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**EDUCATION**



Since its establishment, the Macao SAR Government has actively optimised non-tertiary and tertiary education in Macao, with a view to implementing the administration directions of “developing Macao through education” and “cultivating talents for the development of Macao” in various aspects, including institutions, resource allocation and planning. In addition, in adhering to the principle of diversity in tertiary education, the Government supports the autonomy of tertiary institutions, and coordinates the development of different tertiary institutions, to train talented persons who are internationally competitive.

## Non-tertiary Education

Macao is the first region in Greater China to provide 15 years of free education.

Since the promulgation of the Fundamental Law on Non-tertiary Education in 2006, non-tertiary education in Macao has been classified into two types: formal education and continuing education. The former includes kindergartens, primary schooling, secondary schooling, and special education; the latter includes family education, recurrent education, community education, vocational training and other education activities. Vocational and technical education, which may be implemented as part of formal education or recurrent education, are only offered at senior secondary school level. The Macao school system comprises a free education network of public schools and subsidised private schools, together with private schools.

Private schools in Macao can be classified into two types: those following the local education system and those following a non-local education system. Non-profit private schools that follow the local education system may apply for entry into the free education network. The Government encourages schools to develop their own characteristics and style in terms of mission, curriculum development and teaching mode. The Government also supports the development of a diverse school system, to nurture more talent for society.

According to Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) statistics, there were 77 schools in Macao during the 2017/2018 academic year, of which 10 were public schools, while the remaining 67 were private. Among the 67 private schools, 64 offered formal education, and three offered only recurrent education. Among the 74 schools (including 10 public schools and 64 private schools) that offered formal education, 67 were in the free education network, while the remaining seven were in the paid education network. The number of schools in the free education system increased to 105, and the coverage rate increased to 94 percent.

During the 2017/2018 academic year, 78,039 students received non-tertiary education, with 76,346 of them receiving formal education. Of these, 18,802 (24.1 percent) attended kindergartens, 30,169 (38.7 percent) attended primary schools, 26,608 (34.1 percent) attended secondary schools, 936 (1.2 percent) received vocational and technical education, and 767 (one percent) were enrolled in institutions for children with special educational needs. Some 1,693 students were receiving recurrent education, including primary school pupils (0.1 percent) and 1,623 secondary school students (2.1 percent), and 355 (0.5 percent) vocational school students.

During the 2017/2018 academic year, there were 6,962 teaching staff for non-tertiary education, representing an increase of 3.7 percent over the 2016/2017 academic year.

## Education and Youth Affairs Bureau

The DSEJ is a government department responsible for developing, directing, coordinating, administering and evaluating non-tertiary education. It is also responsible for issues concerning young people, and for supporting youth associations and similar organisations.

## Education Development Fund

The Government established the Education Development Fund in 2007, to support and drive programmes and projects with good development prospects in non-tertiary education. The School Development Scheme is a major subvention scheme launched by the Education Development Fund.

In 2017, the Education Development Fund provided subsidies amounting to about 780 million patacas. The School Development Plan for the 2017/2018 academic year included two categories: fixed and variable subsidies. Fixed subsidies covered school-based training, books and newspapers procurement and professional staff. In order to optimise the application of subsidies, reduce administrative work for schools and narrow the gap between the operational levels of schools, the school development plan for the 2017/2018 academic year continued to categorise variable subsidies into three application plans: prioritised, school-based and others. Other subsidised projects include large-scale campus reconstruction and expansion, and various learning and teaching activities.

## Compulsory Education

Compulsory education is defined as universal education that is compulsory for all minors aged from five to 15. It begins in the first academic year when a child turns five years old, and finishes with the end of the academic year in which he or she reaches 15 years of age, or when he or she completes junior secondary education with a pass. The Government and education institutions are obliged to ensure that school-age children complete such education.

## Free Education

Since the 2007/2008 academic year, free education has been extended to cover the entire 15-year period of compulsory education: three years of kindergarten, six years of primary, three years of junior secondary and three years of senior secondary schooling.

To create favourable conditions for small-class teaching, the Government has reduced the number of pupils for each class from 35-45 pupils to 25-35 students. This began in the 2007/2008 academic year, initially covering the first year in preschool education, and was subsequently expanded to cover more senior levels in the following academic years. By the 2017/2018 academic year, the ceiling for pupils per class was applied to all stages of schooling within the formal education curriculum.

In the 2017/2018 academic year, the class-teacher ratios in kindergartens, primary and secondary schools were enhanced to 1:2.0, 1:2.2, and 1:2.7, respectively. Also, the teacher-student ratios in kindergartens, primary and secondary schools were enhanced to 1:14.5, 1:13.5 and 1:9.8, respectively.

## Subsidy and Financial Aid Schemes

The Government offered free education subsidies to private schools within the free education network. Students studying in schools that did not provide free education were provided tuition fee subsidies. The amounts of both types of subsidies were continuously increased.

Education Level	2016/2017 Academic Year Free Education Subsidies (patacas)	2016/2017 Academic Year Tuition Fee Subsidies (patacas)
Kindergarten	918,200 per class	18,490 per student
Primary	1,012,900 per class	20,600 per student
Junior Secondary	1,234,600 per class	22,950 per student
Senior Secondary	1,404,400 per class	22,950 per student

In addition, during the 2017/2018 academic year the Government continued offering textbook allowances to students who are Macao residents receiving formal education in Macao. The textbook allowances for each kindergarten pupil, primary school pupil and secondary school student were 2,000 patacas, 2,600 patacas and 3,000 patacas, respectively.

