# Country Report

## Singapore

June 2023

# Contents

# Introduction

This report is part of a series of Country and Territory Reports that QAA regularly produces to offer higher education providers who are **International Insights Members** an overview of the higher education and regulatory landscape of key countries for UK transnational education (TNE), partnerships and collaboration. These reports offer high-level information and intelligence about regulations, challenges, opportunities and signposting to sources of further information.

In producing these reports, QAA seeks to liaise with local regulators and quality assurance agencies, and other UK-sector bodies with relevant expertise. QAA has several strategic partnerships with counterpart agencies in key countries for UK higher education. These are a source of intelligence and direct access to up-to-date information about local regulatory and other developments. We would particularly like to acknowledge the valuable help and support we have received from the British Council Singapore and Universities UK International (UUKi) in the development of this report.

# Overview of Singapore

Singapore is a city-state at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula. Separated from Peninsular Malaysia to the north by the Johore Strait, Singapore is made up of one main island and many small islets. Once a British colony and now a member of the Commonwealth, Singapore first joined the Federation of Malaysia in 1963 but seceded to become an independent state on 9 August 1965.



*Source:* [www.britannica.com/place/Singapore](www.britannica.com/place/Singapore)

Singapore has a diverse population of around 5.64 million,[1] primarily made up of four ethnic groups. Chinese predominates, accounting for around three-quarters of the total. Malays are the next largest ethnic group, and Indians the third.

Owing to the country's ethnic diversity, four official languages are recognised - English, Mandarin Chinese, Malay and Tamil. English remains the main medium for administration, commerce and industry, and it is the primary language used in education. Singapore

---

[1] [NPTD - Overview](#)

embraces an English-based bilingual education system in which students are taught subject matter curriculum with English as the medium of instruction, while the official first language of each student is taught as a second language. This bilingual policy ensures that all students learn English, allowing Singaporean students and graduates to enter large global job markets in Europe, the USA and Australia.

The Singapore Government has long recognised that a high-quality education makes a significant contribution to Singapore's economic wellbeing, future economic development and growth. The development of tertiary education in Singapore is mature, and its quality is widely recognised overseas. The Government promotes Singapore as a knowledge hub with 'world-class' education, which has led to overseas higher education providers being keen to enter partnerships with higher education providers in Singapore.[2]

The secondary education system is also well respected throughout the world and Singaporean students score highly in international comparison charts such as the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

Another feature of the education system in Singapore is the process of continuous evolution, rather than radical reform. This consistent and long-term approach to education policy has enabled Singapore to identify changes and reforms in its education system, such as the move away from more traditional forms of educational practices to a focus on competencies and softer skills.[3]

Another priority area for the Singapore Government is the development and use of artificial intelligence (AI). A national strategy has been launched to deepen the use of AI to transform the economy in Singapore. One of the key aspects of this strategy is the development of talent and education to support the needs of the workforce. The Singapore Government is pushing universities to come up with innovative digital strategies to better prepare students for more digitised jobs in the future. There is also a drive toward greater international collaboration with universities and researchers (see section below on 'Research and innovation').

## Government agencies and key stakeholders

The key government agencies and stakeholders in Singapore are as follows:

- The Ministry of Education (MoE) is responsible for the oversight and policy direction for pre-school, primary, secondary, post-secondary and university-level education.

- Higher Education Group sits within the MoE and oversees the autonomous universities, polytechnics, institutes of technical education, arts institutions, and private education institutes. It also oversees policies on higher education and lifelong learning, and incorporates the following divisions:

  o Higher Education Policy Division (HEPD) which formulates, implements and reviews policies in relation to higher education.

  o Higher Education Operations Divisions (HEOD) which has responsibility for strategic human resources and quality assurance policies.

---

[2] A study of branch campuses in Singapore
[3] Singapore: probably the best organised education system in the world

- o Higher Education Planning Office (HEPO) which oversees planning and policy coordination, as well as conducting data analytics for the sector to support policy formulation. HEPO also oversees higher education-related International Relations initiatives.

