

# 9 in 10 Yale-NUS graduates employed within six months

## New lawyers and doctors and those with computing degrees earn the most among NUS graduates

**Linette Lai**

Nine in 10 Yale-NUS graduates found jobs within six months of completing their final examinations, with those who hold a Bachelor of Science with Honours degree earning gross median salaries of \$5,350.

This was higher than any of their counterparts at the National University of Singapore (NUS), said the liberal arts college in a statement yesterday.

However, it noted that the salary figure was based on a relatively small sample of fewer than 30 graduates.

Among NUS graduates, newly minted lawyers and doctors and those with computing degrees earned the most, with starting salaries also around the \$5,000 mark. Those in more general fields, such as sciences or the arts, had lower salaries – especially if they did not do an honours degree.

In the statement yesterday, Yale-NUS said graduates who hold a Bachelor of Arts with Honours degree earned a median gross starting salary of \$3,890.

All its graduates secured jobs in a variety of fields, including IT, consulting, financial services, education and the public sector.

In total, 147 of the liberal arts college's 187 fresh graduates took part in the annual joint graduate employment survey, details of which were released on Friday.

The survey of 11,800 people found that fewer students who graduated last year managed to secure a full-time job.

Those in less specialised fields felt the impact of the pandemic more, while those in courses that were more focused – such as IT and health sciences – were in higher demand.

Yale-NUS College president Tan Tai Yong said his college's cohort of graduates has shown resilience against the challenges, such as having their final semester disrupted

## Gross median monthly starting salaries for NUS graduates

### HIGHEST

|   |                                                                                                          |         |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | Yale-NUS College Bachelor of Science with Honours*                                                       | \$5,350 |
| 2 | Medicine                                                                                                 | \$5,250 |
| 3 | Computing (Computer Science)                                                                             | \$5,243 |
| 4 | Law, Science (Business Analytics), Computing (Information Security)*, Engineering (Computer Engineering) | \$5,000 |

### LOWEST

|   |                                             |         |
|---|---------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | Science                                     | \$3,100 |
| 2 | Science (Project and Facilities Management) | \$3,200 |
| 3 | Environmental Studies                       | \$3,250 |
| 4 | Music                                       | \$3,275 |
| 5 | Arts                                        | \$3,300 |

\*Data is based on a sample size of fewer than 30 respondents.

Source: MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SUNDAY TIMES GRAPHICS

by the coronavirus and entering the working world at the height of the pandemic.

"The pandemic has also shown us that many issues are interconnected, hence, the ability to synthesise knowledge and find solutions that cut across different disciplines has become more valuable than ever," Professor Tan said.

"I hope our graduates will make good use of their training in interdisciplinary work to make an impact in their fields."

Asia Polyurethane Manufacturing chief executive Erman Tan, a former president of the Singapore Human Resources Institute, said employers are looking for graduates with broad-based training who are able to look at issues from a well-rounded point of view.

Mr Tan added that computing graduates are also in high demand in Singapore and around the world as firms look to implement tech-based solutions to problems.

"Organisations are looking to technology and innovation, because this is how they are going to propel organisations to grow in this pandemic," he said.

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### INTERDISCIPLINARY TRAINING

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**PROFESSOR TAN TAI YONG**,  
president of Yale-NUS College