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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 educations, 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 2018/2019 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 was 105, and the coverage rate has reached 94 percent.

During the 2018/2019 academic year, 79,450 students received non-tertiary education, with 77,999 of them receiving formal education. Of these, 18,626 (23.4 percent) attended kindergartens, 32,530 (40.9 percent) attended primary schools, 26,022 (32.8 percent) attended secondary schools, 833 (1.1 percent) received vocational and technical education, and 821 (one percent) were enrolled in institutions for children with special educational needs. Some 1,451 students were receiving

recurrent education, including 80 primary school pupils (0.1 percent) and 1,371 secondary school students (1.7 percent), and 341 (0.4 percent) vocational school students.

During the 2018/2019 academic year, there were 7,131 teaching staff for non-tertiary education, representing an increase of 2.4 percent over the 2017/2018 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 2018, the Education Development Fund provided subsidies amounting to about 490 million patacas. There were two categories of the School Development Plan for the 2018/2019 academic year: fixed and variable subsidies. Fixed subsidies covered three areas – school-based training, books and newspapers procurement and professional staff. Variable subsidies covered three application plans: prioritised, school-based and others.

The Education Development Fund has enriched and revised the content of its original constitution, to further encourage schools to provide integrated education training to teaching staff, motivate schools to organise Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area exchange tours, promote establishment of sister school alliances, and organise diverse parent-child reading activities. Other subsidised projects included large-scale campus reconstruction and expansion, and enhancement of learning and teaching facilities of local schools.

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 2018/2019 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 in the same academic year, the teacher-student ratios in kindergartens, primary and secondary schools were enhanced to 1:14.1, 1:13.5 and 1:9.7, 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	2018/2019 Academic Year Free Education Subsidies (patacas)	2018/2019 Academic Year Tuition Fee Subsidies (patacas)
Kindergarten	954,900 per class	19,140 per student
Primary	1,053,400 per class	21,320 per student
Junior Secondary	1,286,500 per class	23,800 per student
Senior Secondary	1,463,400 per class	23,800 per student

In addition, during the 2018/2019 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 2,200 patacas, 2,800 patacas and 3,300 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 senior secondary schools or full-time secondary vocational schools (senior secondary school level) in Zhuhai and Zhongshan, Guangdong Province. In the 2017/2018 academic year, the eligibility for the subsidies was extended to Macao students pursuing non-tertiary studies in 21 cities throughout Guangdong province.

The highest subsidies for each senior secondary school student, junior secondary school student and primary school student were raised to 6,000 patacas per academic year; those for each preschool pupil were raised to 8,000 patacas per academic year. In addition to providing tuition fee subsidies, the scheme organised summer courses, career development seminars and study visits in Macao for senior secondary school students. It also organised visits to Macao tertiary educational institutions so that students could plan for their further education. In 2018, 4,216 students were granted tuition fee subsidies amounting to about 26.9 million patacas.

In the 2012/2013 academic year, the Government 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 educational institutions in mainland China or Macao during the academic year immediately after completing the programmes. In the 2018/2019 academic year, it was estimated that 424 students would receive subsidies to study in the programmes, and the subsidies would total over 36 million patacas.

From the 2013/2014 academic year to the 2017/2018 academic year, the Subvention Scheme for Training Portuguese-speaking Teachers and Language Experts was implemented, to subsidise senior secondary 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. To date, 81 students have participated in the scheme.

In the 2018/2019 academic year, the Programme for Cultivating Chinese-Portuguese Bilingual Talents in Multiple Disciplines was launched, offering 13 bachelor's degree programmes to senior secondary school graduates who intend to pursue studies in Portugal. Seven senior secondary school graduates were selected during the scheme's first academic year.

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 2018/2019 academic year, subsidies for vocational and technical education courses totalling over 16 million patacas were granted to eight schools, which organised 80 classes in 32 programmes. The "Applied Learning – School-based Applied Courses" subsidy programme also supported 12 schools to organise courses on 14 subjects related to applied skills. A total of 49 classes were organised; subsidies totalling over 88 million patacas were granted.

The public consultation on the Vocational and Technical Education System was held from 6 June to 15 July 2018, during which 300 suggestions were collected. The public consultation report was published on 11 January 2019.

