

7

**EDUCATION**



## 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 78 schools in Macao during the 2020/2021 academic year, of which 11 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 75 schools (including 11 public schools and 64 private schools) that offered formal education, 70 were in the free education network, four were in the paid education network and one followed a non-local education system. There were 108 schools in the free education system, and the coverage rate has reached 95.6 percent.

During the 2020/2021 academic year, 83,894 students received non-tertiary education, with 82,876 of them receiving formal education. Of these, 18,908 (22.5 percent) attended kindergartens, 35,450 (42.2 percent) attended primary schools, 27,627 (32.9 percent) attended secondary schools, 768 (0.9 percent) received vocational and technical education, and 891 (1.1 percent) attended special schools (excluding integrated education). Some 1,108 students were receiving recurrent education, including 71 primary school pupils (0.1 percent) and 1,037 secondary school students (1.2 percent), and 324 (0.4 percent) vocational school students.

During the 2020/2021 academic year, there were 7,562 teaching staff for non-tertiary education, representing an increase of 2.1 percent over the 2019/2020 academic year.

## **Education and Youth Affairs Bureau**

The DSEJ is a government department responsible for developing, directing, coordinating, administering and evaluating non-tertiary education. According to By-law No. 40/2020 on the Organisation and Operation of Education and Youth Development Bureau that came into force on 1 February 2021, the Higher Education Bureau and the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau were merged as the Education and Youth Development Bureau, to develop, coordinate, execute and evaluate education and youth policies in Macao.

## **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 2020/2021, the Education Development Fund provided subsidies amounting to about 525 million patacas through the School Development Scheme. There were two categories of the School Development Plan for the 2020/2021 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 and motivate schools to provide integrated education training to teaching staff, motivate schools to organise students to visit Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area vocational training base, promote establishment of sister school alliances, and further support teachers and students visiting mainland China for exchanges. 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 2020/2021 academic year, the class-teacher ratios in kindergartens, primary and secondary schools were enhanced to 1:2.1, 1:2.2, and 1:2.7, respectively. Also during the academic year, the teacher-student ratios in kindergartens, primary and secondary schools were enhanced to 1:13.4, 1:13.4 and 1:10.0, respectively.

### The Ten-year Development Plan for Non-tertiary Education (2021-2030)

The Ten-year Development Plan for Non-tertiary Education (2011-2020) came to an end in 2020. Thus, the Education and Youth Development Bureau began formulating the Medium-to-Long Term Development Plan for Non-tertiary Education (2021-2030) as a policy document, to plan for the long-term development of education. The public consultation on the document was conducted from 5 December 2020 to 22 January 2021. The planning focuses on cultivating students with good conduct, who are truth-seeking, pragmatic and innovative. The four key directions are: cultivating students' patriotism and international vision, developing students' soft power, enhancing students' sense of well-being, and strengthening creativity and technology education.

### 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.

Education Level	2020/2021 Academic Year Free Education Subsidies (patacas)	2020/2021 Academic Year Tuition Fee Subsidies (patacas)
Kindergarten	1,063,800 per class	20,970 per student
Primary	1,159,100 per class	23,140 per student
Junior Secondary	1,396,800 per class	25,480 per student
Senior Secondary	1,584,300 per class	25,480 per student

In addition, during the 2020/2021 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 2,400 patacas, 3,000 patacas and 3,550 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 Stationery Allowance was also introduced in the 2019/2020 academic year.

The maximum school fee 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. Each secondary student and primary and kindergarten pupil receives a stationery allowance of 1,700 patacas, 1,450 patacas and 1,150 patacas, respectively. 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 response to the COVID-19 pandemic, summer courses during the 2019/2020 academic year were conducted online. In 2019/2020, 5,896 students were granted tuition fee subsidies amounting to about 37.19 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 2019/2020 academic year, 397 students received subsidies to study in the programmes, and the subsidies totalled about 34.2 million patacas. No beneficiary quotas were added from the starting of the 2020/2021 school year.

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. By the 2020/2021 academic year, a total of 29 students participated in the programme.

## 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 2020/2021 academic year, subsidies for vocational and technical education courses totalling over 16 million patacas were granted to nine schools, which organised 82 classes in 36 programmes. The "Comprehensive Applied Learning Education" pilot programme also supported 26 schools to organise courses on 52 subjects related to applied skills. A total of 275 classes were organised; subsidies totalling over 6.04 million patacas were granted.

