

FACTSHEET ON ADULT EDUCATION PROFESSIONALISATION (AEP) INITIATIVE

About the AEP Initiative

To raise the quality of the Continuing Education & Training (CET) system, it is important that we enable all Adult Education (AE) professionals, including those delivering training outside of the Singapore Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) system, to continue to deepen their professional skills, and to be recognised for their mastery of skills. This is particularly so in view of the crucial role that professionals in Training and Adult Education (TAE) play in supporting the national SkillsFuture movement to impart knowledge and skills to our workforce. As of 2016, there are about 5,900 Adult Educators in Singapore who are actively involved in the delivery of publicly-funded CET programmes under the WSQ System.

The national AEP initiative is a step forward in creating a strong, dynamic and forward-looking Adult Education profession in Singapore. It was first piloted by the Institute for Adult Learning (IAL) in May 2015, to map out how AE professionals can continue to deepen their skills, and be recognised by the industry for their pedagogical and professional excellence. The initiative, officially launched in January 2017, was endorsed by the Training and Adult Education Skills Council, which comprises leading training providers, enterprises, trade unions as well as the Government agencies.

Participation in AEP is voluntary and AE professionals who meet the eligibility criteria will be recognised as an Associate Adult Educator (AAE) or Specialist Adult Educator (SAE) or Adult Education Fellow (AEF), depending on their skills mastery and area of specialisation. AEF is the highest level of recognition, and is invitation-based or by nomination only, based on the AE professional's achievements and contributions. The AEF category, which represents the highest accolade of the three tier AEP initiative, aims to recognise exemplary individuals at the pinnacle of AE practice. The structure of the AEP initiative is in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Structure of the Adult Education Professionalisation (AEP) Initiative

The recognition of AE professionals' expertise and qualification will be reviewed once every three years to ensure that they maintain currency in their practice and uphold the necessary continuous professional development requirements of their AEP titles.

Benefits of the AEP Initiative

AE professionals recognised under the AEP initiative can gain access to a range of benefits to advance their professional standing and professionalism, thereby contributing to the mastery of skills and raising of CET quality. These benefits include opportunities for job and practice engagement to

enhance their practice, business and networking within the professional community, and exclusive continuing professional development to raise their pedagogical and professional competencies. These AE professionals are also eligible for the SkillsFuture Study Award under the TAE sector to pursue deepening specialised skills needed for Singapore's future growth and demand. With these clear benchmarks, organisations also have visibility and assurance in the TAE professionals they engage and the sector collectively gets levelled up with better capability to support the SkillsFuture movement.

In addition to the professional recognition of their experience, quality and strengths, these professionals can display their titles of AAE, SAE or AEF in their corporate stationery, such as business cards and email sign-offs. Their profiles will also be featured on IAL's website to provide them with added visibility on their domain and specialisation.

Be Part of the AEP Initiative

Interested AE professionals can find out more about the AEP initiative and make an application at www.ial.edu.sg/aep where they meet the eligibility criteria. Enterprises and training organisations can similarly tap on this platform to look for suitable AE professionals for their training needs.

FACTSHEET ON SKILLSFUTURE STUDY AWARD FOR THE TRAINING AND ADULT EDUCATION SECTOR

About SkillsFuture Study Awards

The SkillsFuture Study Awards equip Singaporeans with the skills needed to benefit from quality jobs created by the economy. As Singapore continues to transit to an innovation-driven economy, new skills and competencies among Singaporeans will be in demand. Jobs are also evolving with new functions and existing ones requiring updated skillsets. The SkillsFuture Study Awards encourage Singaporeans to develop and deepen specialist skills needed by future economic growth sectors or in areas of demand. It also supports Singaporeans who already have deep specialist skills to develop other competencies.

Recipients of the SkillsFuture Study Awards will receive a monetary award of \$5,000, which they can use to defray out-of-pocket expenses associate with the course that they will be taking. It can also be used on top of existing Government course fee subsidies.

Who is it for?

The SkillsFuture Study Awards are for early to mid-career Singaporeans who are committed to developing and deepening their skills in key sectors and have relevant working experience in such sectors.

SkillsFuture Study Award for the Training and Adult Education Sector

Sector Overview

The Training and Adult Education Sector (TAE) plays a key role in developing the skills capabilities and mastery of the workforce. TAE professionals need to be highly skilled and masters of their craft in order to meet the continuing demand for quality education, learning and development in Singapore. They play a critical role in the national SkillsFuture movement and its focus on skills mastery and lifelong learning. Thus, TAE professionals need to keep abreast of evolving professionals trends and practices, future skills needs, and continue to deepen critical skills sets to stay relevant and responsive to the changing needs of the economy and industries.

Eligibility Criteria

- Singaporeans with at least two years of relevant working experience
- Committed to deepening skills in the sector

- Has track record of contributing to learning and training of others
- Not a previous recipient of any SkillsFuture Study Award
- Recognised as an Associate Adult Educator or Specialist Adult Educator under the Adult Education Professionalisation initiative
- Meets course entry requirements and is accepted for selected course of study
- Selected course of study must be related to the TAE sector
- Public service officers are not eligible for the SkillsFuture Study Awards

Supported courses

Supported courses listed below are non-exhaustive.

Course	Institution
Doctor in Education	Nanyang Technological University – National Institute of Education
Master of Arts (Instructional Design & Technology)	Nanyang Technological University – National Institute of Education
Master of Arts in Lifelong Learning and Leadership	UCL Institute of Education (IOE) in collaboration with the Institute for Adult Education
Master of Arts in Professional Education	National Institute of Education in collaboration with IAL
Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages	Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand and SEAMEO RELC
Master of Education (MEd) in English Language	Nanyang Technological University – National Institute of Education
Master of Science in Skills and Workforce Development	Cardiff University in collaboration with the Institute for Adult Learning
Master of Training and Development	Griffith University in collaboration with the Institute for Adult Learning