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EDUCATION



Education

The MSAR 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.

Education and Youth Development Bureau

As stipulated in By-law No. 40/2020 on the Organisation and Operation of the Education and Youth Development Bureau, the Education and Youth Development Bureau (hereinafter referred to as “the DSEDJ”) is charged with developing, coordinating, executing and evaluating education and youth policies in Macao.

Education Fund

The Education Fund aims to – in accordance with the MSAR’s education system and education development policy, and within its budget – provide subsidies for various projects and activities that help maintain and raise education quality as well as the comprehensive abilities and competitiveness of students, together with providing benefits to students. In 2025, the Education Fund disbursed subsidies totalling 1.66 billion patacas.

Subsidy programmes for non-tertiary education institutions and tertiary education institutions include the School Development Plan, the Annual Funding Plan for Higher Education Institutions and the Regular Operational Funding Plan for Private Higher Education Institutions. Programmes for students include the stationery allowance for tertiary students, the Higher Education Financial Assistance Scheme, the Scholarship Scheme for Studying in Leading Higher Education Institutions, the Student Loan Interest Subsidy Scheme, tuition fee subsidies, meal allowances, and the Subsidy Scheme for Assistive Technologies for Special Education Students.

Education Council

The Education Council, with administrative and technical support from the DSEDJ, has established two standing task forces, on tertiary education and non-tertiary education. The aim was to enhance communication and coordination among administrative authorities, tertiary institutions and non-tertiary schools, thereby promoting education development through pooled efforts. The Education Council held three meetings and two task force meetings in 2025.

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, to nurture more talent for society.

According to DSEDJ statistics, there were 75 schools in Macao during the 2025/2026 academic year, seven of which were public schools, while the remaining 68 were private. Among the 68 private schools, 66 offered formal education, and two offered only recurrent education. Among the 73 schools (seven public schools and 66 private schools) that offered formal education, 67 were in the free education system, five were in the paid education network and one followed a non-local education system. Among the 108 school sections in the local education system that offered formal education, 102 school sections were in the free education system, with the coverage rate reaching 94.4 percent.

During the 2025/2026 academic year, 88,134 students received non-tertiary education, with 87,064 (98.8 percent) of them receiving formal education. Of these, 13,756 (15.8 percent) attended kindergartens, 37,273 (42.8 percent) attended primary schools, 35,048 (40.3 percent) attended secondary schools, 931 (1.1 percent) received vocational and technical education, and 987 (1.1 percent) attended special schools (excluding integrated education). A total of 1,070 (1.2 percent) students were receiving recurrent education.

During the 2025/2026 academic year, there were 8,148 teaching staff for non-tertiary education, representing an increase of one percent over the 2024/25 academic year, of whom 8,039 (98.7 percent) were formal education teaching staff and 109 (1.3 percent) were recurrent education teaching staff.

The DSEDJ has formulated the Ten-Year Development Plan for Non-tertiary Education (2011-2020) and the Medium-to-Long Term Plan for Non-tertiary Education (2021-2030), with the aim of prioritising the development of education, developing high quality fair education, promoting reforms of curricula, teaching and assessments, and establishing new directions such as fostering a sense of national identity, and an international perspective, developing students' soft skills, enhancing a sense of happiness, and strengthening education in creativity and technology. In 2025, the DSEDJ conducted a mid-term review study on the Medium-to-Long Term Plan for Non-tertiary Education (2021-2030), inviting experts to analyse the current state of education in Macao. The research findings will be released in 2026.

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 rollout of free education in the 2007/2008 academic year, the Government has been providing free education subsidies to non-profit private schools within the free education network. At present, 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. The amounts of the free education subsidies for the 2025/2026 academic year are:

Education Level	Free Education Subsidy (Basic amount) (Patacas)	Free Education Subsidy (Additional amount) (Patacas)
Kindergarten	1.0957 million / class	77,500 to 232,500 / class
Primary	1.1939 million / class	88,300 to 264,900 / class
Junior Secondary	1.4387 million / class	90,300 to 361,200 / class
Senior Secondary	1.6318 million / class	90,300 to 361,200 / class

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 2025/2026 academic year, the class-teacher ratios in kindergartens, primary and secondary schools were enhanced to 1 to 2.3, 1 to 2.3, and 1 to 2.8, respectively. The teacher-student ratios for the 2025/2026 academic year in kindergartens, primary and secondary schools were enhanced to 1 to 11.2, 1 to 12.6 and 1 to 10.9, respectively.

Tuition Fee Subsidies and Textbook Allowance

Apart from free education subsidies, the Government offered tuition fee subsidies to Macao residents receiving formal education at private schools but not benefiting from free education. The amounts of tuition fee subsidies for the 2025/2026 academic year are as follows:

Education Level	Tuition Fee Subsidies (patacas)
Kindergarten	21,350 per student
Primary	23,560 per student
Junior Secondary	25,940 per student
Senior Secondary	25,940 per student

In addition, the Government continued offering textbook allowances to students who are Macao residents receiving formal education in Macao. The amounts of textbook allowance for the 2025/2026 academic year are as follows:

Education Level	Textbook Allowance (patacas)
Kindergarten	2,400 per student
Primary	3,000 per student
Junior Secondary	3,550 per student
Senior Secondary	3,550 per student

Tuition Fee Subsidies and Stationery Allowance for Macao Students Studying in Guangdong Province

The DSEDJ provided tuition fee subsidies and stationery allowances for Macao students pursuing non-tertiary studies in 21 cities throughout Guangdong Province. To enhance students' understanding of and care for Macao society, as well as to cultivate their love for the country and Macao and raise their civic consciousness, a special course on understanding Macao was introduced for eligible senior secondary students.

Education Level	Tuition Fee Subsidies (2024/25) (Maximum Subsidy Amount) (Patacas)	Stationery Allowance (2024/25) (Patacas)
Kindergarten	8,000 per student	1,150 per student
Primary	6,000 per student	1,450 per student
Junior Secondary	6,000 per student	1,700 per student
Senior Secondary	6,000 per student	1,700 per student

Vocational and Technical Education

The Education Fund continues to subsidise courses organised by private non-tertiary schools that cover vocational and technical skills with the schools' individual characteristics and in accordance with the "1+4" strategy for appropriate economic diversification, to cultivate potential skilled talents, ensuring that students' learning aligns with the demands of the job market, further studies or professional development.

In the 2025/2026 academic year, 12 schools organised 57 classes in 32 programmes. The DSEDJ encouraged schools that offer vocational and technical education programmes to sign cooperation agreements with enterprises. As of 2025, seven schools offering vocational and technical education courses collaborated with 10 enterprises or institutions, signing 16 cooperation agreements. In 2025, the vocational and technical education promotion day was again held, to familiarise the public with the educational philosophies and courses involved in cultivating diverse talents through vocational and technical education.