Education for Pupils with Special Needs

During the 2018/2019 academic year, there were 2,301 pupils in Macao with special needs; 1,480 of them studied in inclusive classes, and 821 were in small special education classes and special needs classes. In 2018, two parent resource centres were established, to provide training to parents of pupils with special needs, and facilitate parent-child interactions to help the children's learning and growth.

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.

The third phase of the Continuing Education Development Plan (2017-2019) was launched in 2017. By 31 December 2018, this phase entailed subsidies totalling around 520 million patacas to more than 130,000 eligible residents. There were also some 22,000 applications for subsidies for participating in local tertiary education and overseas programmes.

During the 2018/2019 academic year, two public schools and six private schools offered recurrent education, to provide education opportunities to residents who have not completed formal education within school age. The DSEJ provides recurrent education subsidies to private schools offering recurrent education. The subsidies amounted to a maximum of 817,000 patacas, 989,000 patacas and 1,118,000 patacas per class

for primary, junior secondary and senior secondary schools, respectively.

In October 2018, 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 2018 Life-long Learning Week, featuring some 120 activities.

In 2018, the Life-long Learning Incentive Award Scheme organised more than 30,000 learning activities of various types, providing more than 320,000 places. With a network of 491 organisations joining the scheme, the cumulative total of participants reached 4,107.

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.

Curriculum Reform and Development

In the 2018/2019 academic year, curriculum reform was extended to junior secondary two and senior secondary two. The Framework of Formal Education Curriculum and the Requirements for Basic Academic Aptitude in the Local Education System were implemented, to alleviate unnecessary learning burdens for students, thereby ensuring their basic development in knowledge, skills, ability, emotions, attitude and values, to improve the overall quality of non-tertiary education in Macao.

The Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture issued Order No. 69/2018 to set out the basic academic requirements for Geography and History in junior and senior secondary school education, to further assist teaching staff with effectively organising teaching activities and fostering students' patriotism.

In 2018, teaching resources, including the trial version of History as a compulsory subject for junior secondary one and senior secondary students, the new edition of Moral and Civic Education for junior secondary students, and Supplementary Teaching Materials on Safety Education, were published to continue enriching teaching resources and support teaching staff in organising teaching activities.

Professional Development of Teaching Staff

In the 2017/2018 academic year, 412 teaching staff training activities were organised, providing 17,289 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 the 2017/2018 academic year, 22,439 teachers participated in the Subvention Scheme for School-based Training.

In 2018, nine open classes in the teaching design award scheme were organised, and more than 1,150 teaching staff participated. Also, subsidies were given to 289 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, one semester 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 2018, attracting participation by 29 and 91 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. Since 2003, Macao has participated in six PISA assessments.

The testing of PISA 2018 mainly covered reading ability, supplemented by science and mathematics literacy. The test was completed in digital (computerised) format by 3,778 15-year-old secondary school students from 46 Chinese, Portuguese and English schools in Macao during April and May 2018. Regarding the questionnaire, 46 valid questionnaires were collected from schools, 3,778 from students, 3,760 from parents and 2,817 from teachers, with a submission rate above 99 percent. The OECD will announce the results of the PISA 2018 in December 2019.

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.

After the results of PIRLS 2016 were announced on 5 December 2017, the research work mainly focused on following up on PIRLS 2016 research results and promoting education on reading.

National Education

More than 1,700 people from 70 schools and 25 youth organisations participated in the Flag-raising Ceremony for the May Fourth Youth Day for Macao Students in 2018. After the ceremony, book vouchers were presented to winners of the May Fourth Movement Spirit - Life Mottos Collection Campaign, for which more than 1,900 entries were received from 21 participating schools.

The Beijing-Hong Kong-Macao Exchange Summer Camp – Youth Hong Kong and Macao Tour 2018 attracted participation by 67 students and teachers from 29 schools in Macao. The Beijing-Macao Primary School Students Exchange Camp 2018 attracted participation by 50 pupils from 37 primary schools. The National Education Course 2018, which included a study of the situation in Macao and a visit to Fujian, attracted participation by 99 senior secondary students from 32 schools.