According to the Framework Agreement on Cooperation Between Guangdong and Macao, Macao should gradually offer tuition fee subsidies to Macao pupil and students studying in kindergartens and primary and secondary schools in Guangdong. In light of this, the DSEJ launched a pilot scheme in the 2012/2013 academic year to provide tuition fee subsidies for Macao students who studied in full-time regular high schools or full-time secondary vocational schools (high school level) in Zhuhai and Zhongshan, Guangdong Province. In the 2016/2017 academic year, the eligibility for the subsidies was extended to Macao high school students and preschool pupils studying in Zhuhai, Zhongshan, Jiangmen, Guangzhou, Foshan, Shenzhen and Dongguan.

The subsidies for each senior secondary school student and kindergarten pupil were raised to 4,000 and 6,000 patacas per academic year, respectively. In addition to provision of tuition fee subsidies, the scheme also organised summer courses and study visits in Macao for high school students. It also organised visits to Macao tertiary educational institutions so that students could plan for their further education. In 2017, 2,043 students were granted tuition fee subsidies amounting to about 10.56 million patacas.

Starting from the 2012/2013 academic year, the Government has launched the Subsidy Scheme for Enrolment of Outstanding Students to Pedagogical Programmes, to subsidise outstanding students to study in bachelor's degree programmes with pedagogical training. The students are required to work as teachers in public or private schools in Macao after completing the programmes. In the 2017/2018 academic year, it was estimated that 411 students would receive subsidies to study in the programmes, and the subsidies would total over 33 million patacas.

In the 2013/2014 academic year, the Subvention Scheme for Training Portuguese-speaking Teachers and Language Experts was launched, to subsidise high school graduates for enrolment to bachelor's degree programmes in Portuguese and Spanish languages, master's degree programmes

in education, and bachelor's degree programmes and/or master's programmes in applied foreign languages in Portugal. The Government and the Catholic University of Portugal have also reached a cooperation agreement on organising preparatory courses on Portuguese language and culture for Macao students who will continue their studies in Portugal. Students who pass these courses will be directly enrolled in the above programmes.

In the 2017/2018 academic year, 17, 21 and 43 students were enrolled in the preparatory courses on Portuguese language and culture, bachelor's degree programmes in Portuguese and Spanish languages, and programmes in applied foreign languages, respectively. The students are obliged to serve in Macao as teachers of Portuguese language, or be engaged in other Portuguese language-related work after completing the programmes.

### **Vocational and Technical Education**

To facilitate further development of vocational and technical education, the Education Development Fund continues to subsidise courses organised by private schools that cover vocational and technical skills with the schools' own characteristics and in accordance with the adequate diversification of Macao's economy. In the 2017/2018 academic year, subsidies for vocational and technical education courses totalling over 17 million patacas were granted to nine schools, which organised 83 classes in 33 programmes. Nine schools participated in the "Applied Learning – School-based Applied Courses" subsidy programme, and organised courses on 14 subjects related to applied skills. A total of 70 classes were organised; subsidies totalling over 1.20 million patacas were granted.

To amend the laws and regulations on Vocational and Technical Education, the DSEJ commissioned a professional agency to study the Development Mode of Vocational and Technical Education in Macao. Based on the recommendations and analyses in the study report, the DSEJ developed the direction of amendment. In February 2017, the DSEJ established the Vocational and Technical Education Task Force under the Non-tertiary Education Council, to discuss the reform and development, policies, measures and revised direction and key legislation amendments related to vocational and technical education.

### **Education for Pupils with Special Needs**

During the 2017/2018 academic year, there were 2,116 pupils in Macao with special needs; 1,349 of them studied in inclusive classes, and 767 were in small special education classes and special needs classes.

### **Life-long Learning**

To support Macao's adequate economic diversification and development of a knowledge-based society, the Government launched the first and second phases of the Continuing Education Development Plan from 2011 to 2016. Over 140,000 and 160,000 Macao residents participated in the first and second phases, respectively, with participation rates of 36 percent and 41 percent of all eligible residents, respectively. The first and second phases involved subsidies of over 520 million patacas and 740 million patacas, respectively.

To continue encouraging life-long learning, the Government launched the third phase of the

Continuing Education Development Plan (2017-2019) during the year. By 31 December 2017, this phase entailed subsidies totalling around 200 million patacas to more than 100,000 eligible residents. There were also some 7,000 applications for subsidies for participating in local tertiary education and overseas programmes.

Recurrent education has provided education opportunities to residents who did not complete formal education at the normal age. During the 2017/2018 academic year, two public schools and seven private schools offered recurrent education. The DSEJ provides recurrent education subsidies to private schools offering recurrent education. These subsidies amounted to a maximum of 786,000 patacas, 949,000 patacas and 1,073,000 patacas per class for primary, junior secondary and senior secondary schools, respectively.

To facilitate development of a knowledge-based society and promote life-long learning, the DSEJ joined hands with the Cultural Affairs Bureau, Macao Institute of Adult Education, Macao Association for Adult Education and Macao Society of Continuing Education in organising the Life-long Learning Week 2017, with nearly 100 activities, in October 2017.

In 2017, the Life-long Learning Incentive Award Scheme organised more than 26,000 learning activities of various types, providing more than 280,000 places, and 461 organisations joined the network. The cumulative total of scheme participants reached 3,903.

## Open Campus Campaign

Through the provision of subsidies by the Education Development Fund, schools cooperating in the Open Campus Campaign are encouraged to open their facilities for public use during non-working hours, so they can be used by students and citizens. In the 2017/2018 academic year, there were 25 participating schools, including two schools that participated in the public sports facility network of the Sports Bureau.

