



The New Undergraduate Credit Exemption Framework

(Applicable for students from the July 2024 intake)

FAQs for Students

Overview

Credit exemption, commonly referred to as advance standing, pertains to the partial exemption of credit requirements for programme completion. This exemption can be granted through the recognition of prior learning, whether acquired externally or within SUSS, or based on outstanding academic performance.

The allocation of credit exemption to eligible applicants serves to streamline their academic journey, reducing the overall study duration. This strategic initiative not only contributes to the attraction of high-calibre students but also enhances the competitiveness of our existing programmes.

The types of schemes currently available in SUSS are as follows.

Type	Description
Credit Recognition (CN)	Award of credits to recognise prior learning outside SUSS. This includes university-level courses in recognised institutions, such as autonomous universities in Singapore, universities of good standing, or organisations which have a collaboration agreement with SUSS.
Credit Transfer (CT)	Award of credits to recognise prior completed SUSS courses.
Challenge Examination (CEX)	Students attempt an examination to assess academic proficiency in a subject area. Students will be granted credit recognition upon passing the challenge examination. For students admitted from the July 2024 intake onwards, students must complete the challenge examination by the end of their fourth semester with SUSS.
Credit Waiver	Involves the waiver of part of the credit requirements for full-time students (and part-time students from July 2024 onwards) who excelled academically prior to their admission to SUSS.

New Credit Exemption Framework – From July 2024 intake

1. What is the new credit exemption framework for undergraduate students?

This new credit exemption framework is only applicable to part-time and full-time undergraduate students who are local polytechnic graduates and admitted into SUSS from July 2024 intake onwards. In addition to the stipulations outlined in the accompanying table, it is a prerequisite for students to have completed their polytechnic diploma within the preceding 5 years from the date of admission into SUSS.

Eligible students may receive credit exemption of up to 50 credit units (cu) distributed across three distinct course categories: (A) SUSS Core, (B) Free Elective, and (C) Major / Second Major / Minor / Specialisation.

Category	Details	Maximum
(A) SUSS Core	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10 cu credit exemption (NCO201, NCO205) for polytechnic graduates enrolling into SUSS part-time undergraduate programmes with a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.5 and above; or15 cu of credit exemption (NCO103, NCO201, NCO205) for polytechnic graduates enrolling into SUSS full-time undergraduate programmes with a CGPA of 3.5 and above.	10 or 15 cu

(B) Free Elective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 cu credit exemption for local polytechnic graduates who meet SUSS admission requirements; and • 5 cu credit recognition for students who have completed 5 UniLearn courses (1 cu each). 	10 cu
(C) Major / Second Major / Minor / Specialisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 10 cu credit exemption for polytechnic graduates with a CGPA of 3.6 and above. Only courses relevant to the degree programme to which applicant seeks admission may be considered; and • Up to 20 cu of credit recognition through challenge examination. 	30 cu
Maximum		50 cu

2. Who is eligible for credit exemption?

Both full-time and part-time undergraduates who are graduates of local polytechnics and have been admitted to SUSS from the July 2024 intake onwards, qualify for credit exemption provided they fulfil the specified requirements for each type of credit exemption.

3. What is the process of obtaining credit recognition through challenge examination?

Challenge examination is conducted three times a year, typically in the third or fourth week of April, June and November. For specific details, kindly refer to this [page](#) on our website.

Students need to apply and pay a non-refundable registration fee to take a challenge examination. Upon passing the challenge examination, students will need to submit the Application for Credit Recognition Form (available in the Student Portal) with supporting documents to Student Services (SS) to request for credit recognition. During admission, students must submit the form to Student Admissions (SA) within 7 days after submission of the online admission application.

4. Are there fees for credit exemption?

There are no fees for credit exemption.

5. Is it possible to receive credit exemption exceeding 50 cu?

No, each eligible undergraduate may receive maximum credit exemption of 50 cu and can only be used for one (1) SUSS undergraduate programme qualification.

6. Do students need to attain a minimum course grade to enjoy credit exemption for a course?

Typically, the attainment of a successful course completion (pass) accompanied by a prescribed minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) are prerequisites for credit exemption in the pertinent course.

Nevertheless, in accordance with the programme's requirements, the Head of Programme (HoP) may also set a minimum course grade standard, on top of the minimum CGPA requirement for students seeking credit exemption in the pertinent course.

7. The new framework for credit exemption is applicable to polytechnic graduates only. What about graduates from other pre-university institutions (such as GCE A-Level, NUS High Diploma, IB Diploma, etc)?

Graduates from other pre-university institutions applying into SUSS full-time and part-time undergraduate programmes can still enjoy:

- 5 cu of credit recognition if they have completed 5 UniLearn courses;
- Up to 20 cu of credit recognition through challenge examination.

In addition, GCE A-Level graduates applying into SUSS full-time undergraduate programmes can enjoy up to 10 cu of credit waiver for every A grade at H2 level:

- 5 cu of credit waiver for NCO201 Learn to Learn, Learn for Life; and
- 5 cu of credit waiver for NCO103 Listen and Be Heard: Effective Communication through Storytelling

8. I am applying for a transfer of programme (TOP). Can I be granted credit exemption for courses in which I was previously granted credit exemption?

Each transfer of programme (TOP) application will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. In general, credit exemption will be granted as long as students (July 2024 intake and beyond) meet the requirements of each type of credit exemption and that courses granted exemption are still relevant in the new programme.

9. For students who are granted 5 cu of credit exemption under free electives, will the credit exemption be forfeited when they declare a second major or minor?

The 5 cu of credit exemption will be forfeited if there is no space left in the curriculum for free electives after a second major or minor is declared.