To strengthen education on the Constitution and the Basic Law, two academia and youth performances were organised in 2018, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law of the Macao SAR. The events were performed by students from 54 primary and secondary schools and 11 local groups in Macao. More than 500 teenage students jointly performed to encourage youth participation in promoting the Basic Law of Macao. The two-night event attracted more than 3,000 spectators.

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 2017/2018 academic year, there were more than 14,000 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 2017/2018 academic year, nearly 3,020 students participated in these educational camps.

Arts Education

In 2018, the DSEJ continued implementing the Students Popular Arts Education Scheme, covering primary six students to senior secondary three students. In the 2017/2018 academic year, 22,412 students from 66 schools participated in the scheme. 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 6,520 students in the 2018/2019 academic year. The DSEJ also joined hands with banks to launch its Interest Subsidies for Student Loans Scheme, which benefited some 850 students in 2018 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 discussed the standard of assessment of the professional development activity hours of teaching staff, and provided opinions on verifying teachers' overseas employment, early promotion of teaching staff and statements of objection. Also during the academic year, it set up a dedicated group for the Outstanding Teacher Awards. Reputable education experts and scholars from across the strait, Macao and Hong Kong were invited to form the specialist panel, which was responsible for reviews and judging. Up to 15 teachers approved by the plenary meeting were granted Outstanding Teacher Awards, including 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 2017 Youth Activity Awards and Civic Education Awards 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.

This was the first implementation period, according to the review mechanism of the Macao Youth Policy from 2012 to 2016. The interim review results were completed and published in March 2017. In 2018, the Government continued assessing the interim report on Macao Youth Policy, to conform with the new development trends of the nation and Macao, and to continue promoting youth social work through various channels.

The cross-departmental follow-up group of the Macao Youth Policy continued leveraging synergy of government departments through jointly organising the “Challenge Day for the New Generation” and the “Basic Law for Teens” – law promotion month targeting teenagers. The “Basic Law for Teens” featured 14 events with the Basic Law as the theme, attracting more than 37,000 participants.

In 2018, the “Your Opinions on Government’s Administration 2019” youth exchange session was held for the first time, with an innovative format. It was attended by 17 leading officials and representatives from 14 public departments, who interacted with over 130 young participants, and listened to their opinions and suggestions.

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. The investigations and studies of the Social Survey on Macao Youth Indicators 2018 were completed during the year.

Youth Activities and Sponsorships

In “The Belt and Road – the Dancing City” - International Youth Dance Festival 2018, more than 550 young dancers from 17 foreign teams and 10 local teams assembled for exchanges in Macao. The six-day event attracted more than 20,000 spectators.

In 2018, the DSEJ organised the Award Presentation Ceremony for Youth Volunteer Award Programme 2017. In addition, the stories about the award winners of the “Touching People, Activating Positive Energy - Youth Incentive Plan 2017” were produced, and featured on framed banners for roadshows in youth centres, education centres and local schools.

The organising committee of the youth activity series in commemoration of the May Fourth Movement, which was formed by various youth organisations in Macao, jointly organised three events attended by a total of 650 participants. Meanwhile, the organising committee also solely organised a series of six activities to commemorate the 98th anniversary of the May Fourth Movement.

To encourage young people in Macao to pass on Chinese culture, and enhance knowledge about the Basic Law and the situation of our nation and the Macao SAR, the DSEJ organised four sharing sessions in 2018, to enrich participants’ knowledge of legal affairs and Chinese culture. These sharing sessions attracted 258 young attendees.

In 2018, subsidies totalling around 8.48 million patacas were provided to 87 youth organisations or associations which applied for funding under the Annual Subsidy Scheme for Activities of Youth Groups, to organise 511 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 79 activities organised by 43 groups. The subsidies totalled about 4.5 million patacas.

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 in 2018, the DSEJ organised the Schools Interport Sports Competition. It also sent school delegations to seven external inter-school sports competitions. The Macao delegation won various prizes including first place in the boy’s shot put event; first runner-up in the girl’s high jump event, and second runner-up in the men’s 110m hurdles for the teenagers’ group at the Youth Olympic Games in Portugal.