In-depth discussions on the Vocational and Technical Education System with institutions offering vocational and technical education courses continued in 2020, to collect views from the public and ensure that legal amendments meet society's expectations.

## Education for Pupils with Special Needs

During the 2020/2021 academic year, there were 2,922 pupils in Macao with special needs; 2,031 of them were inclusive students, and 891 studied in small special education classes and special needs classes. In 2020, the DSEJ completed the Portuguese and English translations of the Supplement to the Special Education Curriculum Guide for Mathematics, General Studies, Science and Humanities, Physical Education and Health, Information Technology and Fine Art. The translations were uploaded to the website of DSEJ, for reference by schools.

In 2020, the DSEJ organised 11 parent talks and 44 speech therapy / group training, providing 450 parent training places and 320 pairs of parent-child training places, respectively, to help parents conduct training for their children at home.

To support the announcement of By-law No. 29/2020 on Special Education System, the DSEJ had organised 16 briefing sessions with more than 1,000 attendees by December 2020.

## 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 2019. Over 140,000, 160,000 and 180,000 Macao residents participated in the first, second and third phases, respectively. The first, second and third phases involved subsidies of about 520 million patacas, 740 million patacas and 850 million patacas, respectively.

The fourth phase of the Continuing Education Development Plan (2020-2023) was launched on 1 September 2020. By 31 December 2020, this phase entailed subsidies totalling around 4.6 million patacas to more than 13,000 eligible residents.

During the 2020/2021 academic year, two public schools and five 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 899,600 patacas, 1,073,800 patacas and 1,210,690 patacas per class for primary, junior secondary and senior secondary schools, respectively.

In November 2020, the DSEJ joined hands with the Cultural Affairs Bureau in organising the 2020 Life-long Learning Week, featuring 95 activities.

In 2020, the Life-long Learning Incentive Award Scheme organised more than 1,900 learning activities of various types, providing more than 58,000 places. With a network of 491 organisations joining the scheme, the cumulative total of participants reached 4,338.

## **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 2020/2021 academic year, there were 15 schools participating in the campaign.

## **Curriculum Reform and Development**

In the 2020/2021 academic year, History, Geography, Visual Arts and Music must be provided as independent and compulsory subjects in junior secondary one and senior secondary one. The systematic curriculum design strengthens the history, culture, and art education for secondary students, and continues to enhance learning and teaching effectiveness.

In 2020, teaching resources continued to be developed, including by completing the publication of the full trial version of the textbook History for secondary students, the trial version of General Studies extending to primary two, and a new trial version of Chinese Language for primary one and four. A teaching resource depository for Moral and Civic Education has been developed, to ensure the effective implementation of the Requirements for Basic Academic Aptitude, and support teaching staff in organising teaching activities.

## **Professional Development of Teaching Staff**

In the 2019/2020 academic year, 652 teaching staff training activities were organised, providing 30,470 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 2019/2020 academic year, 21,101 teachers participated in the Subvention Scheme for School-based Training.

In 2020, subsidies were given to 190 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 2020, attracting participation by 14 and 90 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.

In 2020, drawing on the research results of PISA 2018 and relevant issues, the research team organised 72 symposiums, attracting some 4,600 teaching staff participants, to deepen the understanding of the rationale and latest development directions of PISA.

## 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.

PIRLS 2021 marked the second attempt of Macao participating in the study. A total of 1,200 pupils from 21 schools participated in the study.

## National Education

Since 2018, the DSEJ has actively encouraged schools and youth organisations to visit the National Security Education Exhibition, to motivate students and young people to join hands with the Government to safeguard national security. Starting from 15 April 2020, schools and youth organisations were encouraged to visit the online exhibition about national security, to deepen the understanding of young people and students regarding national security.

To strengthen education on the Constitution and the Basic Law, the Speech Contest on the Constitution and the Basic Law was held in 2020, to commemorate the 27th anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was held through both online and face-to-face modes, attracting nearly 3,400 participants from 18 schools.

To celebrate the Constitution Day, the DSEJ organised a series of educational activities on the Constitution Day, from November to December 2020. A total of 61 schools held 112 activities related to the Constitution of the People's Republic of China and 142 activities related to the Basic Law, attracting more than 61,600 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, and National Defence Education Camp. In the 2019/2020 academic year, the activities attracted more than 31,300 participants.

