Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Application for Admission

1. **When/how will I receive the application outcome for AY2023/24 intake?**
   You should receive an outcome by end April 2024 via the email you submitted your application with.

2. **The official application requires us to submit a documentary proof of financial support in English. What does this refer to? What document can I submit as financial proof?**
   You may submit a bank statement (original, certified true copy or electronically generated statements will be accepted) OR a certificate of deposit (Chinese: 存款证明) in English issued by the bank as a proof that you (or your parent) have the stated amount in the bank account. If you are not the account holder indicated in the bank statement, attach another document stating your relationship with the account holder.

   The financial proof should certify your financial ability to make payment for the Miscellaneous Student Fees (MSFs) and tuition fees for at least 2 semesters.
   For the actual rates of MSF, please refer to this [page](#).

3. **There is a 'Referee' section on the application page. Is this compulsory?**
   Referees are **not** required for the MSc in BMI programme.

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

5. **If my application is unsuccessful, can I reapply?**
   Yes, applicants who are unsuccessful in their application can submit a new online application with all the relevant and updated supporting documents uploaded, if they are interested to be considered for the programme again in the next intake.

International applicants

1. **I am an international student, what document do I need to study and stay in Singapore?**
   All international students must hold a valid Student's Pass (SP) issued by the [Singapore Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA)](#) for their studies at NUS.

2. **How do I apply for a student's pass?**
   Upon acceptance of your offer of Admission, the University will apply for the Student's Pass on your behalf via the Singapore Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) SOLAR system. Once NUS has successfully registered your information, you may login to SOLAR to submit **eForm 16**. Please refer [here](#) for the information required.

3. **I have applied to more than one institution. Can I hold more than 1 student's pass?**
    ICA will only issue one Student's Pass to a student at any one time. You may apply to more than one institution, but you may only accept **one** offer. If you have earlier accepted an offer from another institution but now wish to accept NUS offer instead, you would have to inform the other institution to cancel their Student's Pass application before you can proceed to submit your eForm 16. Please [refer](#) here for the steps to submit eForm 16.

4. **Pre-Admission Medical Examination**
    As an admission condition, all incoming students (excluding non-graduating students and continuing & professional education students) are required to undergo a medical examination. The University reserves the right to refuse admission to or exclude a student from any particular course of study if he/she declines to undergo the health examinations or refuse any prescribed tests. All international students who plan to stay in Singapore for 6 months or more will need to undergo and pass an additional medical examination which must include a HIV test for the application of the Student's Pass. Please refer [here](#) for more information.

5. **Must the medical examination be done in Singapore?**
    You may complete the medical examination (i) at the [University Health Centre (UHC)](#); (ii) with your own physician either in Singapore; or (iii) in your home country. If you choose to consult your own physician, please submit the completed medical examination report, written in **English**, to UHC before the stipulated deadline. Please refer to the [UHC website](#) for more information.

Hostel/Accommodation

1. **Will NUS help to arrange for my accommodation in Singapore?**
    Only Full-time NUS graduate students may apply for a place in selected Student Residences. Being a research-intensive university, new Graduate students by Research are prioritised for campus accommodation. As demand far exceeds supply, not all applicants will be successful in their applications. With the present high demand for campus housing, Graduate students by Coursework are unlikely to be offered campus accommodation in Kent Ridge Campus with the exception of College Green. It is advisable to budget for off-campus housing and source for one early.
    More information on off-campus housing can be found [here](#).
    * Any agreement signed between a Student and the Private Hostel is deemed to be a private arrangement between the two parties. NUS is unable to mediate in the event of a dispute. Students are advised to practice due care and diligence prior to any contractual commitments.

2. **What are the alternative options for accommodation in Singapore if I am not successful in my hostel application?**

We strongly encourage students to arrange for temporary or short-term accommodation before they leave their home country if they have not secured the accommodation for the duration of their course. You may refer to the website for the lists of private short-term and long-term accommodation in Singapore. Please note that students are responsible to source for their own accommodation in Singapore. You may refer here for a list of contacts and resource references to help facilitate your arrangement of alternative accommodation.

3. **How much would accommodation cost in Singapore per month?**
The average monthly rental rate can cost anywhere from SGD $500 - $2000 and above, depending on the type of housing, geographical location, size, facilities etc.

4. **How much would it cost to live in Singapore during the course of my studies?**
Please refer here for a list of estimated expenditure a single student may likely incur during his or her stay in Singapore. These amounts will vary accordingly depending on your personal needs and lifestyle pattern. You are advised to refer to the sample data as a rough guide for planning your expected living costs.

Matriculation

1. **How/when will I receive my NUS student card?**
You will be notified to collect your student card on campus once it is ready.