- o Academic Research Division (ARD) which manages policies and funding in the areas of academic research.

- o SkillsFuture Division (SSG) which works with higher education providers to develop an integrated approach to education and training. The government awards funding for Singaporean workers to upgrade their skills plus a Lifelong Learning Endowment Fund with a periodic top-up given by SkillsFuture for development and training.

- The Committee for Private Education (CPE) is an agency under the SkillsFuture Division (which was formed following a restructure of the Singapore Workforce Development Agency and CPE in October 2016). CPE, which was previously a statutory board under the Ministry of Education of Singapore, oversees and regulates private education institutions (PEIs) under the Private Education Act (2009).

# The higher education landscape in Singapore

Higher education in Singapore is divided into five types of providers:

- universities
- polytechnics
- Institutes of Technical Education (ITE)
- specialised arts schools
- private institutions.

These tertiary institutions in Singapore provide students with diverse types and levels of education, forming a complete higher education system.

## Student numbers

Student numbers by type of provider (universities, ITE and polytechnics) are set out in Tables 1-3 below. The numbers show, by subject area, the intake (number of students enrolled in a particular year), enrolment (total number of students overall) and graduates (number of students graduating).

(*Source for Tables 1-3: Ministry of Education Singapore,* Education Statistics Digest 2022)

**Table 1: Intake, enrolment and graduates of Singapore universities 2021**

| Courses | Intake | | Enrolment | | Graduates | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Female | Total | Female | Total | Female |
| **Total** | **21,307** | **10,187** | **78,945** | **39,128** | **17,438** | **8,525** |
| Accountancy | 1,356 | 757 | 4,859 | 2,726 | 1,355 | 732 |
| Architecture, Building and Real Estate | 430 | 255 | 1,964 | 1,171 | 458 | 247 |
| Business & Administration | 3,483 | 2,046 | 12,228 | 7,274 | 2,378 | 1,357 |
| Dentistry | 81 | 65 | 278 | 199 | 58 | 33 |
| Education | 196 | 152 | 695 | 561 | 184 | 160 |
| Engineering Sciences | 5,116 | 1,397 | 18,366 | 5,254 | 4,534 | 1,202 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fine & Applied Arts | 376 | 251 | 1,414 | 870 | 429 | 255 |
| Health Sciences | 1,093 | 817 | 3,606 | 2,642 | 777 | 576 |
| Humanities & Social Sciences | 2,727 | 1,789 | 12,506 | 8,506 | 2,998 | 1,984 |
| Information Technology | 2,952 | 705 | 10,219 | 3,027 | 1,418 | 426 |
| Law | 485 | 230 | 1,875 | 909 | 415 | 216 |
| Mass Communication | 176 | 140 | 708 | 574 | 188 | 136 |
| Medicine | 471 | 227 | 2,251 | 1,052 | 397 | 196 |
| Natural & Mathematical Sciences | 2,050 | 1,193 | 7,071 | 3,912 | 1,620 | 874 |
| Services | 315 | 163 | 905 | 451 | 229 | 131 |

**Table 2: Intake, enrolment and graduates of Singapore Institutes of Technical Education 2021**

| Courses | Intake | | Enrolment | | Graduates | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Female | Total | Female | Total | Female |
| **Total** | **14,738** | **5,905** | **27,862** | **10,957** | **13,224** | **5,173** |
| Applied & Health Sciences | 1,335 | 878 | 2,549 | 1,683 | 1,105 | 722 |
| Business & Services | 3,903 | 2,445 | 7,260 | 4,536 | 3,519 | 2,237 |
| Design & Media | 1,009 | 604 | 1,966 | 1,112 | 912 | 501 |
| Electronics & Infocomm Technology | 3,313 | 848 | 6,235 | 1,543 | 3,022 | 724 |
| Engineering | 4,464 | 734 | 8,550 | 1,368 | 4,023 | 633 |
| Hospitality | 714 | 396 | 1,302 | 715 | 643 | 356 |

