

About SSEAYP

Bringing together more than 200 youths from Southeast Asia and Japan, the Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Programme (SSEAYP) provides youths with the unique opportunity to live together on board the ship for over 30 days. SSEAYP is an annual programme sponsored by the Japanese Government and supported by the member states of ASEAN. The National Youth Council (NYC), Singapore's national co-ordinating body for youth affairs oversees the programme.

SSEAYP began in January 1974 after Joint Statements were issued between Japan and five ASEAN Member States- Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. They were joined by Brunei Darussalam in 1985, followed by Vietnam in 1996. Both Laos and Myanmar came on board in 1998, Cambodia in 2020, and Timor-Leste as the latest newcomer in 2024. Apart from broadening youths' international outlook, SSEAYP also fosters friendship and greater understanding among youths from Japan and Southeast Asia.

Key Highlights

Taking place from 3 January to 5 February 2027, the upcoming SSEAYP will visit three ASEAN Member States (Cambodia, Malaysia, and the Philippines) and Japan. Singapore will be sending a contingent of 20 Participating Youths and a National Leader to participate in SSEAYP 2027.

The journey promises participants with vibrant discussions on social & youth matters and eye-opening cultural exchanges. At each Port-of-Call, participants can look forward to interacting with the local youths, pay courtesy calls on dignitaries, and visit local institutions. Participants will also have the opportunity to experience a unique homestay programme at the Port-of-Call in the Philippines.

Eligibility Criteria for 50th SSEAYP 2027

Positions open for nominations / application	Eligibility Criteria
<p>Participating Youth</p> <p><u>Open Call Application Period:</u> 30 March to 24 April 2026 <i>Extended to 8 May</i></p> <p><u>Tentative Selection Exercise and Interview Dates:</u> 30 May and 6 June 2026* (Saturday)</p> <p><i>*Dates subjected to change</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant(s) should be a Singapore citizen between 18 to 30 years old, as of 1 January 2027 • The applicant(s) should possess a commendable track record of active youth, community or leadership and be outstanding youth(s) capable of assuming an ambassadorial role for Singapore. • The applicant(s) should possess a keen interest in cultural exchanges and forging new friendships with youths from Southeast Asia and Japan • The applicant(s) should be available for the Selection Exercise and Interview dates • Upon selection, the Participating Youth must be able to commit to 4 months training prior to the start of the programme • For more details of the role and desired profile of the Participating Youth, please refer to <u>Annex A</u> below

CONDITIONS GOVERNING PARTICIPATION IN THE 50TH SHIP FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN AND JAPANESE YOUTH PROGRAMME (SSEAYP) 2027

PARTICIPATING YOUTH

1. Nominees/applicants shall be Singapore citizens between **18 and 30 years old, as of 1 January 2027**. Full-Time National Service men (NSFs) would require endorsement by their Supervisor prior to their application.
2. Nominees/applicants should preferably be youth leaders or youth officers with a proven track record of active youth, community or public service.
3. Nominees/applicants shall be of good character and have no criminal records.
4. Nominees/applicants must possess a good command of the English language, which is the medium used during the programme.
5. Nominees/applicants must be physically fit for extended sea travel and communal living on board the ship. Candidates must declare any pre-existing medical conditions to the organisers, supported by a doctor's note if required.
6. All participants shall obtain leave from their employers or institutions. They shall confirm their participation **within two weeks** of being informed of their selection.
7. All participants are required to undergo an intensive Pre-SSEAYP Departure Training (PDT) programme, which includes evening sessions on weekdays and a weekend session per week. **The PDT programme is scheduled to take place from August to November 2026. Participants should expect to continue with their Contingent preparation and meetings through to their departure date in January 2027.**
8. Participants who fail to participate fully in the preparation programme and fulfil their duties assigned by the Contingent shall face expulsion. NYC reserves the right to terminate the participation of candidates who cannot perform their role and contribute to the Contingent.
9. All participants must contribute to the Contingent Fund for the Contingent's expenses for the programme. The sum per person is estimated to be between S\$500 to S\$900 and the exact amount will be advised at a later date. Participants are encouraged to raise funds or approach their nominating organisations to subsidise their contributions to the Contingent Fund. The handling of excess contributions to the Contingent Fund shall be agreed upon by the Contingent and in consultation with NYC.
10. All participants must conduct themselves in a proper manner befitting the position of a youth Ambassador for Singapore before, during and after the Programme. This includes being

mindful of their speech and behaviour on social media and in their interaction with members of the public and fellow participants of the programme.

11. All participants must return immediately to Singapore with the contingent upon completion of the programme. Participants who conduct themselves dishonourably during the programme will be sent back to Singapore and will have to bear the costs of travel and any other related costs.
12. Any participating youth who does not comply with any of the conditions above may be disqualified from participation in SSEAYP and NYC reserves the right to penalise him/her from participating in future NYC overseas youth programmes.
13. As part of the requirements for a participating youth, all successful candidates are to fulfil the following in the year after their participation:
 - a) Knowledge sharing with new batch of PYs including but not limited to attending Pre Departure Training (PDT) sessions;
 - b) To assist on the next local programme e.g.: Liaison Officer, Host Family, Planning Committee Member, etc;
 - c) To complete Post Programme Activity (PPA) within the following year of their return.
 - d) Participants are encouraged to raise funds for their Contingent's PPA; and
 - e) Promote and publicise SSEAYP via NYC's and Contingent's networks.
14. Successful candidates are also encouraged to continue supporting NYC in its ongoing initiatives for community building and youth outreach through knowledge sharing, community volunteerism and other similar initiatives.
