

THE COMPLETE GUIDE

Studying in *Singapore.*

Real rankings, real costs, and the real path to staying and working after you graduate — verified against NUS, NTU, and Singapore's Ministry of Manpower directly.

Why Singapore Actually Ranks This High

Most applicants default to the UK or US without ever running the actual comparison. Singapore's two flagship universities sit inside the global top 15, officially confirmed in the 2026 QS World University Rankings.

#8

NUS, GLOBAL & 1ST IN ASIA

#12

NTU, GLOBAL (UP FROM #15)

NUS leads across medicine, law, business, and computer science among Singapore's universities — its Computer Science and Information Systems program ranked 4th globally by subject. NTU built its reputation specifically around engineering and technology, and its School of Materials Science and Engineering ranks 2nd globally, 1st in Asia.

Both universities teach entirely in English and sit at the center of Southeast Asia's most dynamic economy, giving graduates real regional career access most applicants never factor into their decision.

What It Actually Costs

Program-specific fees vary more within each university than between them. Don't assume a university-level cost tier — check your specific program's official fee page.

PROGRAM	UNIVERSITY	TOTAL TUITION (SGD)
Master of Economics	NUS	\$58,350 (official)
MSc Computing	NUS	\$55,590 – \$82,000 (reported)
MSc Business Analytics	NTU	\$75,210 (official, AY2027)
MSc Computer Science	NTU	~\$38,000 – \$42,000/yr (reported)

The spread inside NUS alone is roughly SGD 27,000 between its cheapest and priciest common master's program — larger than most applicants' assumed gap between NUS and NTU entirely. Pick your program first, then check that program's real fee page.

Staying and Working After You Graduate

Unlike the US, UK, or Australia, Singapore has no automatic post-study work visa. There's no OPT, no Graduate Route. Every graduate who wants to stay needs a real job offer and an employer willing to sponsor an Employment Pass or S Pass, according to Singapore's Ministry of Manpower (MOM).

S\$5,600

MIN. EMPLOYMENT PASS SALARY (23 & UNDER, MOST SECTORS)

S\$3,300

MIN. S PASS SALARY (MOST SECTORS)

Both thresholds rise with age and rise again from 1 January 2027 (to roughly S\$6,000 for EP, S\$3,600 for S Pass). Employment Pass applicants also need at least 40 points on MOM's COMPASS framework, a points test covering salary, qualifications, diversity, and local hiring support — unless earning above S\$22,500/month, which is exempt.

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

Written by Araya's Admissions Team

Araya is a boutique postgraduate admissions consultancy built around one idea: strategy grounded in real, verified data, not generic checklists. Every figure in this guide is sourced directly from NUS, NTU, or Singapore's Ministry of Manpower, current as of August 2026.

We work with applicants across India, the Gulf, and South Asia applying to postgraduate programs in Singapore, the UK, the US, Australia, and Europe, matching real profiles to real program requirements rather than a one-size-fits-all approach.

ARAYA

ADMISSIONS STRATEGY

Ready to build your actual Singapore shortlist?

Book a free strategy call and we'll map your real profile against
NUS and NTU's actual admissions data, not a generic ranking list.

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