FAQ for JUPAS Students

**Admission Requirements**

1. Minimum Admission Requirements

   a) 4 Cores

      - Chinese Language: Level 3
      - English Language: Level 3
      - Maths. (Compulsory Module): Level 3
      - Liberal Studies: Level 2

   b) Electives

      - Elective 1: Level 3
      - Elective 2 or M1/ M2: Level 3

   School-specific Requirements
   One of: Biology / Chemistry / Physics / ICT / Combined Science

2. Subject Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HKDSE Levels</th>
<th>5**</th>
<th>5*</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. **Subject Weighting**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Weightings</th>
<th>Weighted score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>x 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics (Compulsory)</td>
<td>x 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Science elective (Biology/ Chemistry/ Physics/ Combined Science)</td>
<td>x 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Or</td>
<td>x 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best 2 other subjects (M1/M2)</td>
<td>x 1.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>any other subjects</td>
<td>x 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final score</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sum of the above 5 weighted scores</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **Bonus Points**

Extra electives, Other Experience and Achievements in competitions, interview performance will be awarded bonus points.

**Dean of Engineering Scholarship for JUPAS Students (2019 intake)**

To recognize the outstanding academic performance of students joining the School, the Dean of Engineering Scholarship is offered to students admitted via JUPAS scheme.

1. **Award to students with at least one 5**
   *(The University’s JUPAS scholarship scheme award is included in the amounts indicated below)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HKDSE attainments in one sitting</th>
<th>Total amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 subjects or above with 5**</td>
<td>Full Tuition + $55,000 (renewable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 subjects with 5**</td>
<td>Full Tuition + $27,500 (renewable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 subjects with 5**</td>
<td>Full Tuition + $40,000 (one-off)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 subjects with 5**</td>
<td>Full Tuition (one-off)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 subjects with 5**</td>
<td>$30,000 (one-off)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 subject with 5**</td>
<td>$20,000 (one-off)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. **Additional award to students with 5* in 2 subjects or more**

An extended scholarship scheme is available to students who obtain 5* in 2 or more subjects in one sitting. Each 5* subject will be awarded $5,000 on top of the scholarship scheme described in the table above for 5** subjects. For example, a student with 5* in two subjects will qualify for this extended scheme, and be awarded a scholarship of $10,000. And a student with one 5** and one 5* will be awarded $25,000.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

1. **How will you calculate my score for admission criteria? What is the formula used? What subjects are a must? Will extracurricular activities or special skills (e.g. sportsmanship/ musical talent) be counted?**

For admission to SENG, students must first fulfill the minimum admission requirements, as defined above. For calculating the admission score, we require three subjects (English, Math, & one Science elective), with each having a weighting of 2. Students may use ICT in lieu of the Science elective, with ICT having a weighting of 1. Other than these three required subjects, the admission score includes any two other subjects: if M1/M2 is used, it has a weighting of 1.5, all else weighting of 1.

Apart from academic performance, student achievements and participation in activities (especially science or engineering related) recorded in Other Experiences and Achievements in Competitions / Activities (OEA) and Student Learning Profile (SLP) will also be considered. In general, bonus of not exceeding 5% will be given based on non-academic performance such as OEA / SLP; admission is largely based on academic results.

2. **Will flexibility be allowed in the admission requirements? Say if I fail a core subject Liberal Studies but do well in other subjects, am I still eligible to apply to SENG?**

The minimum admission requirements reflect our expectation of students’ balanced development in different subjects. However, if a student can demonstrate strong capability in engineering study by having obtained at least 3 stars from STEM subjects, and he/she is marginally below the University’s minimum entrance requirement (i.e. 332233) by no more than one level in one subject, the School of Engineering may consider them for admission on a case-by-case basis. STEM subjects include Mathematics (Compulsory Part), M1, M2, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Combined Science, Integrated Science, Design and Applied Technology, and ICT.

3. **If I take both a science subject and ICT, which will be counted?**

The School takes the best scores that students attained, applying the different weightings for science subject and ICT. In the end, the School will count the best scores and subject combination in calculating the admission scores.

4. **For the first elective, why is ICT’s weighting (x1) lower than the science electives’ weighting (x2)?**

ICT is not classified as a Science subject but a Technology subject according to Education Bureau. Yet we recognize ICT in a way that it can be counted as an alternative to a Science subject. Students who do not take any Science subjects can use ICT to fulfill the Science subject requirement.
5. Will taking Physics/Chemistry/etc. boost my chances of being admitted to SENG? And what about more Advanced Math classes?