## **Arts Education**

In 2020, the DSEJ continued implementing the Students Popular Arts Education Scheme, covering primary six students to senior secondary three students. In the 2019/2020 academic year, only 21 arts education activities were held due to the COVID-19 pandemic, attracting participation by 7,236 students. From May to July 2020, an online visual arts activity was held in collaboration with the Macao Museum of Art, to enable students to enjoy various art exhibitions during class suspension. The DSEJ also continued organising various arts education schemes and activities, including the Arts Education Snowball Project and the Chinese Culture and Artist in Campus Series.

## **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 5,939 students in the 2019/2020 academic year. The DSEJ also joined hands with banks to launch its Interest Subsidies for Student Loans Scheme, which benefited some 420 students in the 2019/2020 academic year 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 2019 Youth Activity Awards and Civic Education Awards were presented, 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.

According to the review mechanism of the Macao Youth Policy, the interim review results of the first implementation period from 2012 to 2016 were completed and published in March 2017. In 2020, the Government continued promoting youth work through various channels. The public consultation on Macao Youth Policy (2021-2030) was completed. Five public consultation sessions and eight seminars targeting different sectors were conducted, attracting more than 650 participants and 120 written opinions.

The cross-departmental follow-up group of the Macao Youth Policy continued leveraging synergy of government departments. In 2020, we continued exchanging views and discussing the consultation documents on Macao Youth Policy (2021-2030), and jointly organising the “Basic Law for Teens” – law promotion month targeting teenagers, which featured 16 events with the Basic Law as the theme, and attracted more than 52,000 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. The investigations and studies of the Social Survey on Macao Youth Indicators 2020 were completed during the year.

### Youth Activities and Sponsorships

The DSEJ actively promotes youth exchange activities between Macao and Portugal. In 2020, it subsidised community groups to form an art delegation of Macao, China, enabling 47 teachers and students to visit Portugal for participation in a Chinese New Year celebration event.

In 2020, the DSEJ created a platform for young people to contribute their opinions and

suggestions, and raise their ability to participate in and discuss political matters. The “Dream Comes True” youth leadership programme continued, to strengthen the training of young leaders. Some 30 communication activities with young people were held, to listen to the voices of young people. A total of 389 awards of the 2019 Young Volunteers Award Programme were presented to 365 youth volunteers.

In 2020, the organising committee of the youth activity series in commemoration of the May Fourth Movement, which was formed by the DSEJ and various youth organisations in Macao, jointly organised a series of activities to commemorate the May Fourth Movement online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These attracted more than 200 participants, and the online page recorded more than 7,600 visits. Five young people who achieved considerable success were interviewed by the May Fourth Youth Interview programme, to share their experience in striving for accomplishments.

In 2020, subsidies totalling around 10.13 million patacas were provided to 84 youth organisations or associations which applied for funding under the Annual Subsidy Scheme for Activities of Youth Groups, to organise 474 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 81 activities organised by 39 groups. The subsidies totalled about 4.5 million patacas. The Greater Bay Area Youth Information Platform was enriched with a Facebook page, an Instagram page “Bay Chit Chat” and a WeChat official account, to share information with young people such as on life in the Greater Bay Area, cultural and recreational activities, employment, entrepreneurship, and major policies.

## **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, the 14th National Student Sports Games was postponed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of the preliminary events were held from October to December 2020. The DSEJ sent school delegations to mainland China to participate in the three preliminaries of table tennis, volleyball and basketball.

Regarding activities related to mathematics and popular science, the International Mathematical Olympiad, China Girls Mathematical Olympiad and Chinese Chemistry Olympiad (Final) were held online. Macao school delegations won a silver medal and three bronze medals in China Girls Mathematical Olympiad 2020, as well as two bronze medals and three honourable mentions in the 61st International Mathematical Olympiad.

Macao student representatives won the first-class award and the best style award in the senior secondary group, and the champion of the junior secondary group in the final of the fifth national constitution activity for students.

## Youth Facilities and Services

Under DSEJ's administration, there are two youth hostels and four youth centres. As Cheok Van Youth Hostel and Hac Sa Youth Hostel reopened on 2 September, with the local COVID-19 pandemic situation easing, 1,776 people stayed in the two hostels in 2020. The Areia Preta Youth Centre, Experiential Centre for Young People, Outer Harbour Youth Centre and Bairro do Hipodromo Youth Centre aimed at providing services on group development, leisure education, arts education, and recreational and sports development, and continued providing a wide variety of activities that help young people to grow and develop, together with youth counselling services and training for volunteer workers. In response to the local pandemic situation, the youth centres were reopened on 22 June. During the year, about 275,000 people participated in the activities and used the facilities. The Bairro do Hipodromo Youth Centre continued providing night services till 2 am, to meet the different needs of young people using the facilities.