## Curriculum Reform and Development

In 2017, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture issued executive orders to specify the basic academic requirements for junior secondary school education (Executive Order No. 56/2017) and to specify the basic academic requirements for senior secondary school education (Executive Order No. 55/2017).

In the 2017/2018 academic year, the by-laws on the Framework of Formal Education Curriculum and the Requirements of Basic Academic Attainments in Formal Education were extended to include primary four to primary six, and junior secondary-one and senior secondary-one students.

The reform of the secondary education curricula includes: provide students with all-round, balanced and diverse curricula; offer more choices and opportunities according to the students' various aspirations and interests; focus on improving students' physical and mental qualities and career planning ability, and develop their life-long learning ability; allow not less than 150 minutes of sports for students every week; and help them pick up leisure time activities that they are interested in and skilled at, in order to facilitate their healthy growth and academic achievement. Besides, every school must base their programmes on the requirements of basic academic attainments in terms of organisation and implementation of teaching plans, in order to alleviate any unnecessary burden of learning on students, thereby ensuring their basic development

in knowledge, skills, abilities, emotions, attitudes and values to improve the overall quality of non-tertiary education in Macao.

### **Professional Development of Teaching Staff**

In 2017, 392 teaching staff training activities were organised, providing 17,410 training places.

The Education Development Fund launched the Subvention Scheme for School-based Training, the Subvention Scheme for Off-the-Job Training and the Subvention Scheme for Study Leave. In 2017, 23,108 teachers participated in the Subvention Scheme for School-based Training.

In 2017, more than 759 teaching staff participated in the open classes in the teaching design award scheme. Also, subsidies were given to 332 teaching staff for enrolment in pedagogical training programmes organised by tertiary institutions.

To support the professional development of leaders and management of schools in Macao, two semesters of a training programme for potential school leaders and two semesters of a training programme for potential mid-level and senior-level school management were organised in 2017, attracting participation by 42 and 92 teaching staff, respectively.

### **Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)**

The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), drawn up by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), assesses the performance of 15-year-old school pupils of participating countries/economies in reading, mathematical and scientific literacy once every three years. Starting from 2003, Macao has participated in five PISA assessments.

The results of PISA 2015, which focused on collaborative problem-solving capability, were released on 21 November 2017. Macao students aged 15 scored an average of 534 in collaborative problem-solving capability in PISA 2015. Among the 51 countries/economies, Macao was ranked eighth, among the world's best.

### **Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS)**

The Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) is organised by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), and has been administered every five years since 2001. Its aim is to scientifically assess the reading literacy and level of primary-four pupils, and to explore factors that affect students' literacy. Results of the study are used as the basis for improving education policy on reading, teaching methods and reading habit, with an aim to further raise the reading literacy of students.

The Government participated in this international study for the first time in 2016. A total of 4,059 primary-four pupils from 56 schools participated in the study. The results of PIRLS 2016 were announced on 5 December 2017. Among the 50 participating countries and regions, Macao was ranked 19th, with a score of 546, which was above the international average. Compared with other countries and territories participating for the first time, Macao achieved competitive results.

### **National Education**

More than 1,300 people from 60 schools and 25 youth organisations participated in the

Flag-raising Ceremony for the May Fourth Youth Day for Macao Students in 2017. Winners of the May Fourth Youth Day knowledge crossword competition for secondary school students, in which more than 6,000 entries were received from 27 participating schools, were presented book vouchers as prizes after the ceremony. The Beijing-Hong Kong-Macao Exchange Summer Camp – Youth Hong Kong and Macao Tour 2017 was attended by 68 students and teachers from 31 schools in Macao. The Beijing-Macao Primary School Students Exchange Camp 2017 attracted participation by some 50 students from 40 schools. The National Education Course 2017 – a Study Visit to Macao and an Exploration Tour to the Silk Road and Shanghai, attracted participation by 101 high school students from 28 schools.

The Government held the Revisiting Macao through the Silk Road for Cultural Inheritance and Development – “Belt and Road” Photo Exhibition from November 2016 to September 2017, attracting about 30,000 visitors from a total of 45 schools. The photos were also shown in the DSEJ education activity centre and youth centre, during a period when the centre was attended by about 20,000 people. In addition, to encourage young people in Macao to pass on Chinese culture and enhance their knowledge about the Basic Law and the situation of the country and the Macao SAR, the DSEJ organised six sharing sessions in 2017 to enrich participants’ knowledge of legal issues and Chinese culture. These sharing sessions attracted about 370 young participants.

The organising committee on Macao for May Fourth youth programmes that was formed by several youth organisations held two events. The committee was also subsidised to launch seven commemorative activities with the theme of the 98th anniversary of the May Fourth Movement; these attracted a total of about 2,500 participants.

To further develop patriotic education, the DSEJ rolled out a wide array of activities, such as the Promotion of Diplomatic Knowledge Campaign, National Education Programme for Teenagers in Macao, Understanding and Loving China Study Tour Subsidy Scheme. In the 2016/2017 academic year, there were more than 16,000 participants.

Also, educational camps of various themes were organised, including an education camp on national defence and a military summer camp for young Macao students, assisting in students’ all-round development from experiential learning in three areas - self-care, patriotism and teamwork. In the 2016/2017 academic year, nearly 2,930 students participated in these educational camps.

## Arts Education

In 2017, the DSEJ continued implementing the Students Popular Arts Education Scheme, covering primary 6 students to 3rd-year senior secondary school students. The DSEJ also continued organising various arts education schemes and activities, including the Arts Education Snowball Project and the Macao School Bands Show.