Regarding activities related to mathematics and popular science, through arrangements by the DSEJ, Macao school delegations joined 15 regional, national and international competitions in 2018, and won a total of 155 prizes, including nine

champions, three first runners-up and one third runner-up in the International Robotic Olympiad 2018; 11 first-class awards, five second-class awards and one third-class award at the 16th Network Originality Competition (NOC); and a third-class award at the 15th China Southeast 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; 15,926 people stayed in these hostels in 2018. 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 2018, about 750,000 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 2018, the Juvenile Arts Exhibition and Performance Hall held 25 exhibitions and 22 (24 sessions) performances, attended by 20,227 people.

In 2012, the DSEJ began providing subsidies for schools to set up wellness centres. By December 2018, 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.

On 8 August 2018, Macao tertiary education headed towards a new milestone. A series of related laws and regulations, including the Law on the Tertiary Education System, the Tertiary Education Fund, the Tertiary Education Council, the Tertiary Education Regulations, the Academic Credit System in Tertiary Education and the Tertiary Education Quality Assessment System, came into effect. The new systems offer tertiary institutions greater autonomy and flexibility to provide sufficient resources for the overall development of tertiary education.

During the 2018/2019 academic year, there were 2,380 teaching staff and 34,279 registered students in Macao's tertiary education institutions, where 280 programmes – including doctorate, master's and bachelor's degree programmes, postgraduate certificates and higher diploma (including associate degree) programmes – are offered.

In addition, overseas institutions were granted approval to offer a total of 23 tertiary educational programmes in Macao in 2018.

Tertiary Education Bureau

The Tertiary Education Services Office was established in 1992. According to By-law No. 1/2019 "Organisation and Operation of the Higher Education Bureau", which came into effect from 11 February 2019, it was renamed as Higher Education Bureau (DSES). It is a government department that coordinates, follows up on and develops tertiary education in Macao.

Processing Applications to Launch and Revise Programmes

In 2018, the Tertiary Education Services Office processed 91 applications by Macao tertiary educational institutions intending to launch new programmes or revise old ones; 24 of these applications were approved, 17 were rejected, three were withdrawn by the institutions concerned, and 47 were in progress. The office also handled 29 applications from overseas tertiary educational institutions seeking to establish, revise or continue running programmes. A total of 23 such applications were approved, and six were in progress.

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.

With approval from the Ministry of Education, from 2018 onwards, 10 tertiary institutions in mainland China have adopted the results of the Joint Admission Examination for Four Higher Education Institutions in Macao. These 10 tertiary institutions are Fudan University, Zhejiang University, Xiamen University, Huaqiao University, Wuhan University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Huazhong Normal University, Sun Yat-sen University, and Jinan University and South China Normal University.

In addition, the Tertiary Education Services Office signed a cooperation agreement on accepting the 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. The Portuguese public universities and polytechnics under the two committees began admitting Macao students by adopting the results of the joint admission examination based on the agreement and the related regulations governing international students in Portugal.

Organised by the Tertiary Education Services Office, the University of Macau and St. Joseph University, and co-organised by the Jiangsu Provincial Department of Education, the First Forum for Heads of Higher Education Institutions of China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries was held in October 2018, with the theme "Tertiary Education under the Belt and Road Initiative". The forum was attended by 140 leaders and representatives from some 80 universities and tertiary education institutions from mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao and Portuguese-speaking countries. They exchanged ideas on related issues and joined the Declaration of Collaboration in Higher Education in Macao during the forum, to strengthen mutual cooperation.

To support the "Belt and Road" initiative and promote Macao tertiary education to Southeast Asian countries, the Tertiary Education Services Office organised delegations of Macao tertiary education institutions in April and November 2018, to participate in the Higher Education Fair 2018 in Malaysia and the OCSC International Education Expo in Thailand, respectively, and paid visits to universities in the two countries.

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

During 2018, 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 2018/2019 academic year, 30,497 mainland China students applied to the above-mentioned six tertiary educational institutions in Macao. Of the 5,885

newly registered students, 584 enrolled in doctorate degree programmes, 1,975 in master's degree programmes, 3,066 in bachelor's degree programmes and 260 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 2018/2019 academic year, 306 and 1,077 students sat the Joint Examination for Admission to Mainland China Universities (Macao) and the examinations for admission of students by recommendation to undergraduate programmes, respectively. In all, 105 and 951 students were admitted, respectively. In 2018, 50 students were admitted to mainland China universities, through their results in the Joint Admission Examination for Four Higher Education Institutions in Macao. Also, 368 students sat the examination for admission to postgraduate programmes in tertiary educational institutions in mainland China; 184 of them 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 2018, it handled 224 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 2018, there were 11,507 visitors, 61.71 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, activities and exchange tours 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