Education for Pupils with Special Needs

During the 2025/2026 academic year, there were 4,073 pupils with special educational needs in Macao; 3,086 of them were inclusive students, and 987 studied in small special education classes and special needs classes. In June 2025, under the joint guidance of the Guangdong Provincial Department of Education, the DSEDJ of the Macao SAR and Education Bureau of the Hong Kong SAR, University of Macau and University of Saint Joseph jointly organised the 2025 Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Integrated Education Exchange Conference, providing an extended and targeted exchange platform for integrated education practitioners from the three places.

Recurrent Education and Continuing Education

During the 2025/2026 academic year, two public schools and four private schools offered recurrent education, to provide education opportunities to Macao residents who have not completed formal education within school age. The DSEDJ provides recurrent education subsidies to private schools offering recurrent education. The subsidies amounted to a maximum of 926,600 patacas, 1,106,000 patacas and 1,246,900 patacas per class for primary, junior secondary and senior secondary schools, respectively.

To support appropriate economic diversification and foster a learning society, the MSAR Government introduced five phases of the Continuing Education Programme since 2011, with a cumulative total of over 710,000 participants and subsidies totalling approximately three billion patacas. The Continuing Education Programme (2023-2026) was launched on 1 July 2023, focusing on subsidising courses and certification examinations in vocational skills, life skills, humanities and arts, and sports and health. As of 31 December 2025, more than 95,000 residents had participated in the programme, with subsidies totalling approximately 370 million patacas.

In 2025, with a network of 400 organisations joining the Life-long Learning Incentive Award Scheme, the cumulative total of participants reached 4,570 since its launch in 2005.

Parent Education

In 2025, the DSEDJ conducted a variety of parent education activities in schools, communities and enterprises – including parent seminars, workshops, community outreach activities, parent-child educational activities, paired reading sessions, children’s activities and visits to various places. A total of 595 events were organised for over 22,300 participants. The DSEDJ continued its collaboration with large enterprises to promote parent education, organising 48 parent education talks, parent-child educational activities and promotional events, attracting approximately 3,300 participants.

Curriculum Reform and Development

In response to the country’s 14th Five-Year Plan, China’s Education Modernisation 2035 plan, the Patriotic Education Law of the People’s Republic of China, and the Development Plan for Appropriate Economic Diversification of the Macao Special Administrative Region (2024-2028), in 2024 the MSAR Government completed the revision of the Framework of the Formal Education Curriculum and the Requirements for Basic Academic Aptitude. The revised curriculum encompasses seven subjects – Moral and Civic Education, History, Geography, General Studies, Natural Science, Information Technology, and Music. It strengthens programming and artificial intelligence education, comprehensive applied learning, and patriotic and national security education. The new curriculum requirements have been implemented from the 2025/2026 academic year across all grades from kindergarten to junior secondary levels. Schools meeting requirements may also fully implement the curriculum at senior secondary levels.

Preparatory work was undertaken for the development of the plan for smart teaching for secondary education across Macao, to establish 11 subject knowledge spectrums based on the Requirements for Basic Academic Aptitude in the Local Education System, and to make use of artificial intelligence and big data to continuously track and analyse students’ learning progress, to assist teaching staff with designing targeted activities and tiered assignments according to individual differences, thereby facilitating personalised and precise teaching and learning.

In 2025, the DSEDJ collaborated with 28 local non-tertiary education institutions, 24 experts and scholars, and service providers to co-develop localised knowledge spectrums, which are expected to be put into use in the 2026/2027 academic year, in order to achieve tailored teaching through educational technology, enhancing the quality of education.

During the 2021/2022 academic year, the Performance Evaluation System for Students Enrolled in Formal Education Curricula was fully implemented, featuring enforcement of multi-faceted assessments and regulation of grade repetition rates, to foster students’ individual development, cater to their individual differences and facilitate their learning.

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. Macao participated in eight PISA assessments between 2003 and 2025.

The results of PISA 2022 were announced in December 2023. Amongst the 81 participating countries/economies, Macao students aged 15 scored 552 in mathematical literacy, ranking second globally for the first time, 543 in scientific literacy, ranking third, and 510 in reading literacy, ranking seventh.

The PISA 2022 report also noted that Macao's fundamental education system demonstrates consistently high quality and equity, placing it among the world's leaders. The percentage of students meeting the PISA benchmarks in Macao is the second highest in the world for Mathematics Literacy (91.6 percent), the first in the world for Science Literacy (92.5 percent), and the third highest in the world for Reading Literacy (87.4 percent), ensuring that the vast majority of students are equipped with the basic competencies required to fully engage in society. Over the past two decades, Macao has maintained a steady upward trend in all three literacies, and is an exemplary model of excellence and equity, as well as one of the few education systems in the world that has been minimally affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

For PISA 2025, the main assessment data collection was completed during April and May 2025, with the results expected to be released in September 2026.

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 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.

In 2021, Macao participated in the study for the second time, with a total of 5,100 students from 58 schools. The results released in 2023 showed that the overall score of Macao students was 536, which was stable compared to the previous year's score of 546, significantly above the mid-point of the global student proficiency level (500), and ranked in the range between 9 and 15, and the performance of Macao students in the four international benchmark levels of PIRLS was excellent and above the international median, indicating a steady development of reading ability among Macao students.

For PIRLS 2026, the trial data collection in Macao was completed in March and April 2025, and the main test was conducted during April and May 2026.

Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS)

The Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) is a research initiative that has been conducted by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) every four years since 1995. Its primary aim is to scientifically assess students' proficiency in mathematics and science, explore factors influencing their mathematics and science abilities, and

utilise the findings to inform educational policy, foster curriculum development and continuously enhance teaching practices, thereby further elevating students' mathematical and scientific competencies.

In 2023, Macao participated in “TIMSS 2023” for the first time, involving 59 schools and approximately 6,000 students at the fourth-grade level. The results, released in 2024, revealed that Macao students achieved a mathematics score of 582, ranking sixth among participating countries or regions, significantly above the international average of 503. In science, Macao students scored 536, ranking 12th, also well above the international average of 494. Additionally, 68 percent and 45 percent of Macao students reached high or advanced benchmarks in mathematics and science, respectively.