## Student Welfare Fund

The Student Welfare Fund aims to subsidise social and educational activities to ensure that all Macao students can enjoy equal opportunities, and create a safe and healthy learning environment for students. At present, student welfare mainly covers tuition fee subsidies, meal allowances, allowances for textbooks and stationery, free insurance, and the milk and soy milk programme.

To encourage students to continue pursuing tertiary education and nurture professionals for

the development of Macao, the DSEJ supports students whose families are experiencing financial difficulties and encourages outstanding students through the Tertiary Scholarship Scheme. It was expected that this scheme would benefit about 6,500 students in the 2017/2018 academic year. The DSEJ also joined hands with banks to launch its Interest Subsidies for Student Loans Scheme, which benefited some 1,000 students in 2017 by subsidising 70 percent of payable loan interest during their studies. The remaining 30 percent of the subsidy will be issued to the students upon completion of their tertiary education courses.

## **Non-tertiary Education Council**

The Non-tertiary Education Council is a consultative body with representatives from many sectors of the community. Through participation, coordination, cooperation and reviews, the members work together to promote the development of education.

## **Teaching Staff Professional Committee**

The Teaching Staff Professional Committee comprises school leaders, representatives of education organisations, representatives of the DSEJ, people with well-recognised education achievements, and experts in the education sector and teachers.

The Teaching Staff Professional Committee established a dedicated group for the preliminary review of the presentation of the Outstanding Teacher Award in the academic year. It invited reputable education experts and scholars from across the strait, Macao and Hong Kong to form the specialist panel, which was responsible for reviews and judging. Finally, 15 teachers – the upper limit approved by the general meeting of the Teaching Staff Professional Committee, were granted Outstanding Teacher Awards; they were secondary, primary, preschool and special education teachers.

## **Youth Affairs**

### **Youth Affairs Council**

The Youth Affairs Council is a consultative body that is responsible for providing professional advice and recommendations on formulating relevant policies, and evaluating the results of their implementation. The 2016 Youth Activity Award and Civic Education Award were awarded in accordance with the Regulations on Presentation of Youth Awards.

## **Macao Youth Policy**

The Macao Youth Policy (2012-2020) is a forward-looking and systematic policy document compiled by the Government to facilitate the all-round development of young people in Macao.

In 2017, the work from 2012 to 2016 was reviewed; this was the first implementation period according to the review mechanism of the Macao Youth Policy. The mid-term review results were completed and published in March 2017. The results showed that there was good progress with implementation of the Macao Youth Policy; with satisfactory results overall. It was also stated that the country launched a series of policies and measures to facilitate Macao's economic diversification and consolidate its position as "One Centre, One Platform", bringing both

opportunities and challenges for youth development in Macao.

The cross-departmental follow-up group of the Macao Youth Policy continued exhibiting synergy of government departments through organising various activities. Among these, Basic Law for Teens organised 11 events with the theme of the Basic Law, attracting more than 26,000 participants. Besides, the Government managed to keep a close track of the development needs of young people through regular consultations and monitoring by the Youth Affairs Council.

### **Youth Indicators and Studies**

To understand the situation of young people in Macao and promote the development of youth studies, the DSEJ continuously follows up on research and collection of information related to Macao Youth Indicators. In November 2017, preparations were completed for commencing the Social Survey on Macao Youth Indicators 2018.

### **Youth Activities and Sponsorships**

In 2017, subsidies totalling around 7.98 million patacas were provided to youth organisations or associations which were registered with the DSEJ and applied for funding under the Annual Subsidy Scheme for Activities of Youth Groups, to organise a total of 486 projects or activities. The DSEJ continued to run the Caring for Growth of Youngsters subsidy scheme, to support organisations to develop programmes aiming to spread positive energy, and subsidised 49 groups to organise 90 activities. The subsidies totalled about 4.5 million patacas.

In 2017, the DSEJ organised various activities to provide young people with an exchange platform and encourage them to concern and participate in social affairs, including the Award Presentation Ceremony for Youth Volunteer Award Programme 2016 and the Touching People, Activating Positive Energy - Youth Incentive Plan 2017. In addition, the DSEJ organised the “Haunting Melodies of the Passion of the Silk Road” – International Youth Music Festival to provide a cultural and art exchange platform for young people from “Belt and Road” areas and Macao and an opportunity to learn about Macao for non-local participants. In all, 486 young people from 11 music groups from “Belt and Road” areas and five local performance teams participated in the festival.

### **School Sports, Cultural, Recreational, Mathematics and Popular Science Activities**

The DSEJ arranges various sports, cultural, recreational, mathematics and popular science activities and competitions every year. It also sends school delegations to national and international competitions and achieves excellent results.

Regarding sports competitions, in 2017 the DSEJ organised the Schools Interport Table Tennis Competition and the Schools Interport Badminton Competition. It also sent school delegations to 11 external inter-school sports competitions. The delegations won prizes including champion of the men’s shot put in the Youth Olympic Games in Portugal; a gold medal in the men’s 50m breaststroke for ages 17 to 19, a bronze medal in the women’s breaststroke of for ages 17 to 19 and a silver medal in the 4x50m mixed freestyle relay of for ages 10 to 12 special educational needs group), a gold medal in the men’s 200m hurdles for the under 16 age group, and a silver

medal in the men's 100m hurdles for the under 16 age group in the Pacific Games.

Regarding activities related to mathematics and popular science, through arrangements by the DSEJ, Macao school delegations joined 15 regional, national and international competitions in 2017, and won a total of 152 prizes, including four champions, five first runners-up, six second runners-up and one third runner-up in the International Robotic Olympiad 2017; and a gold medal and five honourable mentions in the 58th International Mathematical Olympiad.