The Pavilion of Patriotism was reopened on 11 May 2020, and attracted some 2,106 visitors during the year. The patriotic education base for young people commenced operation in December. The base integrates exhibitions, training, multimedia, and audiovisual presentations, to showcase five thousand years of Chinese history and culture, as well as the historical development and achievements of modern China and Macao, to serve as a base collaborating with other educational resources in Macao and organising a variety of history learning activities for students.

In December 2020, the Language Teaching Activity Centre commenced operation. Institutions are commissioned to organise Portuguese language learning activities.

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 2020, the Juvenile Arts Exhibition and Performance Hall held 10 exhibitions and four performances (five sessions), attended by 5,200 people.

In 2012, the DSEJ began providing subsidies for schools to set up wellness centres. By December 2020, 30 fitness centres had been set up.

## COVID-19 epidemic prevention and control

In line with the Government's overall epidemic prevention policy, the DSEJ and the education sector jointly launched measures for students to study at home, set up a corresponding thematic website, a website providing guidance and student guidance hotlines; and adjusted teacher and student learning and exchange programmes that were affected by the pandemic.

A one-off grant was issued through the Education Development Fund. Every school received subsidies totalling from 16,800 patacas to 117,600 patacas, to support them with procuring sanitary products and improving public health equipment. As the coronavirus situation stabilised, secondary students and primary and kindergarten pupils resumed classes in phases from 4 May to 1 June.

In July, the DSEJ held six working meetings on the "School Operations Guide" for the 2020/2021 school year, to provide guidelines on the "Notes for Schools in the 2020/2021 School Year" and require schools to formulate preparations for class suspension and related support measures. In

addition, after coordinating with the Health Bureau and mainland China health authorities, free nucleic acid testing was arranged for about 4,000 cross-border teachers and students every Saturday, at five designated hospitals in Zhuhai.

## **Tertiary Education**

Macao's modern tertiary education is flourishing. 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.

The Government has established a new tertiary education system to offer tertiary institutions greater autonomy and flexibility, strengthen and enhance their standard of governance, provide sufficient resources for the overall development of tertiary education, and foster the continuous improvement of education quality.

During the 2020/2021 academic year, there were 2,645 teaching staff and 39,093 registered students in Macao's tertiary education institutions, where 342 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 19 tertiary educational programmes in Macao in 2020.

## **Higher Education Bureau**

The Higher Education Bureau (DSES) is responsible for assisting in, following up on and developing tertiary education in Macao.

In accordance with the By-law No. 40/2020 on Organisation and Operation of Education and Youth Development Bureau which came into effect on 1 February 2021, the DSES was merged with the Education and Youth Development Bureau.

In 2020, the DSES disseminated the latest epidemic information to tertiary institutions, and made every effort to assist and support tertiary institutions in epidemic prevention and control. During class suspension, tertiary institutions followed DSES guidelines to launch online teaching and adhered to the principle of “suspending classes without suspending learning” to ensure that students' learning remained unaffected. As the coronavirus situation stabilised, 10 tertiary institutions resumed classes in phases from 1 April.

The Tertiary Education Fund disbursed special subsidies to private institutions for epidemic prevention and control and the launch of online teaching; launched the Specialised Subsidy Scheme in Research in Infectious Disease Preparedness and Emergency Response, with 27 projects

approved; increased the amount of post-graduate scholarships for 2020/2021 academic year, and specially added 20 quotas, to encourage local fresh university graduates to pursue their master's degrees in tertiary institutions in Macao; and sold masks to non-local teachers and students in tertiary institutions in Macao.

The DSES assisted Macao students studying abroad with purchasing and receiving delivery of masks; set up hotlines and several contact groups to answer enquiries and provide information for tertiary students and parents; launched an online registration system to collect information and the number of affected students, in order to make appropriate arrangements; and assisted in following-up regarding chartered coach services and special ferry services for Macao residents to return Macao from Hong Kong International Airport, attracting more than 4,000 registered people.

### **Tertiary Education Council**

Established in 2018, the Tertiary Education Council is a consultative body which aims to listen to opinions from different sectors on tertiary education through the extensive participation of society, reach public consensus, and further facilitate communication and cooperation between the authorities and tertiary institutions, as well as among Macao tertiary institutions, to jointly foster the development of tertiary education.

