



## **SGInnovate Summation Programme FAQ (Students)**

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# Local and International Students

## Before Application

### Q1: Who is eligible for the SGInnovate Summation Programme?

- You should be an undergraduate, Master's or PhD student with an Institute of Higher Learning (IHL) or have graduated from an IHL within the last two years.
- You should be able to showcase relevant skills and knowledge for the project that you apply for, for example
  - Academic courses in IHLs
  - Online courses (e.g. Coursera, Udemy)
  - Projects (e.g. Github, Stackoverflow)
  - Working experience (e.g. internships, part-time, freelance)
  - Awards and competitions (e.g. Hackathons, Datathons)
- You will go through a series of assessments to determine if you are a suitable candidate
- Please refer to the **list of previous projects** [here](#) to see the eligibility criteria for the respective projects. New projects for the upcoming run of the Summation Programme will be published in July 2019.

**For international students,** you must also satisfy the below criteria:

- **You must be an undergraduate or graduate aged 18 to 25** from a university in Australia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland, United Kingdom or United States with a strong technical background.
- Additionally, your university also needs to be recognised by the government of the abovementioned countries.
  - **For undergraduates:** you must be a full-time student of the university for at least 3 months before applying for the pass.
  - **For graduates:** you must be a full-time student of the university.
- Please refer [here](#) to check your eligibility as it will determine whether you are allowed to work in Singapore.

### Q2: I will be enrolling in university soon as a first-year student, can I apply?

No, you must be currently a full-time student studying with the university or have graduated within the last two years in order to qualify.



**Q3: I am a Master's / PhD student, can I still apply?**

Yes, some projects are targeted towards more experienced post-graduate students who possess more advanced skillsets. Please browse through the projects and apply through the Summation Programme page [here](#).

**Q4: I have just graduated, can I still participate?**

Yes, our programme is offered to students who are still studying in IHLs as well as those who have graduated within the last two years.

**Q5: What can I gain from the Summation Programme?**

You will be partnered with experienced technical professionals to embark on exciting projects focusing on deep tech (e.g. Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Robotics). You will also be mentored by an established professional and gain invaluable working experience. You will receive an apprenticeship award of up to SGD\$4,000 per month in addition to a minimum monthly stipend of SGD\$1,000.

**Q6: Which are the organisations that I might work for if I am accepted into the programme?**

Please refer to the **list of previous organisations and projects** [here](#). New projects and organisations for the upcoming run will be published on our [website](#) in **July 2019**.

**Q7: Do all organisations offer the same projects under the Summation Programme?**

No. Each organisation will provide the scope and specify the duration of the projects.

**Q8: What is the duration for the Summation Programme?**

**3 – 6 months.** The programme duration may vary, based on project requirements and apprentices' availability. **Minimally, the first three months will be a full-time arrangement.** You are strongly encouraged to commit for as long as you can. Part-time options may be available for some projects upon completion of the programme.

**Q9: When will the next round of the Summation Programme officially start?**

The programme will start officially between **Dec 2019 to Jan 2020**.

**Q10: Do all apprentices have to start at the same time?**

It is possible for you to start your apprenticeship at a different date than others. This would be up to you and the organisation to arrange.

**Q11: Can I use this programme as a credit bearing internship?**

You will have to check with your school on that arrangement as it is not decided by SGInnovate.



**Q12: If I am selected for the Summation Programme, what is the stipend amount that I will be receiving?**

- If you are an undergraduate or a fresh graduate<sup>^</sup>: you will be awarded up to **SGD\$2,000** a month, on top of a minimum monthly stipend of **SGD\$1,000**.
- If you are a Master's student or have just obtained your Master's<sup>^</sup>: you will be awarded up to **SGD\$3,000** a month, on top of a minimum monthly stipend of **SGD\$1,000**.
- If you are a PhD student or have just obtained your PhD<sup>^</sup>: you will be awarded up to **SGD\$4,000** a month, on top of a minimum monthly stipend of **SGD\$2,000**.

<sup>^</sup> Note: You must have less than 2 years of work experience

You will receive more details if you are selected.

**Q13: When is the application deadline?**

Please apply [here](#) by **6 Sep 2019, 12.00 pm (GMT+8)**.

**Q14: What if I miss the application deadline?**

No applications will be accepted after the deadline.

**Q15: What if I found a mistake in my application after I had submitted it?**

The system allows you to edit your application after submission. However, only your latest application submitted before the deadline will be considered.

## Selection Process

### **Q16: How will I be matched to the project / organisation?**

Your application will be evaluated against the respective criteria of each project that you have identified in your preference selection.

### **Q17: What are the technical skills required for this apprenticeship programme?**

The required skillset varies. Programming related projects will typically require proficiency in at least one programming language. The ability to showcase relevant knowledge and/or experience related for the project is more critical. Please see each of the project descriptions for their respective requirements.

### **Q18: How and when will I know the outcome of my application?**

Due to the limited vacancies, we regret that not all applicants will be accepted. Candidates will be informed of their application status via email, within two weeks after applications are closed. Shortlisted candidates will receive additional instructions to proceed further.

### **Q19: What is the shortlisting process?**

There are two stages:

#### **1. Technical assessments**

There will be **up to 3 technical assessments** that you are required to take based on the projects you are shortlisted for. More information and instructions about the tests will be sent to selected candidates. Selected applicants will be informed via email within 2 weeks after the assessments.