## Youth Facilities and Services

Under DSEJ's administration, there are two youth hostels and four youth centres. The two youth hostels are Cheok Van Youth Hostel and Hac Sa Youth Hostel; 13,730 people stayed in these hostels in 2017. The four youth centres – Areia Preta Youth Centre, Experiential Centre for Young People, Outer Harbour Youth Centre and Bairro do Hipodromo Youth Centre. The Bairro do Hipodromo Youth Centre and Experiential Centre for Young People continued providing night services till 2 am and 12 am, respectively, to cater for the different needs of young people using the facilities.

Aiming to provide services that support group development, leisure education, arts education, and recreational and sports development, the four centres continued organising a wide variety of activities that help young people to grow and develop, and provided youth counselling services and training for volunteer workers. In 2017, about 880,000 people participated in the activities organised by the four youth centres and used their facilities.

The DSEJ continued to provide more venues for use by youngsters for exhibitions and performances through the Juvenile Arts Exhibition and Performance Hall under its administration. In 2017, the Juvenile Arts Exhibition and Performance Hall held 24 exhibitions and 27 (33 sessions) performances, attended by 12,970 people.

In 2012, the DSEJ began providing subsidies for schools to set up wellness centres. By December 2017, 30 fitness centres had been set up.

## Tertiary Education

Macao's modern tertiary education has flourished over the past 30 years. At present, there are 10 tertiary institutions in Macao – four public and six private institutions. There are universities with a mix of comprehensive teaching and research, professional polytechnic institutes that focus on practical teaching and learning, as well as specialist academies that cultivate talents in tourism and convention and exhibition, specialists in the gaming industry, professional nursing personnel, and senior managers.

To keep in line with Macao's rapid social and economic development, tertiary institutions have organised a wider variety of tertiary education programmes with consideration of social and academic development, in order to cultivate talents required by the community.

To further promote the development of Macao's tertiary education and to keep in line with international practice, the Government took active steps to improve the establishment of systems. The second reading of the law on the Tertiary Education System was passed and formally

promulgated by the Legislative Assembly in 2017. The legislation of the regulations on the system for assessing tertiary institutions, tertiary education regulations, the tertiary education foundation, the tertiary education council, and the credit system for tertiary education was in process. The adjustment of the organisation and structure of the department charged with overseeing tertiary education was followed up.

During the 2017/2018 academic year, there were 2,303 teaching staff and 33,098 registered students in these institutions, with 274 programmes including doctorate, master's and bachelor's degree programmes, higher diplomas, postgraduate certificates and higher diploma programmes.

In addition, overseas institutions were granted approval to offer a total of 25 tertiary educational programmes in Macao in 2017.

## **The Tertiary Education Services Office**

Established in 1992, the Tertiary Education Services Office is a government department that coordinates, follows up on and develops tertiary education in Macao.

### **Processing Applications to Launch and Revise Programmes**

In 2017, the Tertiary Education Services Office processed four applications by Macao tertiary educational institutions intending to launch new programmes or revise old ones. It approved 17 of these applications; two were withdrawn by the institutions concerned, and 55 applications were pending. The office also handled 32 applications from overseas tertiary educational institutions seeking to establish, revise or continue running programmes. A total of 25 such applications were approved, and were pending by the year-end.

### **Promoting Exchanges and Cooperation in Tertiary Education**

The Tertiary Education Services Office continues to facilitate various external cooperation projects within the tertiary education field, including the promotion of cooperation between Macao and mainland China in tertiary education, by coordinating related work with mainland China authorities in accordance with the framework agreement on the joint construction of Cuiheng New District, Zhongshan and the projects on educational exchange and cooperation between Zhongshan and Macao; and the implementation of various agreements entered into with the Ministry of Education, the State Ethnic Affairs Commission, Guangdong Province and Portugal, to continue expanding the scope of external cooperation regarding Macao's tertiary education.

The Tertiary Education Services Office signed a memorandum on Jiangsu Portuguese language training programme with the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office of Jiangsu Provincial People's Government in April 2017. This aimed at commencing Portuguese-speaking training, making use of Macao's experiences in Portuguese teaching in universities, and facilitating all-round cooperation between Jiangsu, Macao and PSCs. In December, the Tertiary Education Services Office signed the exchange and cooperation agreement on education between the Education Department of Fujian Province, the MSAR Education and Youth Affairs Bureau and the MSAR Tertiary Education Services Office with the Education Department of Fujian Province; this aimed to enhance cooperation in tertiary education and youth exchanges.

In September 2017, the Tertiary Education Services Office signed a cooperation agreement on accepting results of the Joint Admission Examination for Four Higher Education Institutions in Macao with the Council of Rectors of Portuguese Universities and the Portuguese Polytechnics Coordinating Council. According to the agreement, relevant public universities and polytechnics in Portugal would accept results of the Joint Admission Examination to select students who attended the examination and applied to these institutions.

To support the “Belt and Road” initiative and promote Macao tertiary education to Southeast Asian countries, the Tertiary Education Services Office sent representatives of Macao tertiary institutions to join the Service Centre for Scholarly Exchange of the Ministry of Education to Jakarta, Indonesia, and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in November 2017, in order to attend the “Studying in China” Education Exhibition and Conference, hold promotional activities on admissions and visit local universities.

### **Coordination of Student Enrolments in Programmes of Macao Tertiary Educational Institutions Conducted on the Mainland**

During 2017, with approval from the Ministry of Education, the University of Macau, Macao Polytechnic Institute, the Institute for Tourism Studies, Macau University of Science and Technology, City University of Macau and Kiang Wu Nursing College of Macau continued to recruit students from 31 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions in mainland China.