Integrated Evaluation of Schools

The DSEDJ implements systematic integrated evaluation of schools, to provide them with a reference for improvement and development, as well as to plan the necessary auxiliary measures. Starting from the 2018/2019 academic year, the new integrated evaluation model was implemented. This has school self-evaluation as the core, combined with external evaluation, aiming to foster continuous development of school leadership, curricula and teaching, and student support. In the 2024/2025 academic year, the new integrated evaluation model was extended to all non-tertiary institutions in Macao, achieving full coverage of self-evaluation across the sector.

Open Campus Campaign

Through the provision of subsidies by the Education Fund and through collaboration between schools and community organisations, schools are encouraged to open their facilities for public use during non-working hours, so they can be used by students and residents. In the 2025/2026 academic year, there were 14 school sections participating in the campaign.

Teaching Staff Professional Committee

The Teaching Staff Professional Committee comprises school leaders, representatives of education organisations, DSEDJ representatives, people with well-recognised education achievements, and experts in the education sector and teachers. Its main responsibilities include formulating professional standards for teaching staff, establishing assessment standards for the professional development activity hours of teaching staff, and stipulating the criteria of the Outstanding Teacher Awards as well as reviewing and judging the awards. The committee is also required to provide opinions on applications for accelerated promotion and the determination of entry ranks for specific teaching staff. Five plenary meetings were held in 2025.

Professional Development of Teaching Staff

The MSAR Government has established a professional development framework for teaching staff, which includes training programmes for newly recruited teachers, training programmes for potential

school leaders, training programmes for potential mid-level and senior-level school management, outstanding teacher sharing sessions, inter-school teaching research pilot programmes, the Thousand Elite Teachers Training Programme, and the Chinese Mainland Outstanding Teachers Exchange Programme, to support the professional development of teaching staff. In 2024, the by-law on the professional development framework for non-tertiary teaching staff was enacted, establishing a list of core development activities and training entities.

In the 2020/2021 academic year, the DSEDJ launched the Thousand Elite Teachers Training Programme to send 1,000 teachers to the Chinese mainland for training over a ten-year period. By the 2025/2026 academic year (as at December 2025), a total of 15 training cohorts had been organised, with 430 teaching staff from primary, secondary and pre-primary education participating. Under the Chinese Mainland Outstanding Teachers Exchange Programme, by the 2025/2026 academic year, 327 Chinese mainland teachers have participated in school-based exchanges in Macao. The DSEDJ signed cooperation agreements with South China Normal University, East China Normal University, and the Zhuhai Campus of Beijing Normal University, leveraging high-quality higher education resources to enhance teachers' professional competencies.

To promote the development of digital education and enhance teachers' capacity to apply artificial intelligence (AI) in teaching, 10 hours and six hours of AI-related training are provided each academic year for information technology teachers and non-information technology teachers, respectively. The training comprises three components – expert-led frontier technology training, thematic training roadshows by higher education institutions, and school-based training; with six domains – AI-assisted teaching, learning, research, assessment, student development and management; and 24 thematic scenarios for applying AI in education.

Patriotic Education

To mark the 80th Anniversary of Victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War, the MSAR Government, in collaboration with the education and youth sectors, established an organising committee to conduct a series of commemorative activities.

The DSEDJ organised visits for approximately 35,000 teachers, students and young people to a themed exhibition organised by the MSAR Government with support from the Museum of the War of Chinese People's Resistance Against Japanese Aggression; arranged for around 60,000 teachers, students and young people to watch the live broadcast of the commemorative assembly; introduced the "War of Resistance and Macao" history teaching resources, reaching approximately 85,000 students; organised exchange activities such as the Red Roots Cultural Journey and Macao Youth Visiting the Motherland, seminars, exhibitions and essay competitions, and produced themed educational video programmes, to consolidate the foundation of patriotism and love for Macao, and strengthening national identity and a sense of pride.

With support from and promotion by the Central Government, in 2025 the first Patriotic Education Base for Hong Kong and Macao Youth was established at the Museum of the War of Chinese People's Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, in Beijing. Macao also established its first Patriotic Education Base for Youth and a training base on overall national security in the

Chinese mainland, in Weihai, Shandong Province, deepening patriotic exchanges and cultivating a sense of national identity.

To further develop patriotic education, in 2025 the DSEDJ rolled out a wide array of activities, including the commemoration of the May Fourth Movement anniversary and the Flag-raising Ceremony for the May Fourth Youth Day for Macao Students; a military summer camp for young Macao students; the experiential education camps for junior secondary one students, and the Patriotism Education Camp for junior secondary Year-1 students, complementing the long-established education camps on national defence for junior secondary two students and the outdoor education camp for junior secondary three students, providing students with a new camping learning experience in patriotic education. In the 2024/2025 academic year, more than 14,700 students participated in these activities. The Study Tour to the Guangdong-Macao In-depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin was organised for senior secondary Year-1 students, to deepen their understanding and knowledge of the Cooperation Zone, attracting over 3,500 students participating in the 2024/2025 academic year. The competitions on foreign affairs knowledge for young people were again held, to enhance young people's understanding of Chinese diplomacy and the motherland.

Regarding curricula and teaching materials, in 2024 the DSEDJ completed the revisions of the Framework of Formal Education Curriculum and Requirements for Basic Academic Aptitude for certain subjects. For subjects that explicitly involve values – such as History and Moral and Civic Education – elements of Chinese culture, the Constitution and the Macao Basic Law, and national security education were strengthened. The revised framework was implemented at all levels of primary and junior secondary education starting from the 2025/2026 school year. In addition, the DSEDJ co-published a book about China's foreign policy in collaboration with the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in order to allow students to get better understanding of diplomacy knowledge and the country's foreign policy. In the 2025/2026 academic year, the revised Macao History and supplementary teaching materials on the National Flag, National Emblem, and National Anthem of the People's Republic of China, as well as the Regional Flag and Emblem of the MSAR, were published.

To continue deepening education on the national flag, national emblem and national anthem, non-tertiary institutions and tertiary institutions are required to display or raise the national flag on teaching days. The DSEDJ established the Macao Student Flag-raising Team in 2019; in the 2025/2026 academic year this comprised 120 students from 36 secondary schools and tertiary institutions. The DSEDJ continued to invite the Macao Garrison of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) to co-organise the National Flag Bearer Training Day Camp, with 173 secondary and tertiary students participating in 2025.

In 2025, the youth patriotic education base added a new exhibition with the theme “Rooted in Education, Love for China”, with upgrades to interactive installations and exhibits to deepen students' understanding of the history, culture and achievements of the country and Macao, and the latest developments in patriotic education in Macao. From its inauguration till December 2025, the youth patriotic education base received more than 510,000 visitors for learning activities. Also, an extended education programme to promote patriotism continued at the base, integrating a focus on Macao history learning and teaching resources. More than 39,300 students from 65 secondary and primary schools had participated in the programme as at December 2025. The Pavilion of

Patriotism attracted some 10,400 visitors or users in 2025.