### **Tertiary Education Fund**

The Government established the Tertiary Education Fund in 2018. It is responsible for implementing policies on tertiary institution funding and enhancing the quality of tertiary education, especially through fostering healthy competition among tertiary institutions; promoting equal access to tertiary education; providing subsidies and financial assistance in accordance with prioritised policies on tertiary education and development plans of tertiary institutions.

In 2020, the Tertiary Education Fund disbursed grants and subsidies totalling about 172 million patacas, including the Textbooks and Stationery Allowances for Tertiary Students, Postgraduate Scholarships, Macao Tertiary Institutions and Subsidies for Professional Development of Tertiary Teaching Staff, Tertiary Student Activity Fund, Education and Research Cooperation Subsidy Scheme for Macao Tertiary Institutions, Specialised Subsidy Scheme for Macao Higher Education Institutions in the Area of Research in Humanities and Social Sciences, and Specialised Subsidy Scheme for the Tourism Education and Training for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

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

In 2020, the DSES processed 19 applications by Macao tertiary educational institutions intending to launch new programmes or revise old ones; 14 of these applications were approved, and five were in progress. The bureau also handled 10 applications from overseas tertiary educational institutions seeking to establish, revise or continue running programmes. A total of six such applications were approved, two were cancelled and two were in progress. The bureau completed the processes for

47 course registration applications during the year.

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

The DSES continues to facilitate various external cooperation projects within the tertiary education field, implement 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.

To seize the opportunities for development arising through major national policies such as the “Belt and Road” initiative and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and strengthen exchanges and cooperation in science, technology and education with Hunan Province, the DSES invited the Hunan Provincial CPPCC to arrange a science and education delegation to visit Macao tertiary institutions and relevant Government departments in December 2020.

During the visit, the University of Macau, Institute for Tourism Studies, Macau University of Science and Technology, Kiang Wu Nursing College of Macau, and City University of Macau signed a cooperation agreement with Hunan Normal University, Hunan University of Chinese Medicine and Hunan University of Technology, to explore opportunities for ensuring in-depth cooperation progresses to new milestones.

In 2019, with approval from the Ministry of Education, 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 continued to adopt the results of the Joint Admission Examination for Four Higher Education Institutions in Macao.

In addition, the Higher Education Bureau 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. Starting from 2020, tertiary institutions in Taiwan adopted the results of the Joint Admission Examination for Four Higher Education Institutions in Macao.

To support the “Belt and Road” initiative and promote Macao tertiary education to Southeast Asian countries, in October 2020, the Higher Education Bureau organised a Macao tertiary institution delegation to participate in the Talk Global Study – South-East Asia.

## **Recognition of Portugal's Higher Education Qualifications in Macao SAR**

To implement the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Portuguese Republic Conducting the Automatic Recognition of Diplomas and Academic Degrees signed with Portugal in May 2019 for establishing the mechanism for mutual recognition of higher education

degrees and diplomas, the MSAR Government promulgated By-law No. 27/2020 on Automatic Recognition of Diplomas and Academic Degrees of Portugal. Holders of higher education qualifications awarded by tertiary institutions in Portugal can enjoy the same rights as holders of corresponding higher education degrees and diplomas awarded by tertiary institutions in the Macao SAR.

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

During 2020, with approval from the Ministry of Education, University of Macau, Macao Polytechnic Institute, Institute for Tourism Studies, Macao 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 2020/2021 academic year, 52,036 mainland China students applied to the above-mentioned six tertiary educational institutions in Macao. Of the 8,074 newly registered students, 978 enrolled in doctorate degree programmes, 3,033 in master's degree programmes, 3,749 in bachelor's degree programmes and 314 in university foundation courses.

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

The Higher Education Bureau 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 2020/2021 academic year, 98 and 1,065 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, 36 and 966 students were admitted, respectively. In 2020, 97 students were admitted to mainland China universities, through their results in the Joint Admission Examination for Four Higher Education Institutions in Macao. Also, 371 students sat the examination for admission to postgraduate programmes in tertiary educational institutions in mainland China; 199 of them were admitted.

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

The Higher Education Bureau provides information about tertiary education, public examinations and employment to the public. It also provides telephone and e-mail enquiry services. In 2020, it handled 307 relevant cases, with 85 enquiries made in person, 175 by telephone and 47 by e-mail. In addition, the Higher Education Bureau cooperated with various community groups and organisations in organising diverse activities that provided information about tertiary education and vocational preparation.

In 2013, the Higher Education Bureau 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. In 2020, there were 8,085 visitors, 40.67 percent of whom were tertiary students.