During the 2017/2018 academic year, 22,685 mainland China students applied to the above-mentioned six tertiary educational institutions in Macao. Of the 5,261 newly registered students, 513 enrolled in doctorate degree courses, 1,818 in master’s degree courses, 2,697 in bachelor’s degree courses and 233 in university foundation courses.

### **Coordinating the Admission of Macao Students to Mainland Tertiary Institutions**

The Tertiary Education Services Office is one of the bodies that process the admission of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan undergraduates and postgraduates to China tertiary educational institutions.

In the 2017/2018 academic year, 275 and 813 students sat the Joint Examination for Admission to Mainland Universities (Macao) and the examinations for admission of students by recommendation to undergraduate programmes, respectively. In all, 142 and 723 students were admitted, respectively. Also, 373 students sat examinations for admission to postgraduate programmes in general tertiary educational institutions in mainland China; 209 students were admitted.

### **Tertiary Education Information and Admission Services**

The Tertiary Education Services Office has established a tertiary education information website to provide information about tertiary education, public examinations and employment to the public. It also provides telephone and e-mail enquiry services to answer related queries. In 2017, it handled 176 relevant cases. In addition, the Tertiary Education Services Office cooperated with various community groups and organisations in organising diverse activities that provided

information about tertiary education and vocational preparation.

In 2013, the Tertiary Education Services Office set up a service centre for university students. It serves as a comprehensive service desk for tertiary students and Macao citizens who intend to pursue tertiary education. Between January and December 2017, there were 11,374 visitors, 60.61 percent of whom were tertiary students.

## **Tertiary Student Activities**

The Tertiary Education Services Office actively establishes exchange platforms for students of tertiary institutions, with a view to developing their worldview, strengthening their general knowledge and language competence, and encouraging them to go abroad for exchanges and learning, to broaden their global vision.

To enrich the extracurricular life of tertiary students and facilitate their all-round development, the Tertiary Education Services Office organises a wide variety of competitions and activities for them every year. It also works with different community groups and organisations in organising various competitions and activities related to culture, sports and professional skills.

## **Subsidies for Tertiary Student Activities**

The Tertiary Education Services Office encourages student organisations to organise activities that meet students' interests through the Tertiary Student Activity Fund. In 2017, 58 organisations (including non-profit tertiary student groups and community groups) and five tertiary students were subsidised to organise and participate in 395 tertiary student activities. The subsidies amounted to more than 6.3 million patacas.

## **Disbursing Postgraduate Scholarships**

The Tertiary Education Services Office is responsible for supporting the disbursement of postgraduate scholarships provided by the Postgraduate Scholarships Grants Committee to Macao residents.

During the 2017/2018 academic year, there were 127 new recipients of post-graduate scholarships, of which 20 were doctorate scholarships, five were for integrated master's and doctorate programmes, 100 were for master's degree scholarships, and two were for integrated bachelor's and master's programmes. The amounts of these scholarships were 80,000 patacas, 70,000 patacas, 58,000 patacas and 51,000 patacas per year, respectively. In the 2017/2018 academic year, a total of 612 candidates applied to the scheme.

Besides, the Social Welfare Bureau again added an extra quota to scholarships, which was granted to the highest-scoring student studying in a master's degree programme related to social work, social security and social welfare in the 2017/2018 academic year. The Manpower Development Committee added two extra quotas to scholarships, which were granted to students studying in master's degree programmes at University of Coimbra in the same year.

To implement the initiatives in the Cooperation Agreement on Disbursement of Postgraduate Scholarships, which was entered into by the Government and the Ministry of Education and

State Ethnic Affairs Commission, the Government nominates students who come to Macao for postgraduate programmes for scholarships (tuition fees, accommodation fees and living allowances). In the 2017/2018 academic year, 14 students were granted scholarships.

### **Textbooks and Stationery Allowances for Tertiary Students**

In 2017, the Government provided a 3,000-pataca allowance for textbooks and stationery to each Macao resident studying in tertiary and postgraduate programmes in Macao and overseas. Out of 35,310 applicants, 33,986 satisfied the requirements and were granted the allowance.

### **Interest Subsidy Scheme for Graduates of Higher Education Institutions Receiving Language Training**

In 2017, the Government launched the interest subsidy scheme for graduates of higher education institutions receiving language training, in order to encourage and support residents with bachelor's degrees to study Putonghua, Portuguese or English training programmes overseas to enhance their language abilities. The period of subsidy was determined according to the duration of the programme, with the longest period being two years. The loan limit with interest subsidy was determined according to the language and duration of the programme.

### **Tertiary Education Quality Assurance**

The purpose of the tertiary education quality assurance is to further optimise the tertiary education system in Macao, and to promote the continuous improvement in the quality of its tertiary institutions.

The Government has progressively commenced the establishment of the quality assessment system for tertiary institutions. It smoothly completed the second phase of the Institution Quality Certification pilot scheme, and commenced the third phase of the Programme Review pilot programme, to enhance the various assessment guidelines.

### **Verification of Qualifications**

In 2017, the Tertiary Education Services Office handled 49 written queries, 20 telephone queries and two email queries from government departments. It handled a total of 275 queries from the public, 10 of which were made in person, 221 by telephone, and 44 by e-mail.

### **Processing Applications for Subsidies for Macao Tertiary Institutions and Professional Development Subsidies for Teaching and Research Staff**

To assist tertiary institutions with improving their teaching equipment and facilities, the Government has begun working on raising education quality, and encouraging the institutions' teaching staff to actively participate in and commence academic and professional activities that are conducive to their personal and professional development. The Tertiary Education Services Office processes applications for subsidies for Macao tertiary institutions and subsidies for professional development of tertiary teaching staff in Macao.