**Table 3: Intake, enrolment and graduates of Singapore polytechnics 2021**

| Courses | Intake | | Enrolment | | Graduates | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Female | Total | Female | Total | Female |
| **Total** | **20,486** | **9,730** | **63,796** | **30,267** | **22,445** | **10,883** |
| Applied Arts | 1,791 | 1,132 | 5,240 | 3,243 | 1,746 | 1,029 |
| Architecture, Building & Real Estate | 678 | 342 | 1,897 | 981 | 628 | 329 |
| Business & Administration | 3,911 | 2,301 | 12,333 | 7,406 | 4,514 | 2,755 |
| Education | 728 | 685 | 2,154 | 2,006 | 722 | 665 |
| Engineering Sciences | 5,657 | 1,281 | 18,053 | 3,881 | 6,276 | 1,370 |
| Health Sciences | 2,396 | 1,709 | 7,580 | 5,517 | 2,669 | 2,052 |
| Humanities & Social Sciences | 308 | 246 | 910 | 713 | 297 | 223 |
| Information Technology | 2,702 | 662 | 7,854 | 2,010 | 2,647 | 768 |
| Law | 105 | 70 | 379 | 236 | 91 | 61 |
| Mass Communication | 406 | 299 | 1,535 | 1,142 | 648 | 479 |
| Natural & Mathematical Sciences | 1,089 | 676 | 3,272 | 1,987 | 1,175 | 731 |
| Services | 715 | 327 | 2,589 | 1,145 | 1,032 | 421 |

# Types of higher education providers in Singapore

## Universities

Singapore has [six autonomous universities](#) with a total of more than 78,000 students studying for undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. Universities offer a broad range of subjects - from theology, arts and humanities, law, economics and business administration, sociology and social sciences, medicine, natural sciences, mathematics and computer science, engineering, agricultural and forestry sciences; through to the various teacher training subjects. In 2021, MoE announced that Singapore's first [University of the Arts](#) would be established and it is expected to take its first intake of students in 2024.

**Table 4: Universities**

| Universities | Website |
|---|---|
| National University of Singapore (NUS) | [www.nus.edu.sg](http://www.nus.edu.sg) |
| Nanyang Technological University (NTU) | [www.ntu.edu.sg](http://www.ntu.edu.sg) |
| Singapore Management University (SMU) | [www.smu.edu.sg](http://www.smu.edu.sg) |
| Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) | [www.sutd.edu.sg](http://www.sutd.edu.sg) |
| Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) | [www.singaporetech.edu.sg](http://www.singaporetech.edu.sg) |
| Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS) - formerly known as SIM University | [www.suss.edu.sg](http://www.suss.edu.sg) |

Since 2006, Singapore has been granting greater autonomy to public universities with accountability regulated through the Quality Assurance Framework for Universities (see section below on 'Quality assurance of higher education in Singapore').

## Polytechnics

The polytechnics in Singapore offer practice-oriented studies at the diploma level. They are key providers of continuing education and post-employment professional development services. Presently, there are five polytechnics in Singapore - namely, Nanyang Polytechnic, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Republic Polytechnic, Singapore Polytechnic and Temasek Polytechnic - with a total of about 64,000 students enrolled, offering over 30 different courses in each.

## Institute of Technical Education (ITE)

The Institute of Technical Education offers technical-oriented studies. ITE develops technical knowledge and skills of the students and prepares them for work offering certificates and Higher National qualifications. There are three ITE campuses in Singapore with around 28,000 students studying for more than 90 certificate and diploma courses.

## Specialised arts schools

Currently, the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) and LASALLE College of the Arts (LASALLE) are the specialised arts schools that offer specialist creative education. These

arts schools offer both diploma and degree courses. There are about 4,000 students studying for more than 40 diploma and degree courses across these two institutions.

