



All you need to know about the

Early Admissions Exercise



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We must make a greater effort to help students discover their interests and passions, through education and career guidance... We then **match student interests with their course of study as much as possible** during the admissions process...



Mr Ong Ye Kung

Acting Minister for Education (Higher Education & Skills)

Committee of Supply Debates 2016

As Confucius says, 知之者不如好之者, 好之者不如乐之者: **somebody who knows cannot match someone who wants to know, and somebody who wants to know cannot match somebody who loves to know.**

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Things You Should Know About the EAE

1 It's for those who have *aptitudes* and *interests* in specific fields of study

- Focus on **course-specific aptitudes and interests**
- But, non-course-specific achievements, e.g. sports, leadership, also considered

2 You'll be assessed through different modes

- E.g. interviews, aptitude tests, showcasing your portfolio, depending on the course you apply for

3 All this will take place *before* your O-Level exams

- If your application is successful, the polytechnics will give you a **conditional offer** before you take the O-Level exams

4

You'll still have to meet the polytechnic admissions criteria

- Net ELR2B2 score of **26 points or better** at O-Levels
- **Minimum entry requirements** for the polytechnic course

(...or your offer will be revoked)



5

But you won't have to compete for admission to polytechnic strictly on the basis of how well you do academically compared to everyone else



Important Dates to Remember

22 June – 29 June

Application Stage

4 July – 17 August

Selection Stage

23 August – 26 August

Offer & Acceptance Stage

27 August – 7 October

Withdrawal Stage

- Apply online at the EAE portal
- Three choices in order of preference, one write-up for each course
- School computer lab will be opened to assist you 23 June – 29 June
- Shortlisted students will be contacted for interviews, aptitude tests etc. at the polytechnics
- R3ISE lesson in term 3 will be interview skills
- Check results online
- Successful students can choose to *accept* or *reject* offer
- If you had earlier accepted a DSA-JC offer but wish to take up EAE offer instead, you will need to withdraw from DSA-JC
- Students who want to cancel their acceptance must withdraw during this period. They will then be able to take part in the Joint Admissions Exercise (JAE) after the O-Level exams.



Things You Could Do Before You Apply

Step 1 Explore your interests and develop your strengths

- Advanced Elective Modules; Applied Subjects; Applied Learning Programme
- Work attachments; community / volunteer work
- Course-related school / personal activities, course-related achievements and projects, CCAs



Step 2

Research on the polytechnic courses you are interested in and related careers in the sector

- Attend **EAE talks and workshops** at the polytechnics
- Conduct online **research**, e.g. polytechnic websites
- Visit **course counselling booths** at the polytechnics during Application Stage
- Talk to your **teachers, ECG Counsellors, family/relatives**