Admission to SENG requires one Science elective. If students take more than one Science subject, the best Science subject is counted as the first Science subject with a weighting of 2. The second Science elective can be counted as part of the two other best subjects with a weighting of 1. M1/M2, if used as one of the any two other subjects, has a weighting of 1.5. Hence, students with stronger Math background will have some advantages.

6. Do I get an interview? When?

Yes. Students who show strong interest in engineering over other choices/areas (i.e. Band A choice in JUPAS or preference in other nomination schemes or participation in our summer programs) and reach our academic requirement would likely get an interview opportunity. Interview sessions are usually held in November and May. Shortlisted interviewees will receive invitations by email.

7. How should I prepare for the interview?

The purpose of the interviews is for the School and the students to have better understanding of each other. In interviews, we tend to look at the non-academic side of the students. We hope to learn about students' personality, the way they communicate with people and express themselves, their logical thinking skills, leadership capabilities, etc. from the group interview. The interview is assessment-based but it is not academic related. Students are not required to study hard before the interview. Students who perform well in the interview will receive bonus points, which will be informed individually after evaluation.

8. If I am not invited to an interview, does it mean I have no chance of being admitted by the School?

No. Without interview ≠ no chance of admission, because the School will not interview ALL the students. From our past experience, we admitted students without interviewing them. Getting an interview opportunity is therefore not a prerequisite for admission.

9. If my HKDSE results do not meet the admission requirements, and I retake the exam in the next year, do I still have the chance for admission?

Yes, students can sit for HKDSE again and reapply with their new results. There is no penalty for students taking multiple attempts at HKDSE. For those who do not choose to retake the exam but go to sub-degree programs (e.g. Associate Degree / Higher Diploma), they can enter SENG through direct admission. Students who will have completed only the first year of study in a local sub-degree program can apply for admission to the School for Year 1 entry. Those who will have completed the entire sub-degree program can apply for admission to specific programs directly as places for students with sub-degree qualifications have been reserved by the programs.

10. I have taken HKDSE last year. I'm attending an Associate Degree/Higher Diploma program now and will take the HKDSE exam again this year. Which results will you look at?

It depends on which qualifications you wish to use for applying for admission. If you apply with HKDSE through JUPAS, we would look at your HKDSE results. On the other hand, if you wish to apply to us with your Associate Degree/Higher Diploma program, you should apply to us through the Direct Entry route by submitting the application directly to HKUST. In the case of applying with Associate Degree/Higher Diploma qualification, please note that you can apply for admission to
the School or specific engineering programs, depending on whether you have completed the entire program or not. Please refer to Q.9 above.

11. Can I choose more than one admission route? That is, by both JUPAS and direct admission?

To be fair, each student can only compete in one admission route. You can apply either through JUPAS or Direct Entry.

12. What is the difference between school-based admission and program-based admission?

In program-based admission, students are admitted into individual programs directly. They need to choose the specific programs they wish to join when applying for admission. School-based admission, on the other hand, means that students are admitted to the School of Engineering. These students will have at least one year to explore various programs before they decide on their majors. During this year, students will take the common core curriculum, engineering introduction courses and fundamentals, and receive intensive academic advising to help them explore their interest and decide on their study path. Upon completion of the first year, students will select their major departments within the School, which offers a wide spectrum of engineering programs for students.

Students applying with HKDSE results can apply for school-based admission to the School of Engineering (JUPAS code: JS5200) or for program-based admission to the BSc in Integrative Systems and Design program (JUPAS code: JS5211).

13. What is the planned intake for SENG in 2020?

Our quota for School-based admission for 2020 intake was 699 (including 674 for school-based admission to the School of Engineering and 25 for program-based admission to BSc in Integrative Systems and Design).

14. I need a student visa for studying in Hong Kong but I am going to sit for HKDSE exam in 2020. Can I apply for admission to HKUST through JUPAS?

From 2020 onwards, non-local students (i.e. students who need a student visa to study in Hong Kong) can no longer participate in the JUPAS exercise. Instead, they must apply directly to Universities if they wish to seek admission. For enquiries regarding your status in Hong Kong, please contact the Education Bureau of the Hong Kong SAR Government.

15. Is the Personal Statement important? What kind of information should I provide in the essay?

Personal Statement helps us to understand you better. It is a free writing of student’s idea, but if you are interested in our School, you may elaborate more on the reason why you like engineering or science, achievement in Education Bureau recognized competitions, service performance, etc.

September 2019