## **Tertiary Student Activities and Subsidies**

The Higher Education Bureau 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.

Through the Tertiary Student Activity Fund, the Higher Education Bureau encourages and supports tertiary educational institutions, student organisations and social communities to organise activities that meet students' interests. In 2020, two institutions, 44 organisations and one tertiary student were subsidised to organise and participate in 170 tertiary student activities. The subsidies amounted to more than 18 million patacas.

## **Disbursing Postgraduate Scholarships**

During the 2020/2021 academic year, the Tertiary Education Fund continued to launch several scholarships. There were 156 new recipients of post-graduate scholarships, of which 25 were doctorate scholarships, five were for integrated master's and doctorate programmes, 125 were for master's degree scholarships, and one was for integrated bachelor's and master's programmes. There were 24 new recipients of the Scholarship for Outstanding Students Studying in Macao (Portuguese-speaking and ASEAN countries).

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). There were 25 students granted scholarships.

The Tertiary Education Fund also launched the Scholarship Scheme for University of Porto, Portugal for the first time. Five students received the scholarships.

The Tertiary Education Fund continued cooperating with the Talent Development Committee to jointly launch the Postgraduate Degree Course Scholarship Program – Association of Principals of Portuguese-speaking Universities. Eight students received the scholarships.

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

The Government continued to disburse the Textbooks and Stationery Allowances for Tertiary Students. Macao identity card holders who are studying for doctorate degrees, master's degrees, bachelor's degrees, vocational courses, diplomas or associate degrees, with learning periods of not less than two years in Macao or abroad, can register for the subsidy. In 2020, 33,919 eligible tertiary students received an allowance of 3,300 patacas.

## **CET4 and CET6 English examinations in Macao**

CET4 and CET6 written tests were held in July and December 2020, with a total of 524 candidates

sitting for the tests in July, including 302 sitting for the CET4 test and 222 candidates sitting for the CET6 test; while 3,209 candidates sat for the tests in December, including 1,646 candidates sitting for the CET4 test and 1,563 candidates sitting for the CET6 test. Test centres in Macao included University of Macau, Macao Polytechnic Institute, Macao University of Science and Technology and City University of Macau.

## **Tertiary Education Quality Assurance**

To better implement the quality assurance system, the Government established a quality assurance expert group in 2019, and invited experienced experts in tertiary education quality assurance from mainland China, Hong Kong, Portugal, the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia and Malaysia as members. As a consultative body, the expert group is mainly responsible for providing professional advice on quality assurance, and supporting Macao tertiary institutions to establish and optimise quality assurance mechanisms, to further enhance the continuous improvement and recognition of tertiary education quality and keep in line with international standards.

In 2020, 31 applications for the Programme Review Evaluation, 23 applications for review exemption and one application for course accreditation were completed. Also, 21 applications for the Programme Review Evaluation and two applications for review exemption were in progress.

The Higher Education Bureau continued inviting professional experts to organise quality-assuring training activities for teaching staff. It also connected 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 2020, the Higher Education Bureau handled four written queries and 10 telephone queries from government departments. It also handled a total of 219 queries from the public, of which 11 were made in person, 166 by telephone, and 42 by e-mail.

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

The Tertiary Education Fund provides funding to assist tertiary institutions in improving their teaching equipment and facilities, 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.

In 2020, subsidies were granted for 13 projects on the optimisation of teaching equipment and improvement of teaching and scientific research quality, four projects by Macao Academic Library Alliance for procuring an electronic database, related system maintenance and service charge of MALA HUB, as well as six projects on professional development of teaching staff. The subsidies totalled approximately 34.47 million patacas.

## **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 Fund continued with the Chinese and Portuguese Bilingual Talent Training, Education and Research Cooperation Subsidy Scheme for Macao Tertiary Institutions, and provided subsidies totalling about 3.37 million patacas to 16 eligible projects that applied for funding in 2020.

## **Specialised Subsidy Scheme for Tourism Education and Training for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area**

In order to leverage the academic advantages of Macao tertiary institutions in tourism education and training, continue to facilitate the training of talents in tourism, and foster cooperation in tertiary education between Macao and other regions in the Greater Bay Area, the Tertiary Education Fund continued implementing the Specialised Subsidy Scheme for Tourism Education and Training for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. In 2020, 14 projects received subsidies totalling about 2.78 million patacas.

