



BE A GUARDIAN OF OUR HOME

YOUR LEADERSHIP JOURNEY BEGINS HERE



MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
MERIT SCHOLARSHIP



**JOIN THE HOME TEAM,
FOR A SAFE AND SECURE SINGAPORE**

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Merit Scholarship is for talented individuals who are interested in civilian appointments in the Ministry. This prestigious scholarship allows a selected few awardees every year to study at top universities around the world.

Upon their return, the scholarship holders can choose from a range of exciting careers in policy, finance, human resource, operations, science and technology, and other specialist roles. They will be groomed to take on leadership positions for a challenging and rewarding career in the Home Team.



PERMANENT SECRETARY

PANG KIN KEONG'S MESSAGE

BE A GUARDIAN OF OUR HOME. YOUR LEADERSHIP JOURNEY BEGINS HERE.

We live in one of the safest countries in the world. This did not happen by chance. Home Team officers work tirelessly round the clock to safeguard Singapore, our Home.

Our operating environment is changing rapidly and getting more complex. The terrorism threat is at its highest level in recent years. Technological advancements have reshaped the criminal landscape, with the emergence of new types of crime. The Home Team has to transform ourselves, build new capabilities, and strengthen our partnership with the community, to deal with these challenges.

But what remains constant and consistent, is our focus on our people. They are the core of our success.

Every year, we select the best and brightest young men and women with the passion to safeguard our country, for our scholarships. We send them to the best universities around the world and after their graduation, groom them to become outstanding Home Team leaders.

You will join an organisation that offers many opportunities and much excitement. You can specialise in fields such as science and technology, psychology and intelligence, or build cross-cutting capabilities and experience in diverse domains such as policy, planning, operations, international relations, human resource and finance, among others.

Our work is tough and demanding. You will have to be ever ready to deal with real security threats and emergencies. The reward is a meaningful career, and the responsibility of protecting your country and your loved ones.

Join Us. Be a Guardian of Our Home. Your Leadership Journey Begins Here.

Pang Kin Keong

Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Home Affairs



CHENG WEE KIANG

Director
Robotics, Automation & Unmanned Systems
Science & Technology Group (STG)
Ministry of Home Affairs Headquarters

“As Director of Robotics, Automation and Unmanned Systems (RAUS), I lead a team of engineers in identifying promising RAUS technologies that can be developed into prototypes and operational systems to support the Home Team.

Our team gets to work on real operational problems and derives the best solution to ensure homeland security, whether in fire-fighting, policing, or border security. We work closely with our Home Team uniformed colleagues to conceptualise, design, build, test and evaluate new systems to ensure that they are effective for our operations. This organisation offers exciting opportunities for innovative engineers who want to make our country a safer place to live in.”



SPF Unmanned Aerial Vehicle on display at the SPF Workplan Seminar in April 2019



JACQUELINE WONG

Senior Executive
Human Resource Management
Human Resource Department
Ministry of Home Affairs Headquarters



“After graduation, I decided to join MHA as I was inspired by the passion of our fellow Home Team officers in safeguarding the country. They always put their best foot forward in tackling any crisis, and their commitment to the country is really admirable.

As a HR officer, I'm able to contribute by ensuring that we attract good people to join the Home Team, enable officers' career development and improve their well-being through initiatives. We also constantly review processes and policies to better meet the needs of our officers and organisation. With the right talent and resources to support our officers, the Home Team would be able to serve more effectively and achieve our common goal of keeping Singapore safe and secure.”



KEVIN SEE JIN HENG

Team Leader
Securities Fraud Division
Commercial Affairs Department
Singapore Police Force



“I wanted a career that is intellectually challenging and allows me to make a palpable impact. As an investigator in the Commercial Affairs Department focusing on white collar crimes, I am constantly challenged to think deeply, follow my heart, and listen to my gut. The Home Team offers a mentally and psychologically rewarding career that is second to none.