In 2017, subsidies of about 58.4 million patacas were granted for 10 projects on the optimisation of teaching equipment and improvement of teaching and scientific research quality, three projects on school campus repairs and purchase of facilities after Typhoon Hato, 26 projects on professional development of teaching staff, and three projects on activities related to tertiary education organised by student organisations.

### **Chinese and Portuguese Bilingual Talent Training, Education and Research Cooperation Subsidy Scheme for Macao Tertiary Institutions**

To foster the development of cultivation of talents who are bilingual in Chinese and Portuguese, and to facilitate cooperation between Macao, mainland China, other Asia-Pacific regions and Portuguese-speaking countries in tertiary education, the Tertiary Education Services Office continued with the Chinese and Portuguese Bilingual Talent Training, Education and Research Cooperation Subsidy Scheme for Macao Tertiary Institutions, and provided subsidies totalling nearly 2.2 million patacas to 27 eligible projects that applied for funding in 2017.

### **Macao Academic Library Alliance**

As proposed by the Macao Library and Information Management Association, nine tertiary institutions held the Opening Ceremony of the Macao Academic Library Alliance in December 2014. With a mission to “Build together, Plan together, Share together and Use together”, the alliance endeavours to allow the use of resources to the fullest through sharing resources and information among the libraries of the tertiary institutions.

In 2017, the Tertiary Education Services Office granted a subsidy of about 2.54 million patacas for procuring an electronic database and system maintenance services for shared use by the nine institutions of the alliance.

In June 2017, the University of Macao Library, the Sun Yat-sen University Library, the Chinese University of Hong Kong Library, and members of the Macao Academic Library Alliance signed a cooperation agreement to establish the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao University Library Alliance and invite related Macao academic libraries to participate in it.

The Macao Academic Library Alliance and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao University Library Alliance (GHMULA) held an international forum together with the first annual meeting of the GHMULA in December 2017, and invited experts from countries including Portugal, the United States and Australia to share their expertise in library alliances and explore the future development of the library alliance.

### **Macao Tertiary Institution Gender Equality Promotion Board**

Through coordination by the Tertiary Education Services Office, the 10 tertiary institutions in Macao established the Macao Tertiary Institution Gender Equality Promotion Board in September 2015, to provide assistance for Macao tertiary institutions in improving the on-campus mechanisms on gender equality and against sexual harassment. The Board developed the Policy Framework for the Promotion of Gender Equality and the Prevention of Sexual Harassment in Macao Universities and the Procedures Framework of Handling Complaints of Sexual Harassment in Macao Universities. The Board will continue to optimise policies for assisting Macao universities

in enhancing related work.

## Tertiary Educational Institutions

### University of Macau

The University of Macau is an international public integrated university. Its faculties are Arts and Humanities; Business Administration; Education; Health Sciences; Law; Social Sciences; Science and Technology; Institute of Chinese Medical Sciences; Institute of Applied Physics and Materials Engineering; and Honours College. The major medium of instruction is English, while some programmes are taught in Chinese, Portuguese or Japanese.

The University of Macau implemented an innovative ‘4-in-1’ model of education that comprises discipline-specific education, general education, research and internship education, and community and peer education, to provide a multifaceted education.

During the 2017/2018 academic year, the University of Macau offered 126 doctorate programmes, master’s degree programmes, bachelor’s degree programmes, and postgraduate diploma programmes. The international faculty team from all over the world brings the University of Macau new thinking perspectives and global vision. In 2017, it had 579 full-time teaching staff and 9,992 registered students.

### Macao Polytechnic Institute

The Macao Polytechnic Institute (MPI) is the first institution in Asia that has passed the assessment of the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA). It is a public and multidisciplinary tertiary educational institution offering practically-oriented programmes. It has six teaching departments – Languages and Translation; Business; Public Administration; Physical Education and Sports; Arts; and Health Sciences – and several vocational training centres and research centres.

During the 2017/2018 academic year, the institute offered 24 bachelor’s degree programmes (including supplementary programmes). Together with renowned overseas universities, it also jointly offered more than 10 master’s degree programmes and three doctorate programmes. In 2017, it had 410 teaching staff and 3,385 registered students.

### Institute for Tourism Studies

The Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) is a public tertiary education institution that was officially established in 1995. It was the first educational institute to obtain the TedQual Certification from the United Nations World Tourism Organization. It has eight bachelor’s degree programmes, the highest number of programmes certified worldwide, with the Certification. In 2017, the IFT became the world’s first higher education institution to pass the International Quality Review (IQR) from the UK’s Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA).

IFT’s mission is to cultivate talents and leaders with professional knowledge and skills in

the tourism industry. It offers degree and professional programmes in a wide range of tourism-related disciplines, such as hospitality, tourism business, heritage, events, retail and marketing, leisure and entertainment, sports and recreation, creative and cultural studies, and culinary arts. IFT also provides various programmes at the executive level in partnership with leading schools in the world.

During the 2017/2018 academic year, the institute offered 12 bachelor's degree programmes and higher diploma courses. It had 138 teaching staff and 1,600 registered students for its tertiary education programmes.

## Academy of Macao Public Security Forces

Established in July 1988, the Academy of Macao Public Security Forces is a training department under the Secretary for Security, as well as one of the tertiary education institutes in Macao. The Police/Fire Service Officers' Training Programme organised by the academy is a four-year programme, followed by six months of practical training. Students passing the examinations are awarded a Bachelor's degree in Police Sciences or Protection and Safety Engineering.

The Public Security Training Programme offered by the academy's training centre provides professional technical training for trainees of the public security forces, so that they can meet the requirements for ethics, physical fitness and professional techniques. Also, the academy provides on-the-job training for promotion and professional development of public security force officers.