As for tertiary institutions, all undergraduate programmes since the 2024/2025 academic year have included courses on the Constitution and the Macao Basic Law. Various activities on patriotism have been carried out through Macao's Higher Education Institutions Joint Flag Raising Ceremony, training, lectures and activities related to national affairs for teaching and non-teaching staff and students.

Integration with National Development

In higher education, the SAR Government designated the Macao–Hengqin International Education (University) Town as one of four major projects, formulated plans for and made progress towards the first phase of three public higher education institutions extending their operations into the Guangdong-Macao In-depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin. Work on preparing for the extensions was already underway at each institution. On 12 December 2025, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the University of Macau campus in the Cooperation Zone.

To promote the transformation of innovative outcomes and university-industry collaboration, the MSAR Government, together with the Ministry of Education, actively prepared for the Macao Sub-Centre for Traditional Chinese Medicine of the Regional University-Industry Technology Transfer Centre (Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area), and a plaque unveiling ceremony was held in both Macao and Hengqin on 12 December 2025.

The MSAR Government has established a school for Macao children, which is a part of the Macao New Neighbourhood project in Hengqin and complies with the relevant regulations of Chinese mainland, prioritises enrolment by Macao residents living in the Macao New Neighbourhood, and has the characteristics of the Macao curriculum, with the same academic qualifications as Macao. The school commenced operations in the 2024/2025 academic year; there was progress in developing a related legal framework to provide institutional protection for schools for Macao children in the Guangdong-Macao In-depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, ensuring that subsidies for free education and welfare benefits for teachers and students are provided in accordance with Macao's non-tertiary education system, thereby improving alignment between the Macao and Hengqin education systems. Through interdepartmental collaboration, the Macao-Hengqin cross-boundary school bus service for students was officially launched, facilitating customs clearance and commuting for schoolchildren, and promoting coordinated integration in Macao-Hengqin livelihood-related affairs.

The DSEDJ has been actively fostering the establishment of sister schools between Macao schools and schools in other regions. As of December 2025, there were 702 sister schools in Macao, including 644 paired with sister schools in 28 provinces and municipalities in the Chinese mainland, and 297 paired with sister schools spanning all cities in the Greater Bay Area (including Hong Kong). At present, each school in Macao has paired up with at least one sister school in the Chinese mainland; the sister schools programme now includes all cities in the Greater Bay Area, thus achieving full coverage of the Greater Bay Area.

The DSEDJ continued supporting Macao youth associations with signing cooperation agreements with their counterparts in the Greater Bay Area. By December 2025, a cumulative total of 44

cooperation agreements had been signed between youth associations in Macao and their counterparts in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area; 83 cooperation agreements had been signed between youth associations in Macao and their counterparts in the Chinese mainland and abroad. The DSEDJ continues organising and promoting student exchange activities at various levels, including Chinese traditional culture tours, the Greater Bay Area science and technology innovation visits for outstanding Macao university students, the Greater Bay Area education camps for Macao students, and cultural tours for Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao young people.

In 2025, the DSEDJ organised and subsidised approximately 640 exchange tours for teachers, students and young people to the Chinese mainland, involving 29,000 participants. Of these, around 310 tours were to the Greater Bay Area, involving 13,000 participants, and 80 trips were to Hengqin, involving 8,500 participants.

To enrich the Greater Bay Area Youth Information Platform, the DSEDJ continued cooperating with youth associations in 2025, to share information with young people, such as on life in the Greater Bay Area, cultural and recreational activities, employment, entrepreneurship, and major policies through the Facebook page “Let’s Talk About the Bay Area”, the Instagram page “Bay Chit Chat”, and the WeChat official account.

Science Popularisation

The DSEDJ continued organising and supporting various inter-school competitions and activities. In 2025, more than 5,000 students participated in 19 competitions and activities. Teams representing Macao schools won 31 awards in international competitions.

Since the 2022/2023 academic year, the DSEDJ, in collaboration with the Macao Science Centre, launched the Science Popularisation and Education Pilot Programme, to introduce diverse interdisciplinary science exploration activities. The programme was officially rolled out in the 2023/2024 academic year, and in the 2024/2025 academic year, its target group was fully expanded to cover students at the lower primary, upper primary and junior secondary levels. The programme provided primary and secondary students with opportunities to experience science and technology learning outside school, engaging over 13,129 students across 67 school sections.

In order to strengthen the cultivation of talents in science and technology, the DSEDJ worked with the Macao Science Center to launch the Youth Science and Technology Village in 2023/2024. Specialised training programmes will be launched in shared laboratories and shared spaces of the Science Centre for a period of three years, and researchers and engineers from tertiary institutions and science and technology enterprises will be invited to serve as instructors who identify and nurture students with potential in science and technology. In the 2024/2025 academic year, 337 study tours, visits and training were organised, with an enrolment of 185 students from 40 schools.

In support of the MSAR Government’s integrated development strategy of “Education, Science and Technology, and Talent”, the DSEDJ, together with the Macao Science Center, promoted science popularisation on artificial intelligence (AI), established a framework for community-based general education on artificial intelligence, and supported the development of AI education across all learning stages. In 2025, the Science Center conducted over 600 training sessions and hosted several series of public lectures on AI, serving more than 17,800 participants. It also collaborated

with associations to bring AI knowledge into the community, schools and families.

To enhance young people's digital literacy, raise their awareness regarding avoiding scams and cybersecurity, leverage AI to seize digital opportunities, and promote youth exchanges in the Greater Bay Area, the DSEDJ, together with the Judiciary Police and the Hong Kong Police Force, again organised the Greater Bay Area Youth AI and CyberSec Challenge.

To celebrate the China Space Day that is held on 24 April each year, and to enhance Macao students' understanding of the development of the country's space industry and science popularisation work, thereby increasing their sense of mission regarding the country, the DSEDJ organised thematic activities for the China Space Day 2025, attracting over 5,800 participants.

To enable Macao residents, especially young students, to experience the country's achievements and to strengthen national pride as well as confidence in science and technology, in 2025 the MSAR Government and the China National Space Administration (CNSA) jointly presented the exhibition "Endless Exploration: The Journey of Chinese Aerospace, Aviation and Navigation", jointly organised by the DSEDJ, the News Center of CNSA, and the CNSA Lunar Exploration and Aerospace Engineering Center, curated by the Macao Science Center. For the first time in Macao, lunar soil from the far side of the Moon was displayed. Together with key exhibits related to aviation and maritime endeavours, the exhibition enabled the public to appreciate the country's scientific and technological achievements and inspired young students' enthusiasm for exploration. During the exhibition period, 125 guided tours were provided, with approximately 20,800 participants.