One key offence we investigate is market rigging, which is any act to artificially influence or distort the market. As law enforcers, we make sure such acts do not pay for the perpetrators to advance their criminal agenda. Investigators like myself analyse past trade history of the subject, identify and discern specific patterns of trading that did not evince any normal logic or commercial sense, and hunt down perpetrators.”



MOHAMAD RIDZUAN

Senior Forensic Examiner
Technology Crime Forensic Branch
Criminal Investigation Department
Singapore Police Force

"I am a Forensic Examiner and my work involves conducting forensic investigations of digital devices. My work is demanding but very rewarding and meaningful as I am deeply involved in curbing cybercrimes. With the increasing prevalence of digital devices in our daily lives, cybercrimes are increasing, fast-evolving and getting more complex. In crime cases involving digital devices such as computers and mobile devices, the content within the devices is critical for the investigation. My primary role as a forensic examiner is to extract this critical content, including carving out deleted artifacts.

In my three years here, I have experienced just how fast technology is changing. To ensure that we stay relevant, the organisation has provided us many opportunities to deepen our skills and capabilities. There's always something new to learn and do every day, no matter how experienced or seasoned you are."





SHAMALA D/O GOPALAKRISHNAN

Assistant Director
General Violence Psychological Services Branch
Psychological & Correctional Rehabilitation Division
Singapore Prison Service



“As a psychologist with the Singapore Prison Service, I see myself making rewarding contributions in the realm of public safety by helping offenders change. I conduct risk assessments, deliver interventions to address offending behaviours and motivate offenders towards leading pro-social lives. My work also involves system-level collaborations to ensure that rehabilitation efforts are synergised at multiple levels.

MHA is a place that rewards you for your passion and grooms you to do your best. You would also be part of a team that believes in creating ripple effects - helping the offender, his family and in time, a community.”



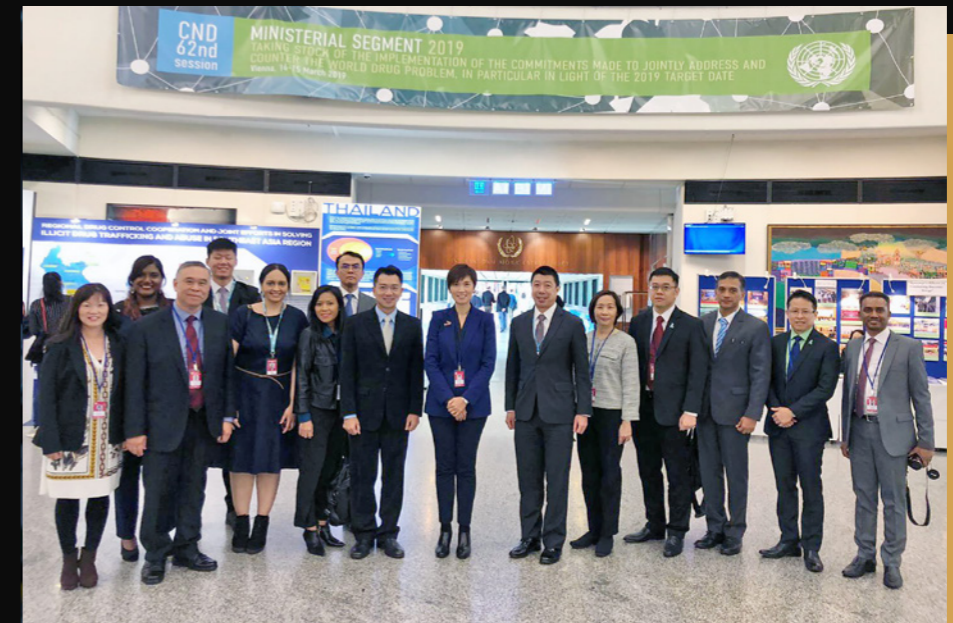


SIVARAMAN LETCUMANAN

Senior Manager
International Advocacy Against Drugs and Crime
International Cooperation and Partnerships Division
Ministry of Home Affairs Headquarters

“As an International Relations officer, I am entrusted with the responsibility to defend Singapore’s international drug policy space. I safeguard our nation’s stance towards drug policy best suited for our people, sometimes in the face of immense regional and international challenges. While doing so, I ensure that we continue to maintain the good relationships we have with other countries. As part of my work, I had the opportunity to attend international meetings, network with foreign counterparts and negotiate favourable outcomes for Singapore.

