MScBIS FAQs [AY2027/2028]

This page answers common questions from prospective applicants. For the latest dates, fees and requirements, please refer to the MScBIS programme page. If you cannot find your answer here, email us at bisilearning@nus.edu.sg and we will get back to you within 3 working days.

Application for Admission

1. When can I apply, and when will I hear back?
Application dates for each intake are listed on the programme page. Applications are assessed on a rolling basis, so there is no single decision date.

2. Who is eligible to apply?
A Bachelor's degree (preferably with Honours) in Health, Healthcare, Psychology, Social Sciences, Social Work and related fields. Applicants with other qualifications and relevant industry experience may be considered case by case. See Admission Requirements on the programme page.

3. Is there an English language requirement?
International applicants whose university degree was not taught mainly in English must provide a valid TOEFL or IELTS Academic score. Minimum scores and validity rules are on the programme page.

4. What documents do I need to submit?
A personal statement (not more than 300 words), a Curriculum Vitae, and at least one referee's report. Referees are invited by email through the online application system, so you must enter their email addresses when you apply. Please also follow the application checklist.

5. The application requires documentary proof of financial support in English. What can I submit?
A bank statement (original, certified true copy or electronically generated) or a certificate of deposit in English issued by the bank, showing that you (or your parent) hold the stated amount. If you are not the account holder, attach a document stating your relationship with the account holder. The proof should show you can pay the Miscellaneous Student Fees (see the Registrar's Office fees page) and tuition fees for at least 2 semesters.

6. Can I upload supporting documents that are not in English?
All supporting documents not in English must be accompanied by an official certified English translation.

7. If my application is unsuccessful, can I reapply?
Yes. You may submit a new online application with all relevant, updated supporting documents for the next intake.

8. What are the tuition fees, and are there scholarships or rebates?
Fees, rebates and the BISI Study Award are listed on the programme page under Fees and Scholarship. Tuition fees are reviewed annually. For external funding options, please refer to our scholarships document.

9. Should I apply through an agent?
No. NUS has not engaged any external agents, and applying through one gives no advantage. Please apply directly to the University.

International Applicants

10. Do I need a Student's Pass to study in Singapore?
Full-time international students must hold a valid Student's Pass issued by the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA). After you accept an offer, NUS registers you in ICA's SOLAR system, and you then submit eForm 16. Part-time international students are not eligible for a Student's Pass and must hold a valid long-term pass, such as a Work Pass, to stay in Singapore. For the full process, see the NUS Registrar's Student Pass page.

11. Is a medical examination required?
Yes. All admitted students complete a pre-admission medical examination before enrolment, either at the University Health Centre (UHC) or with a private registered physician. Details and deadlines are on the UHC pre-admission medical examination page. International students who need a Student's Pass must also complete ICA's medical examination as part of their Student's Pass formalities; see the Registrar's Student Pass page and ICA's Medical Examination Report form. Admitted students receive further guidance in their student pack.

Accommodation and Living Costs

12. Will NUS arrange accommodation for me?
Only full-time students may apply for campus housing, and it is not guaranteed. Coursework students are unlikely to be offered campus accommodation at Kent Ridge, except at College Green. Please budget for off-campus housing and source it early. See the Office of Student Affairs pages on off-campus accommodation and private accommodation. Any agreement with a private landlord or hostel is a private arrangement between you and them.

13. How much does it cost to live in Singapore?
See NUS Graduate Studies' cost of living estimates. Actual costs vary with your housing and lifestyle.

Programme

14. How is the programme structured, and what are the Research and Practice tracks?
MScBIS is a 40-unit coursework degree: 7 core and 3 elective courses (4 units each). It takes 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time (maximum candidature 24 months full-time or 48 months part-time, excluding Leave of Absence).

Choosing a track is optional and is not a graduation requirement. The Research Track suits students who want to build stronger research and methodological skills, including designing and evaluating complex interventions. The Practice Track suits students who are more interested in applying behavioural and implementation sciences to design and implement interventions in healthcare settings. You may mix and match electives; if you complete the required electives within one track, you graduate with that specialisation. The course list, track requirements (which can vary by the year you start), timetable and recommended schedule are on the programme page under Curriculum.

15. Can I study part-time while working full-time, and when are classes usually held?
Yes. The part-time programme is designed to be completed over 2 years and is suitable for working professionals. Most classes are held in the evenings, although some courses have been scheduled in the afternoon. Class days and timings vary by course and semester, so please refer to the latest timetable on the programme page when planning your work and study commitments.

16. Can I take courses from other schools?
Some electives are offered by other NUS units (for example DL5102, BMI5108 and BMI5207) and count towards your degree. Other courses outside the programme's list do not count towards graduation, may need faculty approval, and may incur additional fees.

17. What are the graduation and continuation requirements?
To graduate, you must pass 7 core and 3 elective courses with a minimum GPA of 3.00. For academic standing and continuation rules, see the NUS graduate continuation and graduation requirements.

18. Can I take part of the programme before committing to the full degree?
Yes. Graduate Certificates in Behavioural and Implementation Sciences are available, and units earned can be transferred towards the MSc if you later decide to complete it. Details are on the programme page.