

Media Release

For Immediate Release

WSG's Career Starter Programme to give a job search boost to graduating ITE and Polytechnic students

Singapore, 21 January 2019 – Workforce Singapore (WSG) will roll out the Career Starter Programme this month to provide a boost to the job-search efforts of work-bound graduates from the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) and polytechnics.

2 Implemented by WSG and supported by the ITE and polytechnics, the Career Starter Programme will complement existing efforts in the ITE and polytechnics to prepare graduates for the workplace. Structured Education and Career Guidance (ECG) enables students to deepen awareness of their strengths and interests in their first year. Through their course of study, students learn more about the world of work through internships, job fairs and mentorship from alumni or industry representatives.

3 The Career Starter Programme comes in to provide added and more targeted support for graduating students seeking employment. It consists of three components – (i) a Career Starter Pack resource guide which provides graduating students with information about resources to support their job search; (ii) specialised workshops to reinforce job search strategies and skills; and (iii) personalised coaching for graduating students who require more in-depth support in their job search. In particular, the latter two components also extend to fresh graduates, thereby allowing more seamless support to those transiting to the workforce.

4 About 28,000 graduating ITE and polytechnic students will be receiving the Career Starter Pack resource by end-January. For students and fresh graduates facing greater difficulty in their job search efforts, more targeted support will also be provided through interactive workshops to reinforce their job search strategies and

skills, or individualised career coaching through WSG’s Careers Connect. *(Please refer to Annex A for more details of the three components.)*

5 Ms Low Yen Ling, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Manpower (MOM) and Ministry of Education (MOE), said, “The Career Starter Programme aims to boost the quality of our young ITE and poly graduates’ job search and help them find work suited to their aspirations and qualifications. They can make better and informed choices with the aid of the information guide and workshops, as well as career coaching for those who need extra help. This programme and resources like the MySkillsFuture portal are designed to equip, enhance and enable new job entrants transit smoothly to the working world and give them a strong head start in their careers.”

6 Ms Lynn Ng, Group Director of WSG’s Careers Connect Group, said, “The Career Starter Programme is specially curated for work-bound graduates of the ITE and Polytechnics. The transition from school to the workplace can be a challenging one for some, and we hope this programme will provide them with personalised career guidance and customised job search support so as to increase their chances of landing a job.”

Please refer to the following Annexes for more details on the Career Starter Programme:

- *Annex A – About the Career Starter Programme*
- *Annex B – Career Starter Pack*

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About WSG (www.wsg.gov.sg)

Workforce Singapore promotes the development, competitiveness, inclusiveness, and employability of all levels of the workforce. Its key mission is to enable Singaporeans to meet their career aspirations, take on quality jobs at different stages of life, and help enterprises be competitive and manpower-lean. Workforce Singapore's focus is on strengthening the Singaporean core and ensuring that Singaporeans are able to have better jobs and careers. Workforce Singapore, in partnership with key stakeholders, also provides support to business owners and companies to enable them to transform and grow, while building a future-ready workforce.

About Nanyang Polytechnic (www.nyp.edu.sg)

Established as an institution of higher learning in 1992, Nanyang Polytechnic's (NYP) seven academic schools offer quality education and training through more than 40 full-time diploma courses. NYP also has a full suite of continuing education (CET) options for lifelong learning, ranging from specialist and advanced diplomas, to SkillsFuture modules and courses. NYP's Asian Culinary Institute and the Singapore Institute of Retail Studies are CET institutes set up in partnership with SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG) to champion and transform Singapore's F&B and retail sectors respectively. A third NYP CET institute - the National Centre of Excellence for Workplace Learning – also set up in collaboration with SSG will spearhead the development of progressive workplace learning strategies and programmes for companies here.

Through its strong network of industry connections, NYP empowers learners for work and life through relevant curricula and deep capabilities. NYP strives to be the innovative polytechnic, creating a nexus of future-ready learners, ready to take on new challenges and contribute to growth and sustainability. Nanyang Polytechnic is a recipient of Singapore's top organisational and business excellence awards: the Singapore Quality Award, the Innovation Excellence Award and the People Excellence Award.



About Ngee Ann Polytechnic (www.np.edu.sg)

Ngee Ann Polytechnic started in 1963 and is today one of Singapore's leading institutions of higher learning with 15,000 enrolled students in over 40 disciplines. It seeks to develop students with a passion for learning, values for life, and competencies to thrive in a global workplace.

About Republic Polytechnic (www.rp.edu.sg)

The first educational institution in Singapore to leverage the Problem-based Learning approach for all its diploma programmes, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has seven schools and one academic centre offering thirty-nine diplomas in Applied Science, Engineering, Management and Communication, Hospitality, Infocomm, Sports, Health and Leisure, and Technology for the Arts.

Republic Polytechnic is committed to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurial learning in an environment that develops problem-solving skills and lifelong learning opportunities. Its holistic and broad-based curriculum prepares students for an active and meaningful role in society as problem solvers, respected professionals and passionate citizens.

About Singapore Polytechnic (www.sp.edu.sg)

Established in 1954, Singapore Polytechnic (SP) is Singapore's first polytechnic. It has 10 schools that offer 40 full-time courses and 3 common entry programmes for close to 16,000 students. SP adopts a proven creative teaching and learning framework and offers students a holistic, authentic and industry-relevant curriculum, innovative and vibrant learning spaces, and enriching overseas programmes.

The Polytechnic is committed to producing competent and versatile graduates who are also imbued with sound values, so that they can be work ready, life ready and world-ready. SP has more than 200,000 graduates and among them are successful



entrepreneurs, top executives in multi-national and public-listed corporations, and well-known professionals across various industries and leaders in government.

SP clinched the inaugural ASEAN People's Award in 2015 for its contributions toward the region's community-building efforts. SP is also the first polytechnic to be awarded the President's Award for the Environment in 2010 and the President's Social Service Award in 2011.

About Temasek Polytechnic (www.tp.edu.sg)

Established in 1990, TP is one of the leading institutions of higher learning in Singapore. Currently, it offers 37 full-time diploma courses in the areas of applied science, business, design, engineering, humanities & social sciences and informatics & IT. It also offers over 20 part-time courses, up to the advanced diploma level. TP students undergo a holistic learning system that combines hands-on experience, character education and relevant life skills, in an enriching learning environment. The polytechnic has also infused global realities into its programmes and developed a mindset on campus that embraces socio-cultural diversity. These ensure that TP graduates are ready for work or further studies, and to contribute meaningfully to the community.

About the Institute of Technical Education (www.ite.edu.sg)

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE) is a post-secondary education institution established in 1992 under the Ministry of Education. As a principal provider of career and technical education, and a key developer of national occupational skills certification and standards, ITE's Mission is to create opportunities for students and adult learners to acquire skills, knowledge and values for employability and lifelong learning. ITE's Vision is to be A Trailblazer in Career and Technical Education. Our Values are Integrity, Teamwork, Excellence and Care. ITE comprises the ITE Headquarters and three ITE Colleges - College Central, College East and College West.