Nurturing Portuguese-speaking Interdisciplinary Talent

In order to comprehensively nurture Portuguese-speaking interdisciplinary talents, in the 2023/2024 academic year the DSEDJ set up a new system for further studies in Portugal, providing further studies and on-site counselling, along with expanding channels for further studies, and measures such as grant schemes, to fully assist students who intend to develop towards a professional career in Portuguese-speaking interdisciplinary fields with furthering their studies in Portugal. The DSEDJ continued to actively support Portuguese language education in both non-tertiary and tertiary institutions.

Regarding non-tertiary education, the DSEDJ continued to deepen the development of a 'through-train' Portuguese public school, offering Chinese-Portuguese translation courses and bilingual classes, compiling teaching materials and learning resources, supporting schools with conducting Portuguese language courses and activities through the Education Fund, and encouraging students to participate in Portuguese proficiency tests. During the 2023/2024 academic year, the DSEDJ launched the Portuguese Language Starter Programme, to provide various levels of Portuguese language courses, economic and trade courses related to Portuguese-speaking countries, Portuguese cultural experiential activities, summer camps and preparatory classes for Portuguese language proficiency tests for secondary school students. In the 2025/2026 academic year, 172 secondary school students were admitted to the programme.

To expand opportunities for students to pursue higher education in Portugal, in 2024 the DSEDJ signed an agreement for cooperation in conducting Portuguese language examinations for Macao

students with the Catholic University of Portugal, and introduced the Tertiary Education Programme for Macao students at the Catholic University of Portugal.

Previously, the DSEDJ signed a cooperation agreement with the University of Porto (Portugal) and the Portuguese Society of the Orient (Portugal), regarding co-organising the Tertiary Education Programme at the University of Porto for Macao Students starting from the 2020/2021 academic year. As of the 2025/2026 academic year, a total of 57 students had enrolled in these programmes in the universities. Additionally, the Higher Education Financial Assistance Scheme - Studying in Portugal was implemented, benefiting 55 students in the 2024/2025 academic year.

Regarding tertiary education, Macao's tertiary institutions have increasingly diversified their Portuguese language programmes. In the 2025/2026 academic year, approximately 20 Portuguese language courses were offered across five institutions, with over 1,500 registered students. The DSEDJ, in collaboration with these five tertiary institutions, has established the Alliance for Qualified Bilingual Staff Training in Chinese and Portuguese Languages, and organised three editions of the Forum for Heads of Higher Education Institutions of China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries (Macao). The Education Fund also provides financial support to private tertiary institutions, to promote and facilitate the cultivation of Chinese-Portuguese bilingual talent, cooperative education, and inter-institutional or regional collaborative exchanges.

Arts Education

In 2025, the DSEDJ again held the Inter-school Arts Competition (Dance, Drama and Singing), Students Popular Arts Education Scheme and the Arts Education Snowball Project, and assisted in organising the National Art Troupes Performance Season in Macao, with workshops on various themes held concurrently, to enhance students' knowledge and appreciation of arts, attracting about 33,200 participants.

Youth Affairs

Youth Affairs Council

The Youth Affairs Council is a consultative body that is responsible for providing professional advice and recommendations on formulating youth policies, and evaluating the results of their implementation. The DSEDJ provides necessary skills and administrative and financial assistance to the Council. The council held four plenary meetings in 2025 and, in accordance with the Regulations on Presentation of Youth Awards, presented the 2024 Youth Activity Awards and Civic Education Awards.

Macao Youth Policy

The Macao Youth Policy (2021-2030) was promulgated and implemented in 2021. The cross-departmental follow-up group regarding the Macao Youth Policy continues leveraging the synergy. In 2025, the group coordinated 21 departments under the five secretariats, as well as tertiary institutions, to implement 430 action plans. The "Basic Law for Teens" – law promotion month targeting

teenagers featured more than 30 online and offline events, attracting about 137,000 participants, with the target audience expanded to include undergraduate students in tertiary institutions. Social experience activities in Zhuhai and Guangdong-Macao In-depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin continued being organised.

In 2025, the DSEDJ conducted a mid-term review of the policy, to evaluate the first phase and recommend improvements. The study findings will be released in 2026.

Youth Indicators and Studies

The DSEDJ continuously follows up on research and collection of information related to Macao Youth Indicators. The results of the Social Survey on Macao Youth Indicators 2024 were released in June 2025. The survey covered 45 indicators in ten domains of the Macao Youth Indicators System, targeting young people aged between 13 years and 35 years, with a total of 2,350 valid questionnaires collected. The full report and executive summary were uploaded to the thematic website.

Youth Activities and Sponsorships

In 2025, to widely gather young people's views and enhance their participation in social development, the Advisory Group for the Social Development of Young People and the Advisory Group for Regional and International Youth Participation were established. The Meeting with Young People series was held on a regular basis, attracting about 710 participants. Arrangements were made for 90 young students to sit in Government advisory meetings, with mechanisms for interactions and feedback. The 2024 Young Volunteers Awards Programme presented a total of 582 awards, with the total service time of the award-winning young volunteers exceeding 120,000 hours.

In 2025, the DSEDJ launched the Annual Funding Plan for Activities for Integrated Student Development and the Scheme to Fund Annual Training for Youth Associations. The funding areas include: patriotism, integration into overall national development, career and life planning, student and youth exchanges, physical and mental well-being, diversified talent development, social participation, social inclusion, comprehensive abilities and competitiveness. A total of 110 tertiary student societies, tertiary institutions, youth organisations, and other organisations were granted funding for the year, to conduct a total of 453 activities.

In 2025, the DSEDJ continued the Macao Youth Professional Development Programme, which promotes and supports enterprises to appoint a certain number of young people with potential to be seconded to their branch offices in Chinese mainland or other countries for workplace learning each year. Twelve large local enterprises were invited to participate in the programme, together with 32 outstanding young staff members – in businesses sectors such as tourism and entertainment, hotels and financial services.

Activities Supporting Students' Diversified Development

The DSEDJ organises a variety of student competitions and activities every year and cooperates with several associations and organisations to arrange competitions and activities related to culture, sports

and professional skills. It also sends school delegations to national and international competitions.

