

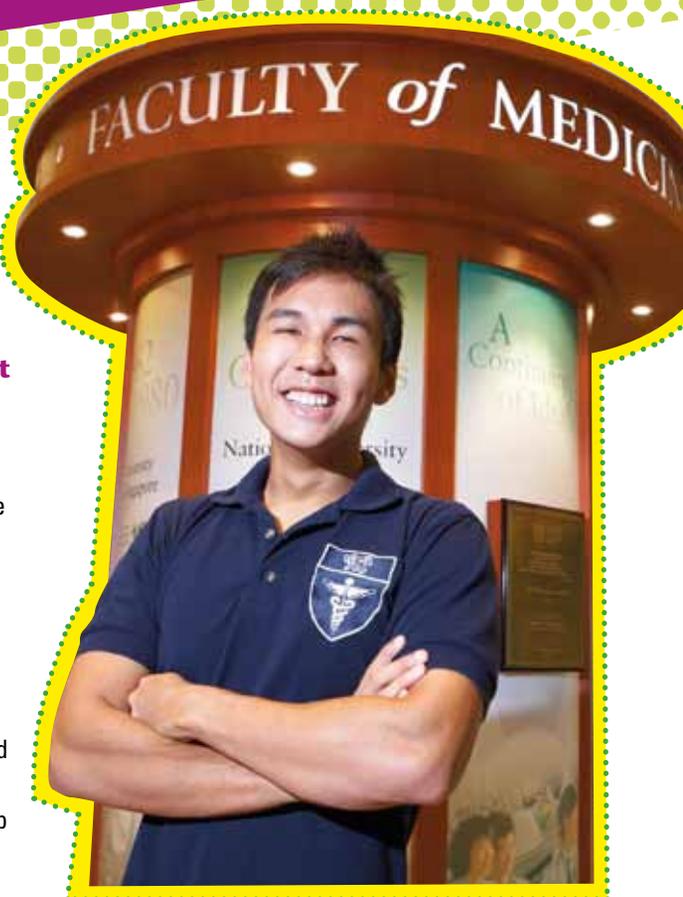
“How I got from NP to Uni!”

Psst! Wanna perfect your chances of getting into uni? Whether you choose a poly or a JC, you would want a route that opens doors for you to further your studies. To help you get your foot in the door, we've got seven Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) grads to dish out useful tips on how they made it to uni after poly!

Tip#1: Fight The “Devil”

Says: Soong Jun Wei
Then: Diploma in Biotechnology, NP
Now: Medical student at NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine

“A Ngee Ann Poly lecturer once told me: ‘At every stage in life, there’s a new devil. It could be distractions from friends or even just a bad habit like procrastination. Conquer that devil and you will get to the next level.’ It’s useful advice that has helped me to overcome difficult transitions in life and develop a fighting spirit.”



Tip#2: Know Where You're Going

Says: Marvin Kang
Then: Diploma in Business Studies, NP
Now: PSC Scholar pursuing a double degree in Business and Communication at NUS

“Do your research! You really don’t know if a poly or JC is right for you until you go for its open houses and tour its campus. Better still, crash some lectures to have a taste of the learning environment. Or have lunch on the campus and experience the vibrancy of its campus life before you make your decision!”



Tip#3: Be Involved

Says: Siti Nasiha Bte Hamid
Then: Diploma in Early Childhood Education, NP
Now: Pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education at Wheelock College, Singapore

“Join a CCA! Universities look out for students who are all-rounded so you can’t just be great with books. Besides, being involved in CCAs or community work will expose you to new experiences and boost your portfolio.”



Tip #4: Follow Your Heart

Says: Antoinette Goh
Then: Diploma in Health Sciences (Nursing), NP
Now: Nursing undergrad at NUS' Alice Lee Centre for Nursing Studies

"I had a lot of options after secondary school but I stuck to my passion in nursing because I wanted to care for the sick and make a positive difference to their lives. It was the right decision to make. Together with 10 of my schoolmates, we were the first batch of poly students to go straight into the second year of NUS' nursing degree programme!"



Tip #5: Stay Focused

Says: Tan Jun Liang
Then: Diploma in Aerospace Technology, NP
Now: PSC Overseas Merit Scholar

"Yes, it's tough to resist the temptation of computer games and TV, but it pays to stay focused on your goals when exams or project deadlines are looming. Staying focused was something I practised when I was at NP and it helped me get where I am. I've now been offered a place at Imperial College, the University of Sheffield and the University of Bath in the UK. But I'm keeping my options open and I plan to apply to some universities in the USA too!"



Tip #6: Get A Global Perspective

Says: Kevin Chia
Then: Diploma in Information Technology, NP

Now: Carnegie Mellon University grad and consultant with IBM Singapore

"Ngee Ann gave me a choice to go to Hong Kong for an overseas internship. I was indecisive at first but it turned out to be one of the best decisions of my life! The experience gave me a more global perspective of things and helped me build a portfolio of skills that is of value to a global employer."



Tip #7: Find A Good Mentor

Says: Yong Shuling
Then: Diploma in Mass Communication, NP
Now: Recent grad of Northwestern University with a Degree in Radio/Television/Film

"Is there someone out there who's doing what you want to do? Try getting to know that person. Class 95 DJ Jean Danker was my senior in poly and a huge role model for me. She encouraged me to take on as many hosting and emceeing stints as I could get in poly, to gain exposure for a career in radio. True enough, this experience gave me an edge at scholarship and university interviews, and that's how I landed a spot in Northwestern University!"



DID YOU KNOW?

Every year, close to half of our grads get accepted into universities soon after getting their diplomas and more than 60 per cent do so within five years of graduation. This year, a bumper crop of NP grads also received scholarships for their further studies. Check out more at www.np.edu.sg