

## **Work-Study Degree (WSDeg)**

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

#### **1. Who is eligible to participate in the WSDeg?**

In general, prospective students and in-employment upgraders must meet the base degree programme's minimum entry requirements in order to gain entry to the WSDeg. Admission into the WSDeg is aptitude-based, and can include company-specific criteria.

#### **2. Can we expect more organisations to come on board, and for the WSDeg to be expanded to other areas/fields?**

We welcome interested companies to explore the possibility of working with our universities to offer the Work-Study Degree (WSDeg).

#### **3. What is the difference between the WSDeg and other work-study programmes (e.g., SIT's Integrated Work-Study Programme, IWSP) at the universities?**

The WSDeg and existing work-study programmes (e.g., Integrated Work-Study Programme (IWSP)<sup>1</sup>) are fundamentally programmes offered by the universities that feature curricula where classroom learning is integrated with structured on-the-job training (OJT). Compared to existing programmes however, the Work-Study Degree (WSDeg) feature a higher level of collaboration between industry and the universities, with both parties coming together to co-design and co-deliver curricula that closely integrates theory and practice, as well as co-assess students' performance at the workplace.

#### **4. Will students on the WSDeg be able to continue working in the partner companies after they graduate?**

Students are strongly encouraged to continue developing their careers in the partner companies they have been attached to, and build on their work experience. However, this will require a mutual agreement between student and company on the student's career plans upon graduation.

#### **5. Companies on board the WSDeg can choose to sponsor selected students. What does this sponsorship entail?**

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<sup>1</sup> The IWSP is a compulsory 8 to 12-month work stint for all SIT programmes that provides students with the opportunity to work with industry players, while receiving guidance from SIT faculty in school several times during the course of the IWSP.

The sponsorship packages vary across partner companies. Sponsorship packages may include the sponsorship of tuition fees and/or stipends. Partner companies may also offer sign-on bonuses should the students wish to continue working with the companies upon graduation.

**6. Will students who are accepted into the WSDeg and employed by one of the partner companies have to serve a bond? If so, are there any penalties for termination or if a student wishes to withdraw?**

Students accepted into the WSDeg and who are then successfully employed by a partner company will enter into a contractual agreement with that company. Terms of the contract will have to be mutually agreed on by the student and the partner company. Bond requirements in return for sponsorship vary between partner companies, and penalties for termination of contract or employment are unique to the respective sponsorship contractual agreements.

**7. How much stipend will students be entitled to, under the WSDeg?**

The stipend will vary according to the industry and the specific partner company.

**8. How will students be assessed while working? What are the assessment guidelines or rubrics? Will these guidelines be drawn up by both the universities and corporate partners?**

Assessment rubrics and guidelines are co-developed by the universities and their partner companies with appropriate performance bars and guidance from on-site mentors.

**9. Current employees at the partnering companies will also be able to get sponsorships for their degree studies. What criteria will they have to fulfil?**

In general, in-employment upgraders will have to meet the base degree programme's minimum entry requirements in order to gain entry to the WSDeg. While sponsorship packages for in-employment upgraders will vary across partner companies, they generally should remain full-time employees of the company and continue to receive a salary commensurate to their employment status.

**10. Will students on WSDeg be able to participate in extracurricular activities such as overseas experiences, exchange programmes and community work?**

While the emphasis of WSDeg is on applied learning to deepen learning, this should not restrict students' ability to pursue other areas of interests, where

curriculum scheduling permits. Such experiences will help build important life skills such as resilience and teamwork, and ultimately empower students to learn and perform better at the workplace.