Regarding sports, the DSEDJ, the Guangdong Provincial Department of Education and the Education Bureau of Hong Kong SAR, have jointly organised the Greater Bay Area Schools Sports Competition annually since 2024. In 2025, the DSEDJ organised a Macao inter-school badminton delegation with 14 athletes and two academics to head to Shenzhen, to participate in a competition and a symposium; and sent a 20-member volleyball delegation to Jiangmen for a competition.

To promote students' physical and mental health, as well as the Healthy Campus initiative, the DSEDJ launched the "Vibrant School" Programme in the 2024/2025 academic year. In its inaugural year, 65 school units received commendations.

In terms of further education and career development, in 2025, the DSEDJ launched the Student Career Blueprint Programme, to provide information on further education and career development through a variety of approaches. More than 630 activities were held, with over 31,300 people participating. The Chinese Mainland and Macao Higher Education Exhibition reached its largest scale on record, with 133 higher education institutions from the Chinese mainland and Macao participating. The expo featured 20 programme briefing sessions and added 18 alumni sharing sessions. More than 81,800 visitors attended the physical exhibition and seminars, and browsed the website.

Regarding youth exchanges, internships and support in gaining employment: the DSEDJ actively built exchange and internship platforms to broaden young people's horizons and networks. In 2025, the Macao Internship Programme was expanded to include Macao students and fresh graduates aged 18 to 35; the quota for the Macao Tertiary Students Chinese Mainland Internship Programme was increased to 520 places, with the addition of a one-off allowance of 5,000 patacas for those who completed their internships. To support the employment of fresh graduates, the DSEDJ, together with the Labour Affairs Bureau and associations, organised the Macao Youth Employment Matching Fair and the Macao Youth Pre-employment Job Fair. More than 60 enterprises offered over 300 types of positions, providing more than 1,100 vacancies. The job fair featured 17 seminars and coaching sessions, with cumulative participation by over 5,400 young people.

The DSEDJ and the Labour Affairs Bureau co-organised, for the first time, the Plan to Provide Financial Support for Professional Careers of Young Macao People in the Greater Bay Area, providing each young person who takes up employment in any of the nine Chinese mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area or the Guangdong-Macao In-depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin with a monthly allowance of 5,000 patacas for up to 18 months. Two job fairs were held accordingly, in June 2025, in Guangzhou and Macao, matching fresh graduates from higher education institutions with Chinese mainland enterprises.

Youth and Student Facilities and Services

In 2025, the Cheok Van Youth Hostel (Campsite) – as a new ancillary facility of the Cheok Van Youth Hostel, along with the Hac Sa Youth Hostel and Hac Sa Youth Activities Development Base, welcomed 5,700 users. More than 14,000 people used the study rooms administered by DSEDJ that were open to the public in Fai Chi Kei and Ilha Verda.

The DSEDJ's Experiential Centre for Young People, Outer Harbour Youth Centre and Bairro do Hipodromo Youth Centre continued organising activities that help young people to grow, together with providing youth counselling services and training for volunteers. The service centre for university students provides comprehensive services to tertiary students and people who intend to pursue further studies. During 2025, about 788,000 people participated in the activities and used the facilities at the three youth centres.

The Bairro do Hipodromo Youth Centre continued providing night services till 2 am, to meet the needs of young people at different times of the day. The Juvenile Arts Exhibition and Performance Hall, which is under DSEDJ's administration, held 46 exhibitions and performances throughout the year, attracting 17,800 participants.

The DSEDJ has continued optimising the "Working Group for Caring for the Mental and Physical Health of Young People - Carrying Love", strengthening a protective shield for the physical and mental health of young people through joint prevention, control and coordination mechanisms. The DSEDJ organised regular teacher training to enhance teachers' awareness of psychological crises and improve their counselling skills. The student counselling team comprised more than 410 members. In the 2025/2026 academic year, a counselling hotline and an online consultation platform were introduced, to provide timely professional support. Moreover, the DSEDJ enhanced promotions of physical and mental health through collaborating with various departments, educational organisations and sectors of the community, and continuously refined its working mechanism and communication support.

Tertiary Education

Macao's modern tertiary education is flourishing. At present, there are 10 tertiary institutions in Macao – four public and six private institutions. 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 tertiary education system to offer tertiary institutions autonomy and flexibility, strengthen and enhance their standard of governance, provide sufficient resources for the overall development of tertiary education, foster the continuous improvement of education quality, and continue promoting the sustainable development of tertiary education.

In line with the Second Five-Year Plan for Economic and Social Development of the MSAR Government (2021-2025) and the Development Plan for Appropriate Economic Diversification of the Macao Special Administrative Region (2024-2028), the MSAR Government supported Macao's tertiary institutions in focusing on developing disciplines including integrated tourism and leisure, traditional Chinese medicine and major healthcare, modern financial services, high-tech, transformation of traditional industries, convention and exhibition business, and culture and sports, in response to social development trends and the demands of industrial development.

Tertiary institutions have expanded both the number of programmes offered and the breadth of disciplinary coverage, while actively promoting scientific research and innovation as well as

cooperation between the industrial, academic and research sectors in areas such as integrated circuits, Chinese medicine and smart city Internet of Things (IoT).

The Outline Plan for Medium and Long-term Development of Higher Education in Macao (2021-2030) set out three overall goals – “constructing a platform for cultivating outstanding talents”, “constructing a platform for leading academic research”, and “constructing a platform for serving the development of the Macao SAR”, and established eight development directions covering medium and long-term measures related to institutional mechanisms, scale, resources, quality assurance, student development, professional standards of staff, innovative research and regional collaboration.

In 2025, the DSEDJ commenced a mid-term review of the Outline Plan, evaluating the implementation of its indicators and updating subsequent directions in the light of domestic and international trends in higher education development. The findings will be released in 2026.

During the 2025/2026 academic year, there were 3,685 teaching staff and 67,332 registered students in Macao’s tertiary education institutions, which offered 409 programmes – including doctorate, master’s and bachelor’s degree programmes, postgraduate certificates and higher diploma (including associate degree) programmes.

In addition, overseas institutions were granted approval to offer a total of nine tertiary educational programmes in Macao in 2025.

Caring for Macao Students Studying Outside Macao

In 2025, the DSEDJ further strengthened the care and support for Macao tertiary students pursuing studies outside Macao, through aiming to better understand their academic progress and adaptations to daily life. During the year, the DSEDJ met with approximately 300 Macao students studying in the Chinese mainland, Portugal and Germany to learn about their study and living conditions. A care programme for Macao tertiary students studying outside Macao was launched in the 2025/2026 academic year.

