

TOP ASIAN DESTINATIONS FOR INDIAN STUDENTS · #3 OF 6

Study in Singapore

Eligibility · Cost · Language · Courses · Post-Study Work · Scholarships

Best known for	Business/finance, proximity to India, NUS & NTU (both global top-15 QS 2026)
Typical annual cost (tuition + living)	₹18L – ₹50L/year depending on course and university (one of the costlier Asian options)
Language of instruction	English (all major universities)
Post-study work	Long-Term Visit Pass / LTVP-S for graduates — around 12 months; EP/PR route after 2–3 years of employment
Flagship scholarships	Singapore International Graduate Award; Commonwealth Scholarship for Integrated Science; ADB–Japan Scholarship

Eligibility

- UG: Completed Class XII with strong academic record; entry to NUS/NTU/SMU/SUTD is highly competitive.
- PG: Relevant Bachelor's degree; English proficiency generally assumed given India's English-medium education, though IELTS/TOEFL may still be requested by some programs.
- Intake: main round typically opens October–March for an August (Fall) semester start.

Cost breakdown

- UG tuition: SGD 20,000–45,000/year; PG tuition: SGD 25,000–50,000/year (Master's overall: roughly ₹11L–30L for the full course, more with living costs factored in).
- Living expenses: SGD 9,600–14,400/year plus accommodation SGD 4,800–12,000/year and mandatory insurance SGD 600–1,000/year.
- Popular Master's fields (Computer Science, Engineering, Business Analytics) run SGD 19,000–50,000/year in tuition alone.

Popular courses

- Business, Management & MBA

- Engineering, Computer Science, IT
- Medicine (highly competitive, limited seats)

Post-study work

- Graduates can apply for a Long-Term Visit Pass (LTVP-S), generally valid around 12 months, to job-hunt in Singapore.
- On securing employment, graduates move to an Employment Pass (EP); permanent residency becomes a realistic path after roughly 2–3 years of continuous employment.

Job options & career outlook

- Singapore's status as a regional HQ hub for banking, consulting, and technology gives graduates access to roles most other Asian destinations can't match — mean gross monthly starting salaries across NUS/NTU/SMU/SUTD run roughly SGD 3,500–3,900 for full-time graduate hires.
- Tech is a standout: several Chinese tech majors operating regional offices in Singapore (e.g., Tencent, TikTok/ByteDance) pay junior software engineers well above the local industry average of ~SGD 3,000, with some offers running SGD 6,500–6,800.
- Strongest sectors for fresh graduates: information & communications technology, banking/finance & insurance, engineering/manufacturing, and public administration — SUTD graduates alone found jobs with 700+ partner companies across these sectors.
- The trade-off is Employment Pass competition — foreign hires need to clear a points-based framework (COMPASS) and a minimum qualifying salary, so niche or in-demand skills strengthen a graduate's odds considerably.

Accommodation

- University Halls of Residence are the most common option — shared dormitory-style rooms (2–4 students per room), with washers/dryers, common eating areas, and separate floors by gender; typically costs the equivalent of roughly SGD 700–900/month across an academic year.
- Private hostels run by institutions or independent agencies offer single/shared rooms with laundry, food courts, and 24-hour security — a common off-campus fallback.
- Shared apartments/condominiums give more privacy and independence for students who prefer choosing their own roommates — Facebook groups like "Indian Students in Singapore" are widely used to find flatmates and rooms.
- Homestays with local families are also available, generally costing SGD 1,000–1,600/month, and offer a more immersive cultural experience.

Social life & student community

- Singapore has one of the fastest-growing Indian student populations in Asia — from roughly 1,500 in mid-2021 to over 10,000 within a year, and tens of thousands today — supported by a large resident Indian community and the Little India district as a cultural anchor.

- English as the primary language of instruction and daily life makes Singapore one of the easiest Asian destinations for Indian students to socially integrate into quickly.
- Hawker centres (e.g., Lau Pa Sat) serve Indian, Chinese, and Malay food side by side, so vegetarian and Indian cuisine options are genuinely easy to find across the city.
- The city-state's compact size and excellent public transport mean students from different universities socialize easily across campuses, and short flights home (under 6 hours) make regular visits realistic.

Scholarships

- Singapore International Graduate Award (SINGA) — PhD-focused, covers stipend, tuition, airfare.
- Commonwealth Scholarship for Integrated Science, ADB–Japan Scholarship for developing countries, and university-specific merit awards from NUS/NTU/SMU.

Other relevant details

- Student Pass processing is relatively fast (21–60 days typical) and Singapore's proximity to India (under 6 hours by air) is a major draw for families.
- Cost is the trade-off — Singapore is consistently the priciest of the five destinations here, alongside Hong Kong.

Verify before you apply

Visa and post-study work rules change often, and several changed more than once during the 2026 cycle. Tuition and living figures are indicative. Always confirm current terms with the official immigration source and the university before making a decision.

Explore Singapore. Discover your possibilities.

Not sure if Singapore is the right fit? Book a free counselling conversation with Aurevia.

Call **+91 88617 11101** · Email **connect@aureviaconsultants.com**