#### **2. Interview**

Shortlisted candidates who successfully pass the technical assessments will be invited to attend interview sessions with organisations either in person or through video conferences (if the candidate is based outside of Singapore).

### **Q20: When and how would I receive an offer, should I be selected?**

You will be contacted via email after all due processes are completed, typically within 2 weeks after your last interview.



## Post Selection

**Q21: Am I guaranteed a spot once I have accepted the offer from the organisation?**

Yes. There will be a contract signed between SGInnovate, the organisation and you.

**Q22: When and how will I be receiving my stipend?**

Your **first stipend and award** will be provided to you **upon completion of your first month of work** with the organisation. More information will be sent to students selected for the Summation Programme.

**Q23: I am a Singaporean or Singaporean PR, will I be paid CPF?**

CPF is typically payable for non-credit bearing internships (for stipend amount). Your university may offer exemptions to CPF contribution. You will need to contact your administrative office for more details. Please note that the award is not subjected to CPF contribution.

**Q24: What will happen after the completion of the Summation Programme?**

We will award you a certificate of participation. Any working agreement (for example, part-time work) beyond the stipulated duration will be arranged directly between the candidate and the organisation. SGInnovate will not be involved.

# International Students

## Additional FAQs

### Q26: Can I work remotely?

No, you must be on-site.

### Q27: Will living and travel allowances be provided?

For international students (including Singaporeans who are studying overseas), each apprentice will be provided **one** round-trip air ticket from your city to Singapore.

Foreigners will be provided a living allowance of **SGD\$1,000 / month** (up to a maximum of 6 months). Hostels will be pre-arranged and paid for utilising this allowance for the entire Summation Programme. Any surplus from your living allowance will be issued to you.

Our **designated travel agent** will purchase the air tickets and travel insurance (if applicable) on your behalf. More details will be sent to you if you are selected as one of the apprentices.

### Q28: Am I guaranteed a spot once I have accepted the offer from the organisation?

Yes. There will be a contract signed between you and the organisation, and another one between you and SGInnovate. Despite accepting an offer, you are still subjected to securing a **Work Holiday Pass** in Singapore. You will need to provide us an **in-principle approval (IPA)** letter to be guaranteed a spot in the organisation. More information will be shared later with the selected candidates.

### Q29: When should I apply for the Work Holiday Pass?

Upon accepting the offer, international students should apply for the Work Holiday Pass within one week of the acceptance or at the earliest possible date as allowed by the Singapore Ministry of Manpower (MOM), whichever date is the earliest. Note that there will be **3 weeks of processing time**. Please refer to this [link](#) for more information on how to apply.

We will arrange for you to come to Singapore **a week before the Summation Programme officially starts**. This is to give you ample time to open your bank account and get your Work Holiday Pass issued\*. You will be able to move into your hostel when you arrive in Singapore a week before the official start of the programme.



**Note that you will not be reimbursed for the SGD\$150 required for the issuance of the Work Holiday Pass and it is the responsibility of the applicant to apply for it and obtain it.**

**Q30: How much should I bring to Singapore for the first month before receiving my stipend?**

We recommend you bring at least **SGD\$1,500**. An international student in Singapore spends, on average, about SGD\$750 to SGD\$2,000 a month on living expenses. This amount will vary depending on your lifestyle.

Here are some of the activities and potential costs that you will possibly incur. Please plan your budget well before coming to Singapore:

- **Opening of bank savings account** (depending on which bank you choose to open an account with, you might have to pay an initial deposit of SGD\$500-1000)
- **Holiday Work Pass** (one-time cost SGD\$150 for issuance of pass)
- **Estimated living and transport expenses per month**
  - Meals = SGD\$300-450 (based on SGD\$10-15 per day for 3 meals at a food court)
  - Transport = SGD\$50-100 (dependent on the mode of transport you take)
  - Personal expenses = SGD\$100-350 (e.g. clothes, toiletries, entertainment, haircut, miscellaneous expenses)

**Q31: Do I need to set-up a bank account in Singapore?**

Yes. You will have to open a bank account in Singapore to facilitate the issuance of your monthly stipend.

Different banks have different requirements as well as various types of savings and checking accounts. You may wish to bring enough cash or traveller's cheques to cover your expenses while deciding on the bank you wish to open an account with. Please note that you are responsible for opening your own bank account.

To open an account, you will require:

- A valid passport
- A student pass or In-Principle Approval letter (IPA)

Here are some saving accounts that you can consider:

- [OCBC Saving Accounts](#)
- [POSB Everyday Saving Accounts](#) (minimum deposit = S\$500)



### Q32: Do I need to pay income tax?

If you are taking Summation Programme as a compulsory internship required by your school, you do not have to pay income tax. If not, you have to pay income tax at 15% rate for the total remuneration package that you receive, including your monthly stipend, the Summation award and your living allowance. The travel allowance is not subject to income tax.

## Summation Programme Run 4 Timeline

Date	Event
5 Aug 2019 – 6 Sept 2019	Application Period(Students)
12 Sep 2019 – 11 Oct 2019	Shortlisting of apprentices (technical assessments, interviews with organisations and SGInnovate)
11 Oct 2019 – 25 Oct 2019	Results of offer
Dec 2019 onwards	Start of the Summation Programme

### More Questions?

If you have more questions or would like to discuss our programme in more detail, please email us at [summation@sginnovate.com](mailto:summation@sginnovate.com).