It has been a rewarding career for me in MHA, as I transited from being a Senior Narcotics officer for 16 years looking at safeguarding Singapore from the scourge of drugs domestically to now securing Singapore’s interests in the international arena. I appreciate the varied roles that different officers in the Home Team played in keeping Singapore safe and secure, especially against the dangers of illicit drugs.”



The Home Team delegation at the 62nd Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in Vienna, Austria, March 2019. [Sivaraman is at far right of photo]

OUR TALENT DNA

Upon graduation, scholars under the MHA Merit Scholarship scheme will embark on a fulfilling career in one of these tracks:

Generalist:

1. HOME AFFAIRS SENIOR EXECUTIVE (HASE)

HASE officers will have the opportunity to gain exposure to different areas of work, and deepen your expertise in specific areas as you progress in your career:

- Communications and Community Engagement
- Corporate Administration
- Finance
- Human Resource
- International Relations
- Logistics
- Policy and Operations Planning
- Research
- Risk Management and Audit
- Strategic Planning
- Technology
- Training

Specialist:

2. HOME TEAM SPECIALIST SCHEME (HTSS)

The HTSS develops specialists with deep technical knowledge and skills, as well as a strong appreciation of operational work in the Home Team.

INTELLIGENCE

As an Intelligence Specialist, you will play an integral role in crime prevention and crime fighting by providing timely and pertinent analysis of crime patterns, trends and emerging threats. You will be responsible for collating and enriching data, researching and assessing information including crime activities and criminal details, and producing actionable intelligence and reports to aid in decision-making and operations. Specialised skills, including statistical and visualisation techniques, and geographic and criminal profiling, will be employed to connect the dots and draw links across the mass of information. Strategic research is also conducted, via horizon scanning and predictive assessments to surface emerging trends and threats.

PSYCHOLOGIST

As a Home Team Psychologist, you will play an important role in providing vital psychological interventions and contribute to operational and policy decisions for the Home Team.

You will be responsible for identifying, planning, initiating and monitoring programmes and activities for the provision of psychological services in the Home Team.

Psychologists may choose to specialise in the following areas:

- Clinical Counselling and Crisis Psychology
- Operations, Investigations and Forensic Psychology
- Industrial, Organisational and Personnel Psychology

3. COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS TRACK

You can look forward to a varied career within the Commercial Affairs Department, taking on different roles such as investigating different types of commercial crime, performing analysis work and participating in policy formulation. Your role is critical to safeguard Singapore's integrity as a world-class financial and commercial centre, through vigilant and professional enforcement of the law.

4. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TRACK

Scientific innovations and leading edge technologies enhance the effectiveness of the Home Team's daily operations in protecting lives and ensuring public security. You will be part of a team that harnesses the power of science and technology (S&T) for the needs of the Home Team. Some of our priority S&T areas include: Biometrics; Cybersecurity; Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives; Data Science and Artificial Intelligence; Forensics and Digital Forensics; Protective Security; Robotics and Unmanned Systems; and Sense-making and Surveillance.

5. INTERNAL SECURITY TRACK

Singapore, like every sovereign country in the world, faces security threats from international terrorism, foreign subversion and espionage. In addition, we face a major threat from communalism and racial and religious extremism, because of the diverse make-up of our population. A multi-disciplinary team of research, technology and operations officers in the Internal Security Department confronts and addresses these security issues and threats. They ensure timely and accurate collection and analysis of intelligence, along with professional assessments and policy recommendations to the Government, and where necessary, undertake investigations and direct action.

ABOUT THE MHA MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

The MHA Merit Scholarship is a prestigious scholarship for civilian appointments within the Ministry of Home Affairs.