2. **Is there orientation for newly matriculated students?**
Orientation session will be held in-person in Jul/Aug before the term starts in Aug 2024.

Curriculum

1. **What is my maximum candidature?**
The MSc in Biomedical Informatics programme is a 1 year, full-time or 2 year part-time 40 units degree with 2 specialisations in either Analytics or Hospital Management.

   - Full-time students are expected to complete the programme within 12 - 24 months. The maximum candidature is 24 months; excluding Leave of Absence (LOA).
   - Part-time students are expected to complete the programme within 24 - 48 months. The maximum candidature is 48 months; excluding Leave of Absence (LOA).
   - For full-time students who exceed their expected candidature of 2 semesters, the criteria for minimum number of courses will not be imposed but you are required to enrol for all remaining modules in the final semester.

2. **What are the continuation and graduation requirements?**

   Continuation Requirement:

- For continuation of candidature a student must obtain satisfactory progress during his/her candidature (Coursework), i.e.,

- Student will be issued a warning for any semester in which his/her CAP falls below 3.00. If in the following semester, the student's CAP again falls below 3.00 but is above 2.50, he/she will be placed on probation.

Student's candidature may be terminated and refused re-admission if he/she obtains:
- CAP < 1.5 in the first semester of study; or
- CAP < 2.50 for two consecutive semesters of study; or
- CAP < 3.00 for three consecutive semesters of study
- CAP for continuation is computed based on all courses read, be it pass or fail. Students are to complete 5 courses from the Core Course list (20 Units) and;

<u>Graduation Requirement</u>

- Read and pass five core courses and five elective courses that are in the course list.
- Obtained a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 out of 5.0 or, equivalently, an average grade of at least B-.

3. **Where can I find the list of courses?**
   Please refer to the [website](#) under "Curriculum" tab for the list of courses.

   Please refer to [NUSMods](#) for more information regarding the courses.
   Please note that the courses may only be available once per academic year (AY) and you are to refer to NUSMods or the faculty website for more information.

4. **How many courses am I allowed to take per semester?**
   The maximum workload for full-time and part-time students is 20 Units (5 courses) and 12 Units (3 courses) respectively.

   The minimum workload for full-time and part-time students is 12 Units (3 courses) and 4 Units (1 course) respectively.

   Students are highly encouraged to complete their course of study within the maximum candidature or earlier. Please pace and select your course choices across the semesters within the candidature.

5. **Am I allowed to change my choice of specialisation?**
   Students are allowed to change their specialisation except in their last semester of study. Students are responsible for ensuring that they meet all course requirements for their desired specialisation.

6. **Must I read Software Development Fundamentals (IT5001) and Data Structures and Algorithms (IT5003) together since IT5003 has IT5001 as a co-requisite?**
   Both courses are offered by NUS School of Computing (SOC) and need not be taken in the same semester. The courses are scheduled consecutively within the semester. IT5001 is a core course for MSc in Biomedical Informatics (Coursework) graduation requirements but is independent of IT5003 i.e. you must take IT5001 as a core but IT5003 as an elective. You

need to read and pass IT5001 before you are allowed to read IT5003 even if you enrolled for it earlier.

7. **I am not allocated the elective of my choice, what should I do?**
Electives are subjected to availability and popular courses are often over-subscribed. You may try to register for the elective in subsequent semesters or choose an alternative course.

8. **How do I register for course?**
Full-time students would be pre-allocated core courses Advanced Biomedical Informatics (BMI5101), Advanced Agile Project Management (BMI5306), Medical Data and Data Processing (BMI5207) and Software Development Fundamentals (IT5001) in the 1st semester of the AY.

Part-time students would be pre-allocated core courses Advanced Biomedical Informatics (BMI5101) and Advanced Agile Project Management (BMI5306) in the 1st semester of the AY.

Students would be required to register for courses in CourseReg in subsequent semesters. Please refer to the [website](#) for more information.

There are 3 rounds for CourseReg. Round 0 is only applicable for selection of BMI courses. Students are able to select other faculty courses (IT/DL/SPH etc.) in Round 1 or 2.

9. **Can I apply for other courses in other faculties?**
You may apply for other courses. However, they are subjected to their availability and approval by respective faculties. Do take note that the other courses will not be included as part of your 10-course graduation requirements and additional fee charges apply as per the other faculties' guidelines.

10. **Where can I find the lesson schedule?**
Please refer to the [proposed study plan](#) (subjected to changes) on our website; we endeavour to provide as much information as we can. Lecturers will provide more information to the class along the way once lessons begin. The AY24/25 calendar is [here](#).