Through the Tertiary Student Activity Fund, the Tertiary Education Services Office encourages Macao educational institutions, student organisations and social communities to organise activities that meet students' interests. In 2018, three institutions, 62 organisations (including non-profit tertiary student communities and social communities) and nine tertiary students were subsidised to organise and participate in 432 tertiary student activities. The subsidies amounted to more than 6.7 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 2018/2019 academic year, there were 137 new recipients of postgraduate scholarships, of which 25 were doctorate scholarships, five were for integrated master's and doctorate programmes, 105 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 2018/2019 academic year, a total of 785 candidates applied to the scheme.

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 2018/2019 academic 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 2018/2019 academic year, 14 students were granted scholarships.

Textbooks and Stationery Allowances for Tertiary Students

In 2018, 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 35,057 applicants, 33,788 satisfied the requirements and were granted the allowance.

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

To encourage and support residents with bachelor's degrees to study training programmes overseas, in order to enhance their language abilities, the Tertiary Education Services Office optimised the interest subsidy scheme for graduates of higher education institutions receiving language training, and the subsidy coverage was expanded to cover all languages. 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.

Setting up CET4 and CET6 English examination centres in Macao

Under the coordination of the Tertiary Education Services Office, during 2018, the University of Macau, Macau University of Science and Technology and City University of Macau set up CET4 and CET6 English examination centres in Macao.

The three educational institutions held CET4 and CET6 written tests in June and December 2018, respectively, with 1,113 candidates sitting for the CET4 test and 1,048 candidates sitting for the CET6 test in June; while 1,689 candidates sat for the CET4 test and 1,334 candidates sat for the CET6 test in December. There were 3,023 candidates in total.

Tertiary Education Quality Assurance

In August 2018, the Tertiary Education Quality Assurance came into effect. It marked the establishment of a system to assure the quality of Macao's tertiary education in Macao, and further motivated continuous quality improvement of tertiary educational institutions.

The Tertiary Education Services Office continued inviting professional institutions to organise quality-assuring training activities for teaching staff. It also continued strengthening connections with quality assurance organisations and assessment institutions around the world, for a better understanding of the latest information and development trends, as well as to enable relevant organisations and institutions to be aware of the development of Macao's tertiary education quality assurance, and create favourable conditions for future collaboration.

Verification of Qualifications

In 2018, the Tertiary Education Services Office handled 25 written queries and 8 telephone queries from government departments. It also handled a total of 199 queries from the public, of which 11 were made in person, 154 by telephone, and 34 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 2018, subsidies were granted for nine projects on the optimisation of teaching equipment and improvement of teaching and scientific research quality, two projects by Macao Academic Library Alliance for procuring an electronic database, 35 projects on professional development of teaching staff, and seven projects on activities related to tertiary education organised by student organisations. The total subsidies were approximately 15.48 million.

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 2.42 million patacas to 29 eligible projects that applied for funding in 2018.

Macao Academic Library Alliance

Coordinated by the Tertiary Education Services Office, nine tertiary institutions carried on their mission to "Build together, Plan together, Share together and Use together", and jointly established the Macao Academic Library Alliance. 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 2018, the Tertiary Education Services Office continued supporting the alliance's procurement of an electronic database, with a subsidy of 9.64 million patacas.

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 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 optimising policies to further strengthen prevention of sexual harassment on campus, and consider promoting gender equality in tertiary institutions.

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; Institute of Collaborative Innovation and Honours College.

Three state key laboratories have been established on the campus of the University of Macau, focusing on microelectronics, Chinese medicine and smart city Internet of Things (IoT). The State Key Laboratory of Internet of Things for Smart City was approved in 2018, to promote developing Macao as a smart city. In 2018, the University of Macau was ranked among the Top 400 World Universities by the Times Higher Education, and ranked 501-550 by the QS World University Rankings.

During the 2018/2019 academic year, the University of Macau offered 101 doctorate programmes, master's degree programmes, bachelor's degree programmes, and postgraduate diploma programmes. In 2018, it had 616 full-time teaching staff and 10,414 registered students.