Step 3 Prepare for your application

Prepare your write-ups

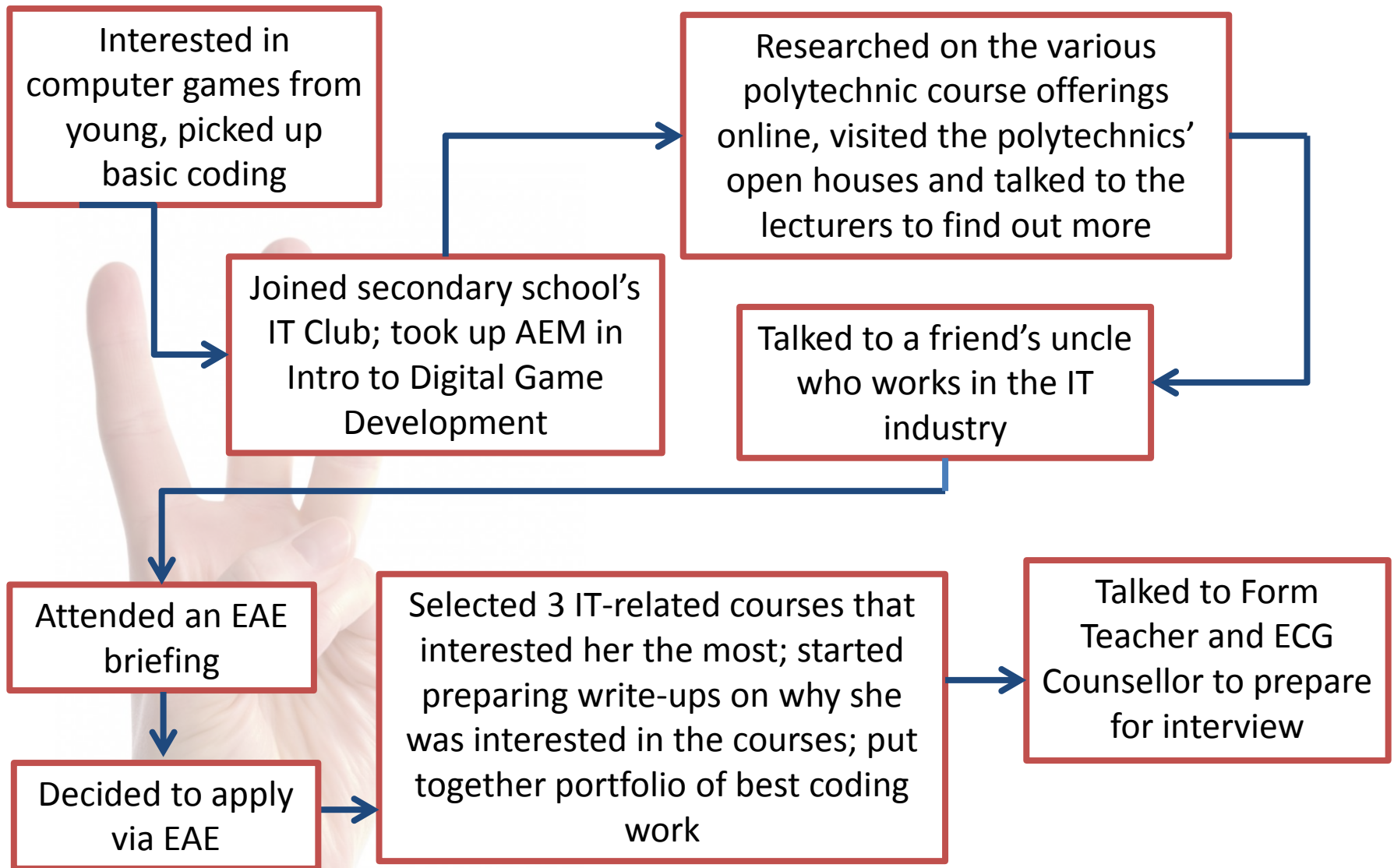
- Short-write-up on why you want to enter the course
- Clear and concise descriptions of your interests, passion and relevant skills, experiences and activities participated in

Prepare relevant documents

- Portfolios (where relevant), e.g. samples of creative work done for design courses
- Other examples include evidence of experiences / involvement in course-related activities, CCA records, course-related certificates / awards, latest school-based examination results

Prepare for interviews

Aqilah's Story





Increased Opportunities

Expansion in the overall allowance for polytechnics to admit students via aptitude-based admissions

1

Focus on courses for which aptitude-based admissions is most meaningful, i.e. where interests and strengths in the field are particularly important

2



Polytechnic courses where up to 50% of students can be admitted via EAE

Applied Sciences

- Baking & Culinary Science

Built Environment

- Architecture
- Landscape Architecture

Health Sciences

- Health Sciences (Nursing)
- Nursing
- Social Sciences (Social Work)
- Sports & Exercise Sciences

Business & Management

- Arts Business Management
- Communications & Media Management
- Culinary & Catering Management
- Food & Beverage Business
- Mass Media Management
- Outdoor & Adventure Learning
- Restaurant & Culinary Operations
- Sport & Wellness Management
- Sports & Leisure Management
- Sports Coaching

Humanities

- Applied Drama & Psychology
- Child Psychology & Early Education
- Creative Writing for Television & New Media
- Early Childhood Education
- Early Childhood Studies

