

Fact Sheet on Professional Skills Programme Traineeships (PSPT)

1. The Professional Skills Programme (PSP) is the umbrella programme for manpower measures that are available for professionals, managers, executives and technicians (PMETs) during the economic downturn. Under PSP, a new scheme called PSP Traineeships (PSPT) has been developed.
2. The PSPT aims to develop manpower capabilities by building a stronger skills base for specific sectors with good growth potential when the economy recovers, and minimizing attrition of skilled manpower from these sectors during the downturn. This will also equip fresh graduates and retrenched PMETs with relevant work experience to boost their employability.
3. 2,500 traineeships will be offered under PSPT over 2 years.
4. While the exact terms/conditions of the traineeship will differ across agencies and sectors, the key features of the PSPT are as follows:
 - a. Sectors covered. Agencies will select participating companies carefully, to ensure that they are aligned to the goal of building manpower capabilities, and have the necessary training capacity. Companies in the following sectors will be considered: manufacturing, environmental and water technologies, infocomm services, finance, maritime, retail, tourism and creative industries.
 - b. Trainees. Only Singaporeans and Singapore PRs who are recent graduates from the post secondary educational institutions (PSEIs) and/or displaced PMETs including graduates of the Professional Skills Programme (PSP) conversion and upgrading courses are eligible. PSPT will usually be offered for positions requiring at least post-secondary qualifications. Traineeship positions will be advertised by participating companies or intermediaries such as the career offices of the PSEIs.
 - c. Duration. The PSPT programme will be for 2 years (FY09-FY10), similar to the Skills Programme for Upgrading and Resilience (SPUR). Traineeships can last from 6 to 24 months.
 - d. Traineeship Experience. Traineeships will provide meaningful work experience for trainees to gain industry experience and to develop the national skills base in growth sectors. Companies will be required to submit (i) a training plan with details of training structure

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and the specific skills/experience that can be gained; and (ii) regular training reports.

- e. Training Grants. The costs of the PSPT will be co-funded between the government agencies and the companies. Companies will provide trainees a training grant that will take into account their level of experience and prevailing wages in the industry.
5. PSPT is a multi-agency scheme that will be administered by a group of government agencies for their target sectors, namely the Economic Development Board (EDB), International Enterprise (IE) Singapore, SPRING Singapore, the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) and the Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA). The PSPT will be part of each agency's overall plan to develop capabilities in its sector.