Macao Polytechnic Institute

Established in 1991, the Macao Polytechnic Institute (MPI) is a public multidisciplinary

tertiary educational institution adopting an applied academic approach. It is the first tertiary institution in Asia that has passed the assessment of the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA).

The Macao Polytechnic Institute has six schools – Languages and Translation; Business; Public Administration; Physical Education and Sports; Arts; and Health Sciences – and various research centres and several training centres.

During the 2018/2019 academic year, the institute offered 23 bachelor's degree programmes (including supplementary programmes). In 2018, it had 402 teaching staff and 3,269 registered students.

Institute for Tourism Studies

The Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) is a public tertiary education institution established in 1995, with the mission to foster leaders with professional knowledge and technical competence in the tourism industry. It was the first educational institute to obtain the TedQual Certification from the United Nations World Tourism Organization. It currently offers eight bachelor's degree programmes in tourism, the highest number of such programmes worldwide, with accreditation.

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). In the same year, the QS World University Rankings added a ranking for Hospitality and Leisure Management, and the IFT achieved the "Top 50" worldwide ranking.

During the 2018/2019 academic year, the institute offered 12 bachelor's degree programmes and higher diploma courses. It had 157 teaching staff and 1,635 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 Secretariat 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 provides professional technical training for cadets 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.

In the 2018/2019 academic year, the school offered two bachelor's degree programmes. There were 47 teachers on campus and 46 students enrolled in higher education programmes.

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, Innovation and Design, Education, Law, and Finance, as well as the Graduate School, the School of Continuing Studies, and the Open Institute.

The City University of Macau also has 11 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 Data Science and Institute of Psychoanalysis.

During the 2018/2019 academic year, the university offered 34 doctorate, master's and bachelor's degree programmes. It had 308 teaching staff, and 5,557 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 was moved to Ilha Verde in September 2017. It now has three campuses, with Faculty of Religious Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Business and Law, Faculty of Social Sciences, 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 and the Chinese-Portuguese Translation Studies, which are taught in Chinese and Portuguese.

In the 2018/2019 academic year, the university offered 37 doctorate, master's and bachelor's degrees, as well as postgraduate diploma and higher diploma (associate degree) programmes. It had 145 teaching staff and 1,228 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 which then became private institute in November 1999. 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, master's degree and postgraduate certificate and diploma programmes in nursing and health sciences.

During the 2018/2019 academic year, the college offered three bachelor's degree (including a supplementary programme) and postgraduate diploma programmes. It had 30 teaching staff and 427 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.

The MUST has several research institutes and centres, including the State Key Laboratory of Quality Research of Chinese Medicines and the State Key Laboratory of Lunar and Planetary Sciences. 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 2018/2019 academic year, the university offered 60 doctorate, master's and bachelor's degree programmes. It had 611 teaching staff and 11,305 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 2018/2019 academic year. It had 29 teaching staff and 255 registered students.

Macau Millennium College

The Macau Millennium College is a private tertiary education institution established in August 2001. To accommodate the needs of students who are full-time employees or 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 2018/2019 academic year, the college offered two bachelor's degree and higher diploma (associate degree) programmes, taught by 36 teaching staff, with 143 registered students.

Note: Except for Macao Polytechnic Institute and Macau University of Science and Technology, the above statistics for teaching and administrative staff, students and programmes of Macao tertiary educational institutions were provided by the Tertiary Education Bureau. Statistics for the 2018/2019 academic year were collected on 31 October 2018.





NURTURING TALENTS IN PERFORMING ARTS

Established in 1989, the Macao Conservatory is a subsidiary of the Cultural Affairs Bureau. The public educational institution adheres to the motto of "Respect and Pursue Art, Beauty, Erudition and Performance". Comprising a School of Dance, a School of Music, and a School of Drama, with the mission of "Emphasising Professionalism and Popularisation; Integrating Arts and Life", it offers both universal and professional arts education.

The Macao Conservatory offers a range of systematic, standardised, and continuous artistic education in dance, music and drama performances, to promote the public's values in the humanities. It also provides full-time courses in music and dance, to nurture knowledgeable and creative talented Macao people in the performing arts.