Information & Digital Technologies

- Cyber & Digital Security
- Cyber Security & Forensics
- Digital Forensics
- Digital Visual Effects
- Game Design & Development
- Game Development & Technology
- Infocomm Security Management
- Information Security & Forensics
- Information Technology
- Mobile Software Development
- Multimedia & Animation
- Music & Audio Technology
- Network Systems & Security



Design & Media

- 3D Interactive Media Technology
- Advertising & Public Relations
- Animation
- Animation & 3D Arts
- Apparel Design & Merchandising
- Arts & Theatre Management
- Chinese Media & Communication
- Communication Design
- Design for User Experience
- Digital Animation
- Digital Film & Television
- Digital Game Art & Design
- Environment Design
- Experience & Product Design
- Film, Sound & Video
- Game Design
- Games Design & Development
- Industrial Design
- Interaction Design
- Interactive & Digital Media
- Interior Architecture & Design
- Interior Design
- Mass Communication
- Media & Communication
- Media Production & Design
- Motion Graphics & Broadcast Design
- Product & Industrial Design
- Product Design & Innovation
- Sonic Arts
- Space & Interior Design
- Visual Communication
- Visual Communication & Media Design
- Visual Effects
- Visual Effects & Motion Graphics



Last Word

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We should not be pushing the young to rush into declaring their interests prematurely. I will be rather upset if I change this policy and see the sprouting of a new tuition industry coaching students how to ace interviews. If a young person has yet to discover his area of interest, the system should give him more time for self-discovery. **And if he for some reason cannot get into the course of study he wants, then I hope he can give what he has a chance. We should make the best of the hand we are dealt with in life.**



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Any Questions?

www.polytechnic.edu.sg



Misconception #1:

I will lose out if I don't apply for a polytechnic course via EAE.

- There are still other avenues to enter the polytechnics, e.g. using your O-Level results to apply during JAE
- However, if you have strong interests in and aptitude for specific courses in the polytechnics, you are encouraged to consider applying via EAE

Misconception #2:

EAE is a way for me to hedge my bets.

- You will need to demonstrate interest in the courses applied for
- If you accept an offer and meet minimum entry requirements, you will not be eligible for all other admissions exercises, and will not be able to switch courses
- Hence, if you are uncertain about your interests or the course to apply for, you may wish to apply for admission to polytechnic through JAE instead

Misconception #3:

I don't have to study for my O-Levels once I receive an EAE offer.

- Need to meet polytechnic admissions criteria
 - Net ELR2B2 aggregate of 26 points or better for O-Level exams
 - Minimum entry requirements (MERs) for diploma course
 - E.g. MERs for Diploma in Creative Writing for Television & New Media are B4 for English, D7 for Math, C6 for any three other subjects
- Requisite academic foundation in order to cope with the rigour of the diploma course

Misconception #4:

I can't change my mind after accepting my EAE offer.

- If you accept an offer, you can still withdraw your acceptance during the Withdrawal Stage (27 Aug – 7 Oct 2016) and participate in JAE when O-Level results are released
- If you do not withdraw by 7 Oct 2016, you will not be eligible for other polytechnic admissions exercises or be able switch courses

Misconception #5:

Polytechnics have a target to meet for EAE.

- Polytechnics do not have a target, but an allowance that they may utilise
 - 12.5% of the total polytechnic intake
- Extent of utilisation would vary year-on-year depending on number and calibre of applicants

Misconception #6:

The raising of course-level allowances from 30% to 50% for EAE means that I don't stand a chance if I apply during JAE.

- Course-level caps on admissions through EAE ensures that there continues to be sufficient places set aside for students applying through the JAE and other admissions exercises

Misconception #7:

I can only apply for selected courses through EAE.

- All full-time diploma courses that are available in JAE are open for application through EAE
- Some courses may have higher course-level intake allowances than others, e.g. those for which ability to do well depends on range of qualities beyond just academic grades, and where passion for vocation that course will lead to is especially important