

SGUnited Skills (SGUS) PROGRAMME – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

This FAQ focuses on the SGUS programme offered by BCA Academy. Please refer to the latest FAQs regarding the main SGUS programme and training allowance as published by SkillsFuture Singapore: https://www.skillsfuture.sg/-/media/SGUnited/FAQ/SGUnited_Skills_FAQs.pdf

General

1. When does the SGUnited Diploma (Conversion) in Integrated Digital Delivery (Built Environment), Dip(C) IDD start? How will it be conducted?

Following the successful launch of the SGUnited Diploma (Conversion) in IDD in Oct 2020, BCA Academy will be running the second intake of the programme in mid-January. More SGUS Diploma (Conversion) programmes are in the pipeline. The courses are conducted in a mix of online and on campus classes in the day.

2. Do I need to buy any books / materials for the programme?

Course materials will be available for download in the Student Learning Portal. You will need to own a laptop with minimum specifications to run BIM software (recommended 16GB RAM minimum) and access Student Learning Portal. The school does not loan laptops.

Entry requirements

3. Who is eligible to take the programme?

This programme is eligible for Singapore Citizens or Permanent Residents aged 21. It is meant for individuals who are able to commit to the training programme on a full-time basis except:

- Anyone who has graduated from educational institution in calendar year of 2019 – 2020.
- Anyone who has completed National Service in calendar year of 2019 – 2020.

Applicants must minimally hold a recognised Diploma certificate and be confident about IT systems

4. Do I need to have any construction background / IT background to join this Diploma (Conversion)?

This programme caters to both trainees with minimal construction or IT background. The first module aims to build foundation of built environment. Trainees with construction industry background could also take the opportunity to refresh on the latest changes in the industry.

You should be passionate to join the industry, possess an open attitude to explore new areas and a lifelong learning spirit to embrace new knowledge and skills.

5. Can I take up part-time job while attending the SGUS programme?

As the SGUS is a full-time training programme, trainees should be committed to complete the programme by meeting the minimum attendance requirements (at least 75%) and sit and pass the assessments to qualify for all the modules. Do ensure that if you have any part-time job, it will not affect your commitment to your studies

6. I do not have a diploma, can I still apply?

Applicants who do not meet the entry requirements may be considered for admission on a case-by-case basis, depending on the academic qualification, relevancy and length of work experience.

Finances

7. Do trainees have to pay for the programmes?

Trainees need to pay for the nett fee after Skills Future Singapore (SSG) subsidy. SkillsFuture Credit can be used to offset the nett fee. Programme fees have been kept affordable as the programme is targeted at unemployed individuals and the programme fees is kept within \$1,000.

For the Dip(C) IDD, the nett fee is at \$500 (with GST).

8. Do trainees pay the full amount of nett fees upfront or at the end of the programme?

The nett fees are to be paid upfront.

9. Is there any further subsidy / funding to tap on for the nett fees?

The programme fee is already highly subsidized from the full fee of \$10,700 (with GST) by SSG. No further subsidy/funding is available.

10. Do trainees get a refund on nett fees due to dropping out of the course half-way?

Trainees are strongly encouraged to finish the programme. In the event that trainee found employment during the course, refund of nett fees for the unconsumed module (minus any SkillsFuture Credit) may be granted. A module that is partially completed is considered consumed.

11. Will trainees, who drop out of the programme midway, be penalised or required to refund the course fee subsidy?

The programmes allow trainees to exit without penalty if they are successfully placed into a job or have secured a job on their own accord while undergoing training. However, trainees who exit the programme without a valid reason may be asked to return the course fee subsidy that they have received.

12. How do trainees apply for the training allowance? What are the supporting documents needed?

Trainees can apply for the training allowance with the training provider offering the SGUnited Skills Programmes, as part of the enrolment process. The training provider will help submit the completed training allowance application to SSG on the trainees' behalf.

13. Will trainees be eligible for training allowance if they do not complete the programmes?

Trainees will only be eligible for training allowance for the months in which they attend training and meet the minimum attendance requirement. The training allowance will be discontinued once the trainee leaves the programme, including early exit due to job placement.

14. When and how will trainees receive their monthly training allowance?

Trainees will receive their training allowance via SSG at the beginning of the subsequent month via PayNow. Trainees will need to have a PayNow account linked to their NRIC. Prior to payment, training providers will also need to verify that the trainees have fulfilled the minimum attendance requirement for each month.

15. Will recipients of existing subsidies and grants such as Self-Employed Person Income Relief Scheme be allowed to take part in the SGUnited Skills Programme?

Recipients of the COVID-19 Support Grant (CSG) and the Self-Employed Person Income Relief Scheme (SIRS) may participate in the SGUnited Skills Programme to enhance their employability. However, they will not receive the full training allowance of \$1,200 (for SGUnited Skills Programme) while they are receiving CSG/SIRS payouts.

16. Will trainees be allowed to utilise their SkillsFuture credit (SFC) for the programme?

Trainees may utilise their SFC for the programme. Trainees will have to apply via SkillsFuture website and send a print screen of the application confirmation via the reply from BCA Academy email offer. Our officer will inform you with the nett fee amount payable.

17. Will trainees be allowed to utilise the “One-Off SkillsFuture Credit Top-Up” for the programme?

SSG allows SFC application latest one working day before programme commencement date. You may only utilise the available balance residing in your SFC account at the point of application.