

NUS COLLEGE APPLICATION SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

In this NUS College-specific section, we would like you to:

- Share your sense of how NUS College fits into your plans for NUS (~100 words).
- Reflect on your non-academic activities (~350 words).

I. How NUS College Fits into Your Plans for NUS

What features of the NUS College curriculum excite you, and how do these features align with your learning goals or values? (~100 words response, compulsory)

II. Reflection on Non-Academic Activities

Reflect on your non-academic activities, in about 350 words. (Compulsory)

You may have undertaken non-academic activities as part of a co-curriculum, or in a more informal way (e.g., as a hobby). Reflect on them: explain to us a larger or deeper meaning behind these activities, or behind your participation in them.

We say "activities" (plural) because we would like you to connect some or all of the things you did outside the classroom, or even to detect a pattern in them. And when we say "larger or deeper meaning," we mean that we would like you to think about and explain something that may not be readily apparent about your activities. You should do so in a specific and carefully-reasoned way: for example, rather than just stating generalities about how you volunteer because you want to help people, consider explaining what *particular* lessons you learnt about helping others, and/or *how* you learnt these lessons.

The subject of your reflection can be your actual non-academic activities. Or, you can choose to explain and reflect on:

- your motivations (e.g., What was the rationale or principle behind what you chose to be involved, or not involved, with?);
- your time management and decision-making (e.g., If you spent more time on some activities and interests than others, how did you make choices about what you prioritised?); or
- what your activities reveal about you (e.g., Did you participate in a wide-ranging number of activities, or do your activities revolve around one or a few main interests and themes? Were your interests steady and consistent, or did they change and evolve over the years?).

What you should *not* do in this section is simply list your non-academic activities or achievements. Near the end of this application process, you will be able to upload your Co-Curricular Activity Records, and/or documentation of your non-academic pursuits. (If you are unable to provide any documentation, you can explain why here – but you must still reflect on your non-academic activities in this section.) These uploads will already paint a picture of *what* non-academic activities you have undertaken. In this reflection, we want to hear more about the *whys* and *hows*.

(OPTIONAL) Finally, you can provide any needed contextualization, if relevant. Sometimes, records make more sense if we understand their contexts and even constraints. For example, perhaps your school did not offer a co-curriculum, or limited students to a fixed number of co-curricular activities. Maybe you created your own extra-curricular opportunities that you would like us to know about. Perhaps you had to forgo some overseas experiences because of health concerns or family commitments. Perhaps you would have loved to be involved in some activities but did not have the opportunity to do so. You may also include this information in your reflection.

III. Declaration

You should have crafted your responses on your own. In the textbox below, please declare this by typing out this statement: "I affirm that my responses represent my own thinking."

You should not use generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, etc.). Doing so is a breach of academic integrity. More damagingly for you, its use will produce generic reflections that do not represent who you are, and do not portray the kinds of distinctive individuals that we seek to admit. If you do use such tools, you must describe in the textbox what your queries were. If you use sources such as books or websites, you should include citations of these sources. Likewise, if you received help from a mentor, please declare and describe the help as well. There is no need to declare your use of spelling or grammar checkers.

(compulsory, up to 2000 characters)