Recently, NAFA and LASALLE have formed an alliance and created the new University of the Arts Singapore (UAS). The first intake of students is planned for 2024 and the University will offer undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, with degrees awarded by UAS.

### Private education institutions (PEIs)

All private education institutions must be registered with the Committee for Private Education (CPE). One of CPE's main roles is to maintain a database of registered private education institutions (PEIs).

The CPE has, in recent years, been helping to rationalise the private sector, which has resulted in a decline in numbers, but there are still about 300 PEIs operating in Singapore. This process involved deregistering PEIs for one of the following reasons: voluntary closure; unsuccessful renewal or registration cancelled.

A private education provider in Singapore must be registered as a private education institution and adhere to the statutory requirements of the Enhanced Registration Framework (ERF), to offer the following types of higher education:

- education leading to the award of a diploma or degree
- post-secondary education leading to the award of a certificate.

The mandatory Enhanced Registration Framework (ERF) sets out the basic standards to which a private education institution would need to adhere.

PEIs do not confer their own degrees, such as a bachelor's or master's. They can, however, offer external degree programmes, with the private Singaporean institution providing the teaching and a foreign partner institution conferring the degree. Qualifications thus granted fall under the accreditation and certification system in the country of the relevant international partner.

# Classification of higher education in Singapore

Universities offer both academic and higher professional education. In Singapore, at one of the six autonomous universities, students can achieve these degrees:

**Undergraduate degree programme:** undergraduate degree programmes take three to four years, except for medicine (which takes five years). Institutions offer degrees as a regular (pass) or as an honours degree.

**Master's:** Master's programmes are available as taught/coursework programmes and research programmes. Admission to a research master's requires an honours degree in a related discipline.

**PhD:** The admission requirements and nominal programme length of PhD programmes vary between universities and programmes. The minimum programme length can range from two to five years, depending on the study programme.

## Entry to higher education in Singapore

The admission requirements are determined by each university, so may vary between providers. However, in general terms, applicants for a degree-level course are required to have completed secondary school education and been awarded General Certificate of Education (GCSE) and GCE A levels or the International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma, plus evidence of English language proficiency skills to the equivalent of IELTS 6.5.[4]

The MoE operates a financial assistance scheme for post-secondary education.[5] The publicly-funded, post-secondary education institutions offer government and institution-based financial assistance for eligible students to pursue post-secondary education. This includes, for Singapore citizens, higher education bursaries and tuition fee loans for full-time diploma students at polytechnics and full-time undergraduates at the autonomous universities.

## Qualifications Framework: Singapore

Singapore has not established a national qualifications framework for higher education awards. Levels of education are distinguished according to education type (such as primary, secondary and post-secondary), but there are no learning outcomes described for these levels. A set of 21st Century Competencies includes core values and competencies which inform Desired Outcomes of Education related to the end of formal education. These are further translated into personal development outcomes at each key stage of the education system. At the post-secondary level these outcomes include, for example, resilience, collaboration and social responsibility.

However, there is a framework for workforce skills qualifications operated by SkillsFuture. The Singapore Workforce Qualifications (WSQ) is a national system, based on credit accumulation, that trains, develops, assesses and certifies skills for the workforce. This is a competency framework offering bite-sized training modules to enable learning at the individual's own pace. The framework does extend to graduate diploma with credits accumulated to achieve a full qualification. The Skills Framework is an integral component of the Industry Transformation Maps. It is co-created for the Singapore workforce by employers, industry associations, education institutions, unions and the Government. The Skills Framework provides key sector information, occupations/job roles, and the required existing and emerging skills.



*Source:* World Bank

---

[4] Admissions procedures and standards for Singapore Students
[5] MoE - What after secondary school?

