

FAQs on Post-Diploma Qualifications Framework for the Polytechnics

1. Why are there three types of post-diploma programmes offered by the polytechnics? What are the differences between the three types of programmes?

There are three types of post-diploma programmes as each of these programmes serve different purposes.

Under the revised CET Post-Diploma Qualifications Framework, **Advanced Diploma (AD)** and **Specialist Diploma (SD)** courses are both designed to enable existing diploma or degree holders to deepen their knowledge and skills and develop specialisations within their trained discipline areas.

- SD courses will have a shorter duration of between 240 and 300 hours and can generally be completed in about a year (or two 6-month semesters). They will consist of two post-diploma certificates.
- AD courses have a broader scope of training and hence will have a duration of between 480 and 600 hours and can generally be completed in about a year and a half to two years (or three to four 6-month semesters). They will consist of three or more post-diploma certificates.

On the other hand, **Diploma (Conversion)** courses seek to prepare existing diploma or degree holders to undertake jobs in a different discipline area, i.e. for career conversion. These courses will have duration of 240 hours or longer, depending on the amount of time needed to effectively equip an adult learner who possesses a diploma/degree qualification with the requisite knowledge and skills to undertake a job in a different discipline area or industry. These courses are generally completed in about eight months to a year and could be offered in the form of either a suite of modules for an 8-month course or two post-diploma certificates for a one-year course. Unlike CET Diplomas which are more broad-based, these Diploma (Conversion) courses are focused and directed towards specific job requirements and therefore can be completed in a much shorter duration.

2. Why do these programmes require a diploma as a minimum entry requirement? I am a working adult wishing to upgrade via these courses but am unable to do so as I do not possess a diploma.

The post-diploma courses seek to prepare existing **diploma or degree** holders to undertake jobs in a different discipline area, i.e. for career conversion or to enable existing **diploma or degree** holders to deepen their knowledge and skills and develop specialisations within their trained discipline areas. As such, the curriculum of the post-diploma courses build on the polytechnic diploma curriculum and hence the minimum entry requirements include a polytechnic diploma.

3. Will these post-diploma programmes help me to gain admission into universities?

The post-diploma courses are intended for existing *diploma or degree* holders who either have entered or wish to enter sectors different from what their prior diploma programmes trained them for, and for those who want to deepen their knowledge and skills and develop specialisations within their trained discipline areas. The focus of these courses is on the needs of industry and not on university articulation. However, individual universities may, at their own discretion, take these additional qualifications into consideration when assessing your application.

Further Enquiries

4. If I have further enquiries, what can I do?

You may email us at ptenquiry@sp.edu.sg You may also visit our counter to enquire at:

Professional & Adult Continuing Education (PACE) Academy
Singapore Polytechnic
500 Dover Road
Blk T1A, Level 1
Singapore 139651
Mondays to Fridays: 8:30am to 8pm