Processing Applications to Launch, Revise and Register Programmes

In 2025, the DSEDJ processed 83 applications from Macao tertiary educational institutions wishing to register new programmes or revise old ones; 54 of these applications were approved, 27 were being assessed, and two were cancelled. The bureau also handled eight applications from overseas tertiary educational institutions seeking to establish, revise or continue running programmes in Macao; five of these applications were approved and three were cancelled.

Promoting Exchanges and Cooperation in Tertiary Education

The DSEDJ 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.

With approval from the Ministry of Education, in 2025, 20 tertiary institutions including Nankai University, Fudan University, Zhejiang University, Xiamen University, Huaqiao University, Fuzhou University, Wuhan University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Huazhong Normal University, Hubei University, China University of Geosciences, Central South University, Sun Yat-sen University, Jinan University, South China Normal University, Guangzhou University, South China University of Technology, South China Agricultural University, Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen), and Xi'an Jiaotong University could admit Macao students based on the results of the Joint Admission Examination for Four Higher Education Institutions in Macao.

In addition, the DSEDJ 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. Starting from 2018, 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.

In 2025, the DSEDJ actively coordinated with tertiary institutions to promote tertiary education in Macao, including by organising universities to visit the Chinese mainland to organise the Macao Higher Education Promotion Day and educational seminars, and participate in education fairs, as well as visiting and participating in education fairs in Malaysia, Portugal, Vietnam and Brazil.

Coordination of Chinese Mainland Student Enrolments in Programmes of Macao Tertiary Educational Institutions

During the 2025/2026 academic year, with approval from the Ministry of Education, the University of Macau, Macao Polytechnic University, Macao University of Tourism, 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 the Chinese mainland. The University of Saint Joseph was permitted to recruit postgraduate students from the Chinese mainland on a trial basis, starting from the 2021/2022 academic year.

During the 2025/2026 academic year, newly registered students from the Chinese mainland who applied to the above-mentioned tertiary educational institutions in Macao totalled 15,976 individuals, of whom 2,758 enrolled in doctorate degree programmes, 7,238 in master's degree programmes, 5,661 in bachelor's degree programmes and 319 in university foundation courses.

Coordinating the Admission of Macao Students to Chinese Mainland Tertiary Institutions

The DSEDJ is one of the bodies that process the admission of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan undergraduates and postgraduates to Chinese mainland tertiary educational institutions.

In the 2025/2026 academic year, 134 students sat the Joint Examination for Admission to Chinese Mainland Universities (Macao) and 1,413 sat the examinations for admission of students

by recommendation to undergraduate programmes, resulting in six students being admitted through the former, and 1,301 students admitted through the latter. In 2025, 270 students were admitted to Chinese mainland universities through their results in the Joint Admission Examination for Four Higher Education Institutions in Macao. Also, 329 students sat examinations for admission to postgraduate programmes in tertiary educational institutions in the Chinese mainland; 175 of them were admitted.

Stationery Allowance for Tertiary Students

The Education Fund has established the Stationery Allowance for Tertiary Students. Eligible students (Macao identity card holders who are enrolled in degree programmes at recognised higher education institutions, or in higher education programmes lasting no less than two years in Macao or abroad) may receive 3,300 patacas upon approval. As of December 2025, 25,717 students had benefited from the allowance during the 2024/2025 academic year.

CET4 and CET6 English examinations in Macao

CET4 and CET6 written tests were held in 2025, with a total of 3,824 candidates in Macao sitting for the tests in June, including 1,791 sitting for the CET4 test and 2,033 candidates sitting for the CET6 test; while 5,846 candidates sat for the tests in December, including 3,063 candidates sitting for the CET4 test and 2,783 candidates sitting for the CET6 test. Test centres included the University of Macau, Macao Polytechnic University, Macau University of Science and Technology, City University of Macau and Kiang Wu Nursing College of Macau. The latter became an examination venue in the second half of 2025, and held its first examination in December.

Tertiary Education Quality Assurance

The Government established a quality assurance expert group in 2019, comprising experts from around the world with extensive experience in higher education quality assurance. As a consultative body, the expert group provides professional advice to support Macao tertiary institutions with establishing and optimising quality assurance mechanisms, ensuring continuous improvements, strengthening recognition and remaining aligned with international standards.

Tertiary institutions continued their assessment work in accordance with Macao's regulations and quality assurance framework. In 2025, the DSEDJ endorsed 32 course reviews and 20 course certifications, and exempted four courses from reviews.

The DSEDJ continued to organise quality-assuring training for teaching staff and promoted effective implementation of the quality assurance system. It also strengthened connections with quality assurance organisations and assessment institutions around the world, keeping abreast with the latest development trends and promoting Macao's tertiary education quality assurance practices to relevant parties, to create favourable conditions for future collaboration.

Verification of Qualifications

The DSEDJ replied to queries from government departments and members of the public regarding

tertiary education and qualification verification. In 2025, the DSEDJ handled 19 written queries from government departments. It also handled a total of 87 queries from the public, of which 82 were received by telephone, and five by e-mail.

Annual Funding Plan for Macao Higher Education Institutions

In 2022, the DSEDJ set up the Annual Funding Plan for Higher Education Institutions, as a vehicle to subsidise private higher education institutions for equipment purchases, professional development of teaching and research staff, collaborative development programmes, and quality assessments of higher education. It supports private higher education institutions in launching development projects with non-regular operating expenses, to constantly elevate the operations of higher education institutions. During the application period for the first phase of the Annual Funding Plan for Higher Education Institutions for the 2025/2026 academic year, six private tertiary institutions submitted applications for subsidies, involving grants totalling about 62.52 million patacas.

Tertiary Educational Institutions

University of Macau

Founded in 1981, the University of Macau (UM) is a comprehensive research-oriented public university of international standing. The university has a multicultural campus and a modern governance model, with 80 percent of its faculty members coming from outside Macao, and English as the primary medium of instruction. The university and its residential college system complement each other in implementing a whole-person approach to education.

UM's teaching units include the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Faculty of Business Administration, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Health Sciences, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Science and Technology, Faculty of Social Sciences, Honours College, Graduate School, and Centre for Continuing Education. Its research institutes and centres include the Institute of Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences, the Institute of Applied Physics and Materials Engineering, the Institute of Chinese Medical Sciences, the Institute of Collaborative Innovation, the Institute of Microelectronics, the Asia-Pacific Academy of Economics and Management, and the Centre for Macao Studies. The university also houses three state key laboratories, which focus on microelectronics, Chinese medicine, and Internet of Things (IoT) for smart city. The university has signed collaboration agreements with over 350 tertiary institutions from more than 40 countries and regions, and has launched joint talent nurturing programmes and set up joint laboratories in collaboration with a number of renowned local and overseas universities.