We are looking for talented individuals who care about Singapore's security and public safety. We want leaders who will rise up to challenges and are willing to shoulder the responsibility of protecting our Home.

If you have what it takes to be a MHA Merit Scholar, speak to one of our recruitment officers.

OUR LEADERSHIP JOURNEY

We provide our officers with many opportunities to learn and develop personally and professionally.

Scholarship holders go through structured postings to build up their knowledge and skills in their selected career track. They will be given developmental opportunities such as overseas study visits, leadership and training programmes, and action-based projects, to expand their horizons and acquire a wide range of skills. Through these efforts, we bring out the best in our officers and help them realise their leadership potential.

Eligible scholarship holders will also be emplaced on the Public Service Leadership Programme where they will be given opportunities beyond the Home Team.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested applicants can apply for the MHA Merit Scholarship via www.pscgateway.gov.sg.

CONNECT WITH US

For more information on the MHA Merit Scholarship and careers, please visit us at



go.gov.sg/mha-merit-scholarship

FAQ

What is the main difference between the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Merit Scholarship and the Home Team Scholarship?

The main difference is the career track. The Home Team Scholarship is awarded to candidates who wish to pursue a career as a Senior Uniformed Officer in the Singapore Police Force, Singapore Civil Defence Force, Singapore Prison Service, Central Narcotics Bureau or Immigration and Checkpoints Authority, whereas the MHA Merit Scholarship (MMS) is awarded to candidates who wish to pursue a career as a civilian officer under one of the five civilian career tracks in MHA.

Can I choose to convert my scholarship scheme from Civilian to Uniformed during my studies?

Shortlisted candidates will know if they have been earmarked for the Uniformed or Civilian scheme, for them to make an informed decision prior to the award of the scholarship. A candidate who wishes to change to a different scheme during the course of study has to provide strong justifications. MHA will consider the request on a case-by-case basis.

Is the new MHA Merit Scholarship available as a mid-term scholarship?

Yes, undergraduates can apply for it as a mid-term scholarship.

When do I get to choose my specialisation track?

You can indicate your preferred track at the point of interview.

Are there any course(s) of study that are preferred for the MHA Merit Scholarship?

The scholarship is available for most disciplines of study. For those who aspire to be a specialist in the Home Team, they will have to choose the relevant discipline of study.

Are the promotional prospects for overseas and local scholars different?

There is no difference. Promotions are based on the potential and performance of the officer while in service.

Will I get to change my specialisation track during my undergraduate studies?

When awarding the scholarship, candidates would be told their career track. If a candidate wishes to change to a different track, he or she would have to provide strong justifications. MHA will consider the appeal on a case-by-case basis.

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SCHOLARSHIP	INSTITUTION	ELIGIBILITY		COURSE OF STUDY	VALUE OF AWARD			TERMS
SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP	Overseas or local universities	Singapore Citizens, or Permanent Residents who intend to take up citizenship		All disciplines except Medicine, Dentistry and Architecture <i>(Applicants intending to pursue a degree in Law will not be called to the Bar)</i>	Tuition and other approved fees Maintenance allowance Pre-studies allowance	Return economy class airfare (for those who pursue their studies in overseas universities)	Sponsorship for Masters and Exchange Programmes (if requirements are met)	6-year bond (for English speaking countries) 5-year bond (for non-English speaking countries) 4-year bond (local universities)
LOCAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP	Local universities	GCE 'A' Levels (with at least 10 academic units), International Baccalaureate (IB), Polytechnic Diploma (with Merit*) or equivalent	Good performance in National Service (for males)			Hostel allowance	Sponsorship for Exchange Programmes (if requirements are met)	4-year bond (local universities)
HOME TEAM LOCAL STUDY AWARD		Good CCA records Strong leadership qualities				-		

*Except for Home Team Local Study Award, where a valid Polytechnic Diploma regardless of Merit is accepted.

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go.gov.sg/mha-merit-scholarship

