset Management
- DBS
- DNA Partners
- Ernst & Young
- Financial PR
- Foo Kon Tan
- Gordian Capital
- HSBC
- ICAP
- Isixi
- Luxoft
- Matchmove
- Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group
- PwC
- Qilu Steel
- REDD Intelligence
- Reit
- Shopee
- Smartkarma
- SMU
- Sourcesage
- SS Corporate Solutions
- Strategic Wealth Organization
- The Asian Banker
- Tigris Infrastructure Partners
- TNB Ventures
- Upskills
- Welcome Trading
- Xuhu

COUNTRIES OF JOB OFFERS

Job offers for MAF graduates come from a variety of industries and function across 5 countries regionally. They continue to be sought-after by global employers with more than 5 out of 10 job offers made to our MAF graduates being international in nature.





OUR PROGRAMMES AT A GLANCE



Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA)

Ranked 22nd Globally by Financial Times
Executive MBA Rankings 2018

9 weeks over 12 months (segments)

Specially designed for the global senior leader who spearheads business innovation and growth. The EMBA prepares participants for the challenge of leading organisations in today's evolving Asian markets. Participants will also spend a week each at SMU's renowned partner schools in USA, India and China, to deepen their understanding of the nuances within each major economy.

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Ranked 10th Among Asian Business Schools and 43rd Worldwide
by Financial Times
Global MBA Rankings 2019

10 to 15 months (full-time), 18 months (part-time)

For professionals looking to accelerate their career progression or effect a career change. The MBA raises participants' level of analytical, negotiation, leadership and communication skills – assets much desired by employers. Professionals will be exposed to opportunities to strategise, lead and collaborate through the rigorous curriculum via experiential learning, trips to universities and companies overseas and project-based courses.

IE-SMU Master of Business Administration (IE-SMU MBA)

13 months (part-time)

For professionals looking to hone your leadership and management skills, transform an organisation or become an entrepreneur. The IE-SMU MBA gives a thorough understanding of the business environment, concepts and practices of business functions beyond the Asia-Pacific region. Offered in a blended learning environment, the programme combines five face-to-face periods in Madrid and Singapore with interactive online study via the Virtual Campus.

Master of Science in Management (MiM)

18 months (blended or full-time)

For fresh graduates whose undergraduate degree is not in business or management, looking to pursue a postgraduate degree in business or management. The MiM provides a comprehensive overview of business and management principles, including strategy, marketing, accounting, finance, and organisational behaviour, focusing on the dynamics in the Asia region.

Master of Science in Applied Finance (MAF)

Ranked 4th in Asia by Financial Times
Global Masters in Finance Pre-Experience Ranking 2018

12 months internship (full-time), 18 months (part-time)

For those looking to enhance their knowledge and skills in applied finance, pursue their CFA designation and accelerate their career in banking and finance. MAF graduates are equipped with analytical skills, creative problem-solving techniques and aptitude for a wide range of careers. Full-time participants have additional options to specialise in Fintech or Analytics.

Master of Science in Wealth Management (MWM)

Ranked 1st in Asia and 3rd Worldwide by Financial Times
Masters in Finance Post-Experience Ranking 2018

12 months (full-time)

For aspiring and experienced wealth managers looking to specialise in global wealth management. MWM covers the value chain of wealth management, including asset management, investment and client advisory. Participants gain valuable international experience through overseas study trips to learn more about private banking and alternative investments in Switzerland and the United States.

Master of Science in Quantitative Finance (MQF)

12 months (full-time), 24 months (part-time)

For aspiring and experienced professionals looking to gain in-depth knowledge in quantitative finance and programming expertise. The MQF programme equips graduates with current knowledge and industry best practices in risk management, algorithmic trading, portfolio optimisation, model validation, pricing and hedging across multiple asset classes and markets.

Choice of Singapore track (All four terms at SMU in Singapore)
OR International track (Two out of four terms at the Cass
Business School in London).

Master of Science in Communication Management (MCM)

12 months (full-time), 15 months (part-time)

For fresh graduates or professionals looking to develop expertise in communication strategies, managing communication with diverse stakeholders across media platforms, analysing issues facing organisation and making data-based decisions using analytics and latest scientific evidence. Participants will also be required to do a one-week residency at a world-renowned institute for communication management education.

Master of Human Capital Leadership (MHCL)

12 months (full-time), 15 months (part-time)

For professionals looking to achieve mastery in strategic human resource management. The MHCL curriculum is designed in collaboration with the Human Capital Leadership Institute, CIPD, and Wharton's Center for Human Resources. Participants gain experience solving human capital challenges using analytics and evidence-based approaches and are required to do a one-week residency at a world-renowned institute for human capital management education.

Master of Science in Innovation (MI)

12 months (full-time), 15 months (part-time)

For professionals and aspiring or current entrepreneurs keen to master and advance their knowledge in innovation and entrepreneurship. Participants will learn how to manage and lead innovation effectively and be required to do a one week residency at Babson College (Massachusetts, USA). They will also be able to tap on the expertise of practicing venture capitalists who will be co-teaching the MI capstone project.



ABOUT SMU LEE KONG CHIAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (LKCSB)

SMU commenced its curriculum in 2000 with the School of Business, which welcomed its pioneer cohort of students in August 2000. In 2004, the Lee Foundation contributed S\$50 million to SMU in honour of the late Dr Lee Kong Chian, a well-known Southeast Asian businessman, philanthropist and community leader. In recognition of the Lee Foundation's generosity, SMU named in perpetuity the School of Business, the building and the university-wide scholars programme after Dr Lee Kong Chian.

Today, the Lee Kong Chian School of Business is a dynamic Asian business school with more than 4,000 students and over a hundred full-time faculty members with doctorate degrees from renowned universities such as Cornell, Harvard, INSEAD, London Business School, Wharton, Oxford, Stanford and

Yale. The school offers undergraduate, master's and doctoral programmes and is affiliated with a number of research centres such as the Sim Kee Boon Institute for Financial Economics, the Centre for Marketing Excellence and the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

LKCSB is ranked 2nd in Asia and 33rd worldwide in the University of Texas, Dallas Research Rankings 2019 and is one of the youngest business schools in the world to have a triple accreditation with the AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business), EQUIS (European Quality Improvement System), and AMBA (Association of MBAs).

www.business.smu.edu.sg



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Postgraduate Admissions**

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