UM was ranked 145th in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings, 14th in the THE Young University Rankings and 34th in the THE Asia University Rankings, and 285th in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings. Also, the university was among the top one percent in the Essential Science Indicators (ESI) database in 16 fields – Engineering, Materials Science, Computer Science, Chemistry, Clinical Medicine, Pharmacology and Toxicology, Psychiatry/Psychology, Social Sciences (General), Biology and Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Genetics, Agricultural Sciences, Economics and Business, Environment/ Ecology, Neuroscience

and Behaviour, Geosciences, and Mathematics.

During the 2025/2026 academic year, UM offered a total of 129 programmes, including doctoral, master's, bachelor's degree programmes, and postgraduate certificate/diploma programmes. It had 800 faculty members and 16,800 registered students.

Macao Polytechnic University

Established in 1981, the Macao Polytechnic University is a public integrated university adopting an applied academic approach. It comprises the School of Applied Science, School of Health Sciences and Sports, School of Languages and Translation, School of Art and Design, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and School of Management Science. It houses the first Engineering Research Centre established in Hong Kong and Macao by approval of the Ministry of Education, along with several research platforms. The university conducts interdisciplinary research in major areas such as technology and innovation, Chinese-Portuguese-English translation, environmental protection, intangible cultural heritage, tourism and leisure, 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.

The Macao Polytechnic University is the first tertiary institution in Asia that has passed the assessment of the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA), the only tertiary institution in the country to have received the Asia Pacific Quality Award four times, and the first and only tertiary institution in Macao to receive the National Teaching Achievement Award for Tertiary Education for two consecutive years. It was ranked between 901st-950th globally and 402nd among Asian universities in the QS World University Rankings, globally ranked between 301st and 400th in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, and was ranked among the world's top 100 universities for several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including Quality Education, Sustainable Cities and Communities, Decent Work and Economic Growth, and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

During the 2025/2026 academic year, the Macao Polytechnic University offered 47 doctoral, master's and bachelor's degree, and joint postgraduate diploma programmes. It had 8,000 registered students.

Macao University of Tourism (UTM)

The Macao University of Tourism (UTM), formerly known as the Institute for Tourism Studies, is a public tertiary education institution, and was established in 1995. It offers undergraduate programme, postgraduate diploma, master's and doctoral degree programmes, and professional training in a wide range of culture, tourism and hospitality management related disciplines such as hotels, tourism, culture and heritage, conventions and exhibitions, leisure and entertainment, sports and recreation, creative and cultural studies, culinary arts, food and beverage, business, marketing and branding, communications, and languages. The institute also collaborates with internationally renowned institutions to offer advanced management programmes.

In 2019, the UTM was approved by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism to be designated as a

trustee unit of the Tourism Education and Training Base for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. It undertakes responsibilities for tourism training and talent development, providing professional training services to tourism authorities and enterprises.

The UTM has been recognised as one of the world's top tertiary institutions in the field of tourism and hospitality management, and for several years was ranked in the top of the QS World University Rankings for the subject of Hospitality and Leisure Management. In 2025, it was ranked 13th globally, third in Asia and first in Macao.

During the 2025/2026 academic year, the institute offered 25 doctoral, master's, bachelor's degree programmes, and postgraduate diploma programmes, and higher diploma courses, with 2,304 registered students enrolled in 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 2025/2026 academic year, the school offered four bachelor's degree programmes. There were 18 teachers on campus, and 93 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 Institute for Research on Portuguese-Speaking Countries and the Data Science Research Centre.

The City University of Macau also has the Research Centre for Macau Social and Economic Development, the Institute of Economic Research, the Institute for Research on Macau Education Development, the Institute of Smart Tourism Research, Macao Belt and Road Research Centre and the Institute of Analytical Psychology.

The doctoral, master's and bachelor's degree courses in tourism management were awarded the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) TedQual Certification.

During the 2025/2026 academic year, the university offered 48 doctoral, master's and bachelor's degree programmes. It had 784 teaching staff, and 12,567 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 non-profit making private Catholic University. The university has faculties of Education, Arts and Humanities, Business and Law, Health Science, Religious Studies and Philosophy, Data Engineering and Science, and an Institute of Science and Environment.

In the 2025/2026 academic year, the university offered 39 doctoral, master's and bachelor's degrees, as well as postgraduate diploma programmes. It had 127 teaching staff and 1,380 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, master's, doctoral degree and postgraduate certificate and diploma programmes in nursing and health sciences.

During the 2025/2026 academic year, the college offered five doctoral, master's and bachelor's degrees. It had 61 teaching staff and 885 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 private integrated university since the founding of the Macao SAR. The university comprises the Faculty of Innovation Engineering, School of Business, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Chinese Medicine, Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Faculty of Humanities and Arts, Faculty of Medicine (School of Pharmacy inclusive), University International College, School of Liberal Arts and Department of General Education.

It has also established the State Key Laboratory of Quality Research in Chinese Medicine, the State Key Laboratory of Lunar and Planetary Science, and several research institutes and research centres, including the Institute for Social and Cultural Research, the National Observation and Research Station of Coastal Ecological Environments in Macao, 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 2025, the university was ranked among the 251st – 300th universities in the latest World University Rankings by Times Higher Education.

During the 2025/2026 academic year, the university offered 106 doctoral, master's and bachelor's degree programmes. It had 1,128 teaching staff and 24,241 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 management 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 2025/2026 academic year. It had 41 teaching staff and 256 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. The college has a Department of Business Administration and a Continuing Education Centre.

During the 2025/2026 academic year, the college offered two bachelor's degree and higher diploma (associate degree) programmes, taught by 30 teaching staff, with 169 registered students.

Note: The statistics on teaching staff, students and programmes of Macao tertiary educational institutions for the 2025/2026 academic year are preliminary. They were provided by the DSEDJ, other than those for the University of Macau, Macao Polytechnic University, Macao University of Tourism, and the Academy of Macao Public Security Forces.



**Commemorating the 80th
Anniversary of Victory in the
Chinese People's War of Resistance**





In 2025, to commemorate the 80th anniversary of victory in the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War, the Macao SAR, in line with the country's related arrangements, held a series of activities around the theme "Remember History, Honour Fallen Heroes, Cherish Peace, and Create a Better Future". With the support of the Museum of the War of Chinese People's Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, these included a thematic exhibition — "For National Liberation and World Peace – Thematic Exhibition Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Victory in the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War", which was held from 25 August to 24 September. Through precious historical materials on the heroic chapter of the Chinese people's war of resistance, Macao residents — especially the younger generation — deeply appreciated the great significance of the victory of the War of Resistance and carried forward the indomitable national spirit.