## **Specialised Subsidy Scheme for Macao Higher Education Institutions Covering Research in Humanities and Social Sciences**

The Tertiary Education Fund continued to launch the Specialised Subsidy Scheme for Macao Higher Education Institutions in the Area of Research in Humanities and Social Sciences in 2020, to facilitate and encourage Macao tertiary institutions to cooperate in joint research projects related to the Humanities and Social Sciences (or cross-discipline) with tertiary institutions or organisations in mainland China or abroad. In 2020, 50 research projects received subsidies totalling about 10 million patacas.

## **Macao Academic Library Alliance**

Coordinated by the Higher Education Bureau, 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 2020, the Tertiary Education Fund continued supporting the alliance’s procurement of an electronic database and service charge for MALA HUB, with a subsidy of 17.39 million patacas.

## **Tertiary Educational Institutions**

### **University of Macau**

Founded in 1981, the University of Macau is an international public integrated university with

a modern governance model. With English as the main medium of instruction, 80 percent of its teaching fellows are from around the world. The university implements the whole-person approach and develops Asia's leading residential college system. Its faculties are Arts and Humanities; Business Administration; Education; Health Sciences; Law; Social Sciences; Science and Technology; Honours College; Graduate School and Centre for Continuing Education. Other research institutes include Institute of Chinese Medical Sciences, Institute of Applied Physics and Materials Engineering, Institute of Collaborative Innovation, Institute of Microelectronics and Institute of Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences.

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). In 2020, the University of Macau was ranked among top 301-350 World Universities and ranked 37th in the Asia University Rankings by the Times Higher Education; and ranked 387th by the QS World University Rankings.

During the 2020/2021 academic year, the University of Macau offered 109 doctorate programmes, master's degree programmes, bachelor's degree programmes, and postgraduate diploma programmes. It had 729 full-time teaching staff and 11,416 registered students.

## **Macao Polytechnic Institute**

Established in 1981, the predecessor of the Macao Polytechnic Institute (MPI) was the Polytechnic Institute of the University of East Asia, which was renamed the Macao Polytechnic Institute in 1991. The MPI is a public tertiary educational institution adopting an applied academic approach. It comprises the School of Arts, School of Applied Sciences, School of Business, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, School of Health Sciences and Sports, and School of Languages and Translation. It also has various academic units and training centres, and the first Engineering Research Centre of the Ministry of Education in Hong Kong and Macao. The institute continues fostering scientific research and development in major areas such as Chinese-Portuguese-English Translation, Technology and Innovation, Gaming Management, and Arts and Creativity, and cooperates with world renowned universities and scientific research institutions to establish joint laboratories and develop research projects for high-level academic achievements.

It is the first tertiary institution in Asia that has passed the assessment of the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA), the first tertiary institution to receive the National Teaching Achievement Award in Macao, the first tertiary institution in the country to have twice received the Asia Pacific Quality Award.

During the 2020/2021 academic year, the institute offered 31 doctorate, master's and bachelor's degree programmes. It had 419 teaching staff and 3,687 registered students.

## **Macao 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 QAA, UK. In 2020, the IFT ranked 14th globally in Hospitality and Leisure Management on the QS World University Rankings, and ranked among the 50 top universities in the world.

The IFT has built an extensive global network with industrial partners, and has teaching staff from around the world.

During the 2020/2021 academic year, the institute offered 17 doctorate, master's degree programmes, bachelor's degree programmes, postgraduate diploma programmes and higher diploma courses. It had 161 teaching staff and 1,700 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. It is responsible for offering bachelor's degree programmes in Police Sciences, Prison Security and Protection and Safety Engineering; master's degree and doctorate programmes in internal public safety, criminal science, disaster and rescue, civil defence, customs and maritime transportation monitoring activities and prison security; and other diploma programmes and certificate courses. It also co-organises promotion courses with the security forces and security departments according to the ranking system; and provides pre-employment training for persons applying to join the Public Security Police, Fire Service, Customs Service and Prison Guard Service.

In the 2020/2021 academic year, the school offered two bachelor's degree programmes. There were 13 teachers on campus and 34 students enrolled in higher education programmes.

### **The City University of Macau**

The City University of Macau is a non-profit making private comprehensive university providing tertiary education. The university comprises faculties of International Tourism and Management, Business, Humanities and Social Sciences, Innovation and Design, Finance, Education, and Law, as well as the Graduate School, the Open Institute, and the School of Continuing Studies.

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 Smart Tourism Research, Institute of Data Science, and Institute of Psychoanalysis.