# Quality assurance of higher education in Singapore[6]

To accredit a higher education course or an educational institution in Singapore, the Government has formed various accreditation agencies which are mostly administered by the Ministry of Education (MoE). The key agencies for higher education are Higher Education Policy (HEPD) Division and the Committee for Private Education (CPE).

The role of the **Higher Education Division** in quality assurance is to provide the MoE with oversight of the governance, management and quality assurance of the sub-university institutions such as the polytechnics, ITEs and the public autonomous universities who are accountable to the MoE for use of public funds. The autonomous universities are subject to a five-year cycle of audit under the MoE's Quality Assurance Framework for Universities (QAFU). The objective of the QAFU is to enhance the overall quality of the institutions and to reinforce institutional best practices. The QAFU focuses on five areas:

1    governance and leadership
2    management and strategic planning
3    teaching and learning
4    service
5    research.

Audits are undertaken by an independent panel of local and international academics and industry representatives appointed by the MoE. The purpose of the framework is to ensure that quality education is provided, and that the universities' systems and structures are aligned with their mission. The QAFU is further designed to encourage continuous improvement by complementing the internal quality assurance systems of the universities. In addition, the MoE established an International Academic Advisory Panel (IAAP) that makes recommendations to the Singapore Government on strategic matters relating to the university sector, including academic quality. The advisory panel typically meets around every three years.[7]

The role of the Committee for Private Education (CPE) in quality assurance is to set out the basic standards that private education institutions (PEIs) must comply with to deliver education services. The quality assurance scheme is known as the EduTrust Certification Scheme. The scheme is voluntary for PEIs but comes with branding and marketing benefits that reassure students and support the recruitment of international students, which in turn makes partnering with a PEI more attractive for an overseas university.

There are seven criteria under the EduTrust scheme, namely:

- Management Commitment and Responsibilities: PEI demonstrates commitment to achieve its vision and how it conducts strategic planning.

- Corporate Governance and Administration: PEI achieves efficiency and effectiveness in the management of administrative operations and resources, external partnerships, corporate governance, communication processes, management and confidentiality of information, and feedback and complaints to improve services provided.

- External Recruitment Agents: Operation of student protection via the Fee Protection Scheme.

---

[6] HE Quality Assurance in ASEAN region
[7] IAAP June 2022

- Academic Processes and Student Assessment: How the PEI sets up processes to ensure that the courses offered meet the needs and expectations of the student and industry.

- Achievement of Student and Graduate Outcomes: How the PEI sets up processes to measure and track student and graduate outcomes, including academic performance, progression and employability of graduates.

- Quality Assurance, Monitoring and Results: PEI's quality assurance requirements in establishing a system of regular monitoring, review and continual improvements to ensure that the systems and processes are effectively managed.

More generally, assuring academic standards is less of a concern with the focus on safeguarding students' interest, such as fee protection, adequate resources for teaching and minimum qualifications for teachers. Assuring academic standards is the responsibility of the university partners of the PEIs. Therefore, provided the PEI meets the external degree programmes criteria set by the Committee for Private Education (including a commitment by the foreign university partner that the courses are equivalent to the home campus and are accredited in their home country), then the CPE requirements are met.

# Transnational education in Singapore

In 2021, around 28,000 students studied for a UK transnational (TNE) qualification in Singapore.[8] Overall, there are more than 1,000 UK qualifications available to study with over 55 UK universities offering their programmes in partnership with PEIs in Singapore.    In 2020-21, Singapore was the UK's fourth largest market in terms of transnational education (TNE) provision.[9]

## Partnership working

Public and private institutions in Singapore establish partnerships with higher education institutions from around the world, including research collaboration, joint degree or exchange programmes. There are different ways for foreign providers to enter the market, including setting up a physical campus, partnering with local universities, polytechnics and private education institutions, or partnering with an institution to offer online courses.

## International branch campus[10]

Singapore is one of the top three host countries for international branch campuses (IBCs) in Southeast Asia (the others being China and Malaysia). There is no definitive list of IBCs and numbers do vary depending on the source, but currently it is estimated that there are about 10 branch campuses of foreign higher education institutions in Singapore offering industry-specific courses of study.

