

- What is the Student Effort Contribution (SEC)?

The SEC is the student portion of the partnership between students, their families and the College in contributing to the Yale-NUS experience. It is valued at \$1,500 annually and allows all parties to show commitment to and share responsibility for the cost of a Yale-NUS education. It is common for financial aid models to include a student contribution as a means of student investment in their own education. This is considered a best practice amongst institutions with a need-based financial aid system similar to Yale-NUS.

Yale-NUS remains committed to providing need-fulfilling financial aid to all students who demonstrate financial need and the SEC does not indicate a deviation from this commitment. Yale-NUS is one of a small number of institutions in the world who provides need-based financial aid to students of all nationalities and meets each student's full demonstrated need.

Unlike many institutions in Singapore and overseas, the Yale-NUS financial aid package does not require a student to first take up a student loan before receiving any study award or scholarship. Our students are thus able to graduate with little or no debt. The SEC, which asks that students invest in their education, plays a small part in helping the college sustain this practice.

- Is the SEC an additional fee imposed on students?

No, the SEC is not an additional fee. The SEC is a fraction of Tuition & Residential Fees at Yale-NUS. The SEC is a portion of the standard student bill and does not add to the cost of attending Yale-NUS.

- Is the SEC unique to Yale-NUS?

No, the SEC is not unique to Yale-NUS. An SEC is common practice amongst institutions that offer need-fulfilling financial aid, including Yale University. The equivalent scheme at NUS is the Work-Study Assistance Scheme.

- Why is the SEC implemented starting AY2018-2019?

The SEC has been a key part of the Yale-NUS financial aid plan from the time the College was founded. The decision was made to commence implementation of the SEC for AY2018-2019 as the College now has a wider range of student employment options available.

- How was the SEC value of \$1,500 decided?

The SEC value of \$1,500 was determined after evaluating on and off campus employment opportunities available to students, tabulated against the recommended weekly hours of work students are advised to fulfil, while still participating in curricular and co-curricular activities at Yale-NUS.

- What can I do to pay the SEC?

Students can pay the SEC through on-campus employment, external employment, or use other sources of funding such as savings or external scholarships. Funds from employment can be earned during the semester or during college breaks.

- Are wages offered by on-campus employment able to cover the SEC?

Yes, wages offered by on-campus employment are able to cover the SEC. In fact, earning potential from on-campus jobs exceeds the value of the SEC. The Student Associate rates on campus range from \$9 to \$20 per hour, depending on which opportunity a student wishes to pursue.

For example, a student who takes on employment that pays \$9 an hour will have to work about 6.5 hours a week through the 13-week semester to earn \$750. An international student on a student pass is allowed to work up to a maximum of 16 hours a week during school term and full-time during vacation.

Students also have the opportunity to fund the SEC through paid work between semesters or through external scholarships.

- How many hours of work do on-campus jobs generally provide?

This differs from job to job. As you approach hiring managers about specific positions, it is advised that you discuss the hourly expectations for the role and whether there are peak periods when additional or fewer hours may be expected.

- How many jobs are available on campus? Are jobs available for first year students?

Job availability on campus differs according to the time of year and need. Hiring of a student is based on skill set, not seniority. For example, a recent peer tutor posting on Symplicity has indicated that the position is available to first year students. Students are not limited to jobs within Yale-NUS and are also encouraged to explore job opportunities in the greater NUS campus or off-campus during break times.

- How can I find an on-campus job?

You may learn more about on-campus employment opportunities at the following website: <https://cipe.yale-nus.edu.sg/career-services/on-campus-jobs/>. The website also provides a link to a [tipsheet on finding part-time employment while at Yale-NUS](#).

For more detailed job postings, log on to the Symplicity portal: <https://yale-nus-csm.symplicity.com/students/>. You should log in frequently, as job availability fluctuates depending on time of year. Apply directly on Symplicity with your resume, cover letter and any additional materials required in the posting.

You may also speak directly to a faculty or staff member on available job opportunities.

- Where do I see the SEC on my student bill?

The SEC is not reflected as a separate line item on the student bill. It is part of the total payable amount. For example, if the total payable amount for the semester is \$1,000, this amount is inclusive of the SEC of \$750.

Note that Yale-NUS billing is managed on a semester basis, and the SEC of \$1,500 is divided equally per semester, requiring a payment of \$750 each semester.

- Who should I approach if I need clarification on the SEC?

Please contact the Office of Financial Aid if you have any questions on the SEC:
financialaid@yale-nus.edu.sg

- What should I do if I am unable to pay fees before the bill due date?

Please contact Student Services to discuss your situation and explore potential solutions:
studenthelp@yale-nus.edu.sg