In 2020, the University ranked 89th in the 2019 Shanghai Ranking. The doctoral, master's and bachelor's degree courses in tourism management was awarded the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) TedQual Certification.

During the 2020/2021 academic year, the university offered 44 doctorate, master's and bachelor's degree programmes. It had 408 teaching staff, and 6,166 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 has three sub-campuses – the Seminary Campus, NAPE Campus and Ilha Verde Campus, with the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences and Education, Business and Law, Religious Studies and Philosophy, and Institute of Science and Environment. 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 2020/2021 academic year, the university offered 38 doctorate, master's and bachelor's degrees, as well as postgraduate diploma and higher diploma (associate degree) programmes. It had 165 teaching staff and 1,291 registered students.

## Kiang Wu Nursing College of Macau

The Kiang Wu Nursing College of Macau was formerly the Kiang Wu Nursing and Midwifery School. It was established in 1923, and became a private institute in 1999, to cultivate talents in nursing and health sciences. 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 2020/2021 academic year, the college offered three master's degree, bachelor's degree, and postgraduate diploma programmes. It had 33 teaching staff and 389 registered students.

## Macau University of Science and Technology

Established in March 2000, the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST) is the first non-profit integrated university since the founding of the Macao SAR. The university comprises the Faculty of Information Technology, School of Business, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Chinese Medicine, Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Faculty of Humanities and Arts, Faculty of Medicine, University International College, School of Pharmacy, School of Liberal Arts and Department of General Education.

It has also established several research institutes and research centres, including the State Key Laboratory of Quality Research in Chinese Medicine, the State Key Laboratory of Lunar and Planetary Science, the Biophysical Laboratory for Chinese Medicine, the Institute for Social and Cultural Research, the Smart City Institute, the Macau Research Centre for International Standard of Chinese Medicines and the Macao Institute of Fintech Innovation. The University Hospital under the MUST Foundation serves as a base for clinical teaching, research and internships for the Faculty of Chinese Medicine and the Faculty of Medicine.

In 2020, the MUST ranked 17th among universities in the four cross-strait regions of mainland

China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao, and ranked among the Top 300 universities in the World University Rankings by *Times Higher Education*.

During the 2020/2021 academic year, the university offered 90 doctorate, master's and bachelor's degree programmes. It had 657 teaching staff and 14,005 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. In 2019, the Bachelor of Business Administration with Specialisation in Professional Accountancy programme was accredited by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA).

The institute offered six bachelor's degree and higher diploma (including associate degree) programmes during the 2020/2021 academic year. It had 28 teaching staff and 266 registered students.

## Macau Millennium College

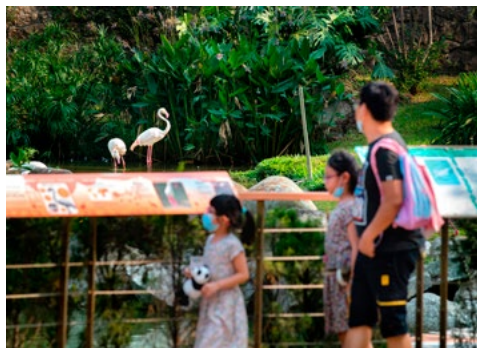
The Macau Millennium College is a private tertiary education institution established in August 2001. To accommodate the needs of students who are full-time employees or shift workers, the college offers "shift classes for shift workers". The two shift classes have identical lecture content. Students 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 2020/2021 academic year, the college offered two bachelor's degree and higher diploma (associate degree) programmes, taught by 32 teaching staff, with 139 registered students.

*Note: The above statistics for teaching and administrative staff, students and programmes of Macao tertiary educational institutions were provided by the Higher Education Bureau. Statistics for the 2020/2021 academic year were collected on 31 October 2020.*



**Nature education**





The Seac Pai Van Country Park serves the purposes of education, ecological studies, scenery appreciation and scientific research. In 1981, it was designated as a nature reserve, marking the dawn of Macao's nature education. In 1984, it became Macao's first country park. Now, the park is home to various species of primates, birds and reptiles, a cow that escaped from the Slaughter House in Ilha Verde, the four giant pandas dubbed the "happy family" in Macao Giant Panda Pavilion, and the red pandas and golden monkeys in the Pavilion of Rare Animals. The park also features several themed zones introducing a variety of plants. All these, together with children's amusement facilities, make Seac Pai Van Country Park a scenic spot for leisure activities for local residents and tourists, and for education about nature, and flora and fauna conservation.