Singapore regulates international branch campuses under the Private Education Act and the Committee for Private Education takes a role in recognising foreign branch campuses. The Enhanced Registration Framework (ERF) under the Committee for Private Education 'sets the minimum standards that all Private Education Institutions (PEIs) must meet through the mandatory registration requirements' (CPE 2016). All PEIs are required to set up an Academic Board and an Examination Board responsible for institutional governance, as

---

[8] British Council

[9] www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/universities-uk-international/insights-and-publications/uuki-insights/scale-uk-transnational-education

[10] International Universities with campuses in Singapore

well as to ensure that all teachers have relevant and authentic qualifications related to the programmes and courses.

## Collaborative provision

Aside from setting up a branch campus, the other option for a foreign university is to offer their programmes through private education institutions. The Enhanced Registration Framework (ERF)[11] specifies that unless ministerial permission is given, no PEI is allowed to confer any undergraduate or graduate degree in its own name.

To offer an external degree programme from a foreign education institution, a PEI, together with its foreign education institution partner, must provide a range of information including:

- confirmation of the degree-awarding status of the foreign education institution from the relevant authority in its home country

- affirmation that the relevant authority in the foreign education institution's home country will recognise the qualification it issues to a student who has graduated from an offshore campus, or acquired through an external degree programme, as being equal to the qualification issued to students graduating from a similar course at its home campus

- profile of the foreign education institution

- a letter or any other form of official document from the Vice-Chancellor or President, or equivalent, of the foreign education institution confirming a range of requirements

- profile of the PEI.

## TNE student data

In the academic year 2020-21, about 60 UK higher education providers recorded TNE students in Singapore. Data from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (Heidi Plus) shows that enrolments in UK TNE programmes in Singapore have declined between 2017-18 and 2021-22 by about 33%. However, TNE in Singapore remains significant compared to UK TNE provision in other Southeast Asian countries, such as Indonesia, with 29,740 UK TNE students in Singapore in total.

The largest decreases in student numbers since 2017-18 have been recorded against: distance, flexible or distributed learning - 20% decrease; and TNE provision with overseas partner organisations - 77% decrease. The decline can in part be explained by the COVID-19 pandemic from 2019-2020 and the closure of several private education institutions following rationalisation of the sector by the Committee for Private Education (CPE). However, the signs are that student numbers are recovering even if they have some way to get back to the 2017-18 levels.  As shown in Figure 1, the total number of UK TNE students in Singapore has, following a sharp decrease in 2019-20, started to increase again in 2021-22. The academic year 2021-22 saw student numbers increase by about 7% from the previous academic year, with 29,740 UK TNE students recorded in total.

As shown in Figure 2, the majority of UK TNE students in Singapore are studying at undergraduate level. There are about 7,370 UK TNE students in Singapore studying at postgraduate level, representing about a quarter of the total student number. So while student numbers at undergraduate level have declined by about 33% over the past five years, the number of UK TNE students in Singapore at postgraduate level has increased by

---

[11] Enhanced Registration Framework

62%. In the past year alone, from 2020-21 to 2021-22, there has been around a 21% increase in the number of UK TNE students in Singapore enrolled at postgraduate level.