From 2017 to 2018, there are 37 students in the Police/Fire Service Officers' Training Programme. In 2017, 404 students participated in and completed the Public Security Training Programme. In 2017, the Academy of Macao Public Security Forces organised 55 programmes, talks and seminars, for a total of 3,489 participants.

## The City University of Macau

The City University of Macau received its name in 2011 after a transfer of ownership in September 2010. It is a non-profit making private comprehensive university providing tertiary education. The university comprises faculties of Business, Humanities and Social Sciences, International Tourism and Management, Education, Law, Urban Management and Studies, the School of Continuing Studies, as well as the Open Institute.

The City University of Macau also has nine research institutions, including the Research Centre for Macau Social and Economic Development, Institute for Research on Portuguese-speaking Countries, Macau "One Belt, One Road" Research Centre, Institute of Economic Research, Institute of Tourism and Gaming and Institute of Macau Development.

During the 2017/2018 academic year, the university offered 30 doctorate, master's and bachelor's degree programmes, as well as postgraduate certificate programmes. It had 223 teaching staff, and 5,236 registered students.

## University of Saint Joseph

The predecessor of the University of Saint Joseph, the Macau Inter-University Institute (IIUM), was established in 1996 and renamed University of Saint Joseph in December 2009. It is a private Catholic University.

The main campus of the University of Saint Joseph was moved to Ilha Verde in September 2017. It now has three campuses, with Faculty of Religious Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Administration and Leadership, Faculty of Psychology and Education, Faculty of Creative Industries, Institute of Science and Environment, and Lifelong Learning Office. All bachelor's degree programmes are taught in English, except the Master of Arts in Portuguese Studies programme, which is taught in Portuguese.

In the 2017/2018 academic year, the university offered 32 doctorate, master's and bachelor's degrees, as well as postgraduate diploma and higher diploma (associate degree) programmes. It had 136 teaching staff and 1,087 registered students.

### **Kiang Wu Nursing College of Macau**

The Kiang Wu Nursing College of Macau was formerly the Kiang Wu Nursing and Midwifery School, and it was established in 1923. This college is the oldest nursing institute in Macao. In the institutional quality audit conducted by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) from the United Kingdom, the QAA placed confidence in four aspects of good practice. The college provides bachelor's degree and postgraduate certificate and diploma programmes in nursing and health sciences. It also jointly provides the Nursing Professional Master Degree Graduate Student Programme, together with a well-known university in mainland China.

During the 2017/2018 academic year, the college offered four bachelor's degree (including a supplementary programme), postgraduate diploma and higher diploma programmes. It had 36 teaching staff and 416 registered students.

### **Macau University of Science and Technology**

The Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST) is a private university established in March 2000. It was the first non-profit integrated university for training gifted students in applied technology established since the founding of the MSAR. The university consists of the Faculty of Information Technology, School of Business, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Chinese Medicine, Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Faculty of Health Sciences, Faculty of Humanities and Arts, School of Pharmacy, and University International College. It also includes the School of Graduate Studies, School of Continuing Studies and Department of General Education, and has several research institutes and centres. The University Hospital, a subsidiary of the Macau University of Science and Technology Foundation, provides facilities for clinical teaching, scientific research and clinical practice by the Faculty of Chinese Medicine and Faculty of Health Sciences.

During the 2017/2018 academic year, the university offered 56 doctorate, master's and bachelor's degree programmes. It had 598 teaching staff and 10,926 registered students.

## Macau Institute of Management

Macau Institute of Management (MIM) was established in 1988. It is the academic arm of the Macau Management Association, specialising in providing education and training services. With Government approval, in July 2000 MIM was upgraded to become a higher education institution nurturing business talents.

The institute offers a four-year Bachelor of Business Administration Degree Programme, a two-year Associate of Business Administration Diploma Programme, and a one-year Professional Diploma Programme adopting the integrative learning approach, integrating electronic learning and face-to-face teaching. Students can arrange their online class time according to their own schedule. It also works with an overseas university in jointly organising a master's degree programme.

The institute offered six bachelor's degree and higher diploma (including associate degree) programmes during the 2017/2018 academic year. It had 28 teaching staff and 240 registered students.

## Macau Millennium College

The Macau Millennium College is a private tertiary education institution established in August 2001. To accommodate the needs of shift workers, the college offers "shift classes for shift workers". The two shift classes have identical lecture content. Students can choose to attend either the morning or evening sessions. Lecturers are mainly internationally renowned professors from the University of Hong Kong and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

During the 2017/2018 academic year, the college offered two bachelor's degree and higher diploma (associate degree) programmes, taught by 45 teaching staff, with 179 registered students.

*Note: Except for the University of Macau, Macao Polytechnic Institute and Academy of Macao Public Security Forces, the above statistics for teaching and administrative staff, students and programmes of Macao tertiary educational institutions were provided by the Tertiary Education Services Office. Statistics for the 2017/2018 academic year were collected on 31 October 2017.*





PASSING ON TRADITIONS





Dragon-and-lion dance, just as its name suggests, is a combination of dragon dance and lion dance, together with drum music.

To promote Chinese culture, foster dragon-and-lion dance as a sport, and pass on the spirit of Chinese dragon-and-lion dance, Chinese martial arts groups in Macao organise dragon dance, lion dance and drum classes for young people to experience the essence of Chinese culture.

With the coordination of brain, hands and legs, young learners overcome obstacles by performing different lion dance moves, not only demonstrating their energy but also growing through learning. At the same time, they also share the mission and responsibility of passing on traditional culture.