**Figure 1: UK HE TNE student numbers by provision type 2021-22**
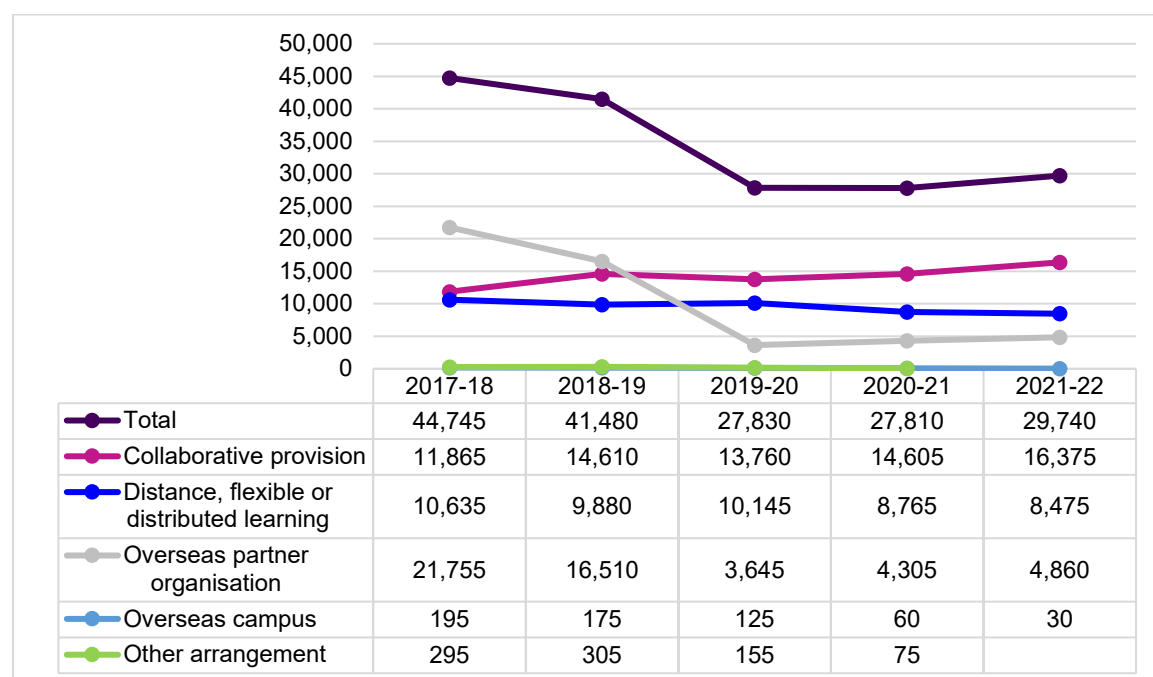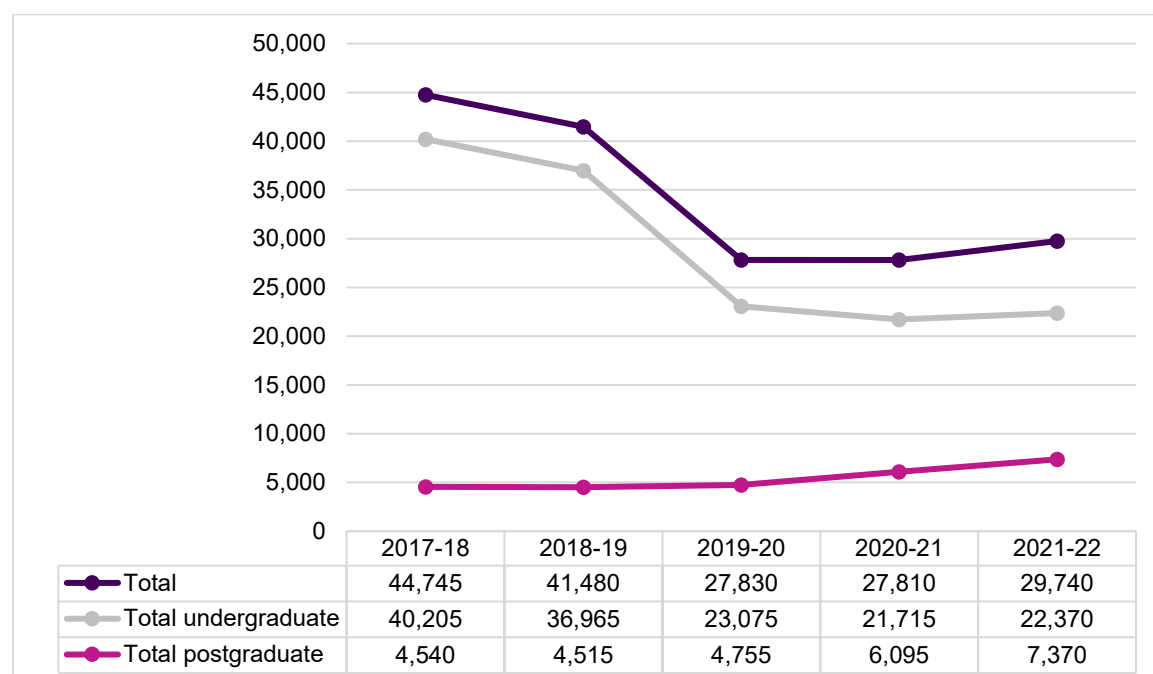*(HESA data - Aggregate offshore record 2021-22)*

| | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | 44,745 | 41,480 | 27,830 | 27,810 | 29,740 |
| Collaborative provision | 11,865 | 14,610 | 13,760 | 14,605 | 16,375 |
| Distance, flexible or distributed learning | 10,635 | 9,880 | 10,145 | 8,765 | 8,475 |
| Overseas partner organisation | 21,755 | 16,510 | 3,645 | 4,305 | 4,860 |
| Overseas campus | 195 | 175 | 125 | 60 | 30 |
| Other arrangement | 295 | 305 | 155 | 75 | |

**Figure 2: UK HE TNE student numbers by level of study 2021-22**
*(HESA data - Aggregate offshore record 2021-22)*

| | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | 44,745 | 41,480 | 27,830 | 27,810 | 29,740 |
| Total undergraduate | 40,205 | 36,965 | 23,075 | 21,715 | 22,370 |
| Total postgraduate | 4,540 | 4,515 | 4,755 | 6,095 | 7,370 |

# International student mobility

Data from UNESCO on tertiary-level student global mobility shows that there are around 21,600 students from Singapore studying higher education courses abroad. The majority of these are studying in three main countries: UK (6,797); Australia (6,322) and USA (3,887). It is suggested that this movement of students overseas from Singapore is, in part, due to the competitive nature of gaining a place to study at home.

In some subject areas, such as Law and Medicine, the number of students from Singapore coming to the UK has reduced. In the case of Law, the Law Society in Singapore has reduced the number of UK Law degrees it recognises, which has in turn impacted on the number of students coming to the UK.[12]

The number of international students inbound to Singapore is much higher than the outbound student mobility figure. The UNESCO data shows just below 55,000 inbound students in Singapore. Singapore is host to students from a range of countries particularly Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, China, India and South Korea. They are attracted to Singapore because of the high-quality reputation of its education, the relative closeness to home and the cultural similarities. It is also considered a safe destination. Moreover, after the completion of their studies, there is the opportunity to work in Singapore and apply for permanent residency after completing a qualification period.

## Research and innovation

In April 2021, the UK-Singapore Universities Alliance for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (UKSAEI) was launched. The purpose of the alliance is to share knowledge and facilitate collaboration in commercialisation and innovation. The alliance will share knowledge in technical transfer and commercialisation with government and industry; and facilitate and enable collaboration between universities, public research institutes, government and industry. In December 2022, a UKSAEI Symposium was held with a five-day programme of activities designed for academics, researchers, staff and students of member universities to strengthen ties and accelerate collaborations in the areas of innovation and entrepreneurship.

---

[12] Approved universities UK

# Further reading and references

British Council - https://education-services.britishcouncil.org/insight - contains market insight from across the globe and opportunities to collaborate with higher education providers overseas.

Ministry of Education (MoE) - www.moe.gov.sg - includes information on public post-secondary education institutions - for example, an overview of the polytechnics

SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG) - www.ssg-wsg.gov.sg - a statutory board under the Ministry of Education (MOE)