

Personal Development Experience (PDE) – Graduation Requirement for SUSS Full-Time Students

Frequently Asked Questions

Explore answers to common questions below.

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Please click on the links below to access the following:

[Recording of PDE Briefing Session 1 \(4 June 2025\)](#)

[Recording of PDE Briefing Session 2 \[available from 27 June 2025\]](#)

[PDE Briefing Slides \[available from 27 June 2025\]](#)

[ETB Registration Portal video tutorial](#)

[Register for the Freshmen Orientation Day on 2 Aug 2025 \[Coming soon\]](#)

[Check out last year's Freshmen Orientation Highlights](#)

1. ABOUT THE PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE (PDE)

Is PDE compulsory?

Yes. The PDE is compulsory and a graduation requirement for all SUSS full-time students. It must be completed within the first academic year.

What does the PDE comprise of?

The PDE comprises three components:

1. **Experiential Teambuilding (ETB) Programme**
2. **Student Success Centre (SSC) Learning Prospectus**
3. **Freshmen Pulse Check**

The **ETB programme** offers a shared experiential platform to kick-start your university journey through various engaging activities to promote self-awareness, team collaboration and understanding of SUSS values.

The **SSC Learning Prospectus** supports students in building competencies within the 'Personal Success' domain, complementing your academic learning.

The **Freshmen Pulse Check** is a touchpoint held one semester into university life to support your transition and well-being.

Will participation in PDE affect my classes?

No. The ETB programme takes place **before the semester begins**. For SSC learning prospectus workshops, dates are shared in advance so you can choose those that fit your schedule.

What is the SSC Learning Prospectus?

The **SSC Learning Prospectus** is a suite of programmes offered by the Student Success Centre (SSC) to complement your academic journey. It supports your **Personal and Professional Success** by helping you develop core competencies, advocate for well-being and nurture a mindset for social good and lifelong learning.

Completion of selected SSC LP workshops is a **graduation requirement** under both Personal Development Experience (PDE) and the Professional Readiness Experience (PRE).

Where can I access more information on the SSC Learning Prospectus?

Workshop details including synopses, dates, and times will be sent via email in **August 2025**. Further information will also be shared on **Day 3 of ETB**.

How do I fulfil the SSC Learning Prospectus requirement?

Attend **at least one workshop** under the 'Personal Success' domain within your **first academic year**.

Do I still need to complete SSC Learning Prospectus requirements if I defer my ETB?

Yes. The SSC Learning Prospectus is a separate requirement and must be completed **within your first academic year**, even if your ETB programme is deferred.

Where can I find more info on the Freshmen Pulse Check?

Details will be shared on **Day 3 of ETB**.

What is the fee for the PDE?

There is **no additional fee**. PDE is a compulsory part of the SUSS curriculum and is included in your tuition fees.

2. ABOUT THE EXPERIENTIAL TEAMBUILDING (ETB) PROGRAMME

How can I benefit from attending ETB?

ETB is an onboarding experience where you will:

- Connect and build friendships with your cohort
- Discover your strengths
- Learn about team dynamics
- Kick-start your SUSS journey with confidence

What are the ETB dates for 2025?

Run No.	Dates
1	15 to 17 July 2025
2	21 to 23 July 2025
3	24 to 26 July 2025

Will ETB be conducted online or in person?

ETB is a **three-day, in-person, stay-out** programme (no overnight stay required).

Are there enough slots for all students?

Yes. There are enough slots for all full-time freshmen. However, each run has a **maximum capacity**, so students are encouraged to register early.

Will ETB be a full-day programme?

Yes. ETB runs from **8.30am to 6.00pm daily** across all three days. The detailed schedule will be shared closer to the programme date.

What activities can I expect during ETB?

You can expect:

- Indoor workshop sessions
- Outdoor experiential activities
- Opportunities to discover your strengths and learn about team collaboration

Are there any high or wet elements in ETB?

There are **no high elements** in the ETB programme. Some outdoor activities may involve contact with the **natural environment**. More details will be provided during the Day 1 briefing.

What if I arrive late or must leave early during ETB?

Students are expected to participate fully each day of the ETB programme. If you anticipate any clashes or need to leave early, please inform SUSS Student Life in advance with valid reasons. All such requests are subject to approval.

What should I wear or bring for ETB?

Students are advised to wear comfortable attire and covered shoes, and to bring items such as:

- A refillable water bottle
- A jacket
- Any personal medication required

Will meals be provided during the ETB programme?

Yes. Lunch bentos will be provided on Day 1 and Day 3 of the programme. If you have specific dietary requirements e.g., vegetarian, allergies, please indicate them on the registration portal.

All meals will be halal-certified and will not contain beef or mutton.

Can I bring my electronic devices to the ETB programme?

Yes, but usage of devices such as phones and laptops should be kept minimal during activities to ensure active participation and engagement.

3. REGISTERING FOR THE ETB PROGRAMME

How do I register for ETB?

An email with the registration link will be sent to your **SUSS MyMail account** before registration opens. Please be patient, there may be a slight delay in email delivery.

1. The registration process is divided into two phases:
 - Phase 1: Course Registration and Health Declaration Period and
 - Phase 2: Medical Clearance Period – For students with medical conditions
2. Students with medical conditions must complete both phases by the stipulated deadlines shown in the table below before attending their selected ETB run.

Phase 1 (Course Registration and Health Declaration Period)	Phase 2 (Medical Clearance Period – For students with medical conditions)
JAP Window 1: 9 Jun 2025, 12pm to 27 Jun 2025, 12pm	Run 1: From point of registration till 10 Jul 2025, 12pm
JAP Window 2: 30 Jun 2025, 12pm to 7 Jul 2025, 12pm	Run 2: From point of registration till 16 Jul 2025, 12pm
Note: Students will select their preferred run on a first-come, first-served basis.	Run 3: From point of registration till 21 Jul 2025, 12pm

- Phase 1: Students are required to select their preferred ETB run on a first-come, first-served basis and complete the Health Declaration Form via the ETB Registration Portal.
- Phase 2: This phase is only applicable to students who answered “YES” to any of the six questions in the Health Declaration Form. These students must obtain medical clearance before the stated deadline to be eligible to attend and participate in the ETB programme.
- Students are allowed to register for only **ONE** run.
- Participation in the ETB programme will be confirmed only after both phases are successfully completed by their respective deadlines.

Note: Students who receive their admission offer after 7 July 2025 will attend the ETB programme in 2026 instead.

Do I need to see a doctor if I don't have any pre-existing medical conditions?

No. Only students who answer "**YES**" to any of the six questions in the Health Declaration Form are required to see a doctor for further assessment.

Do I need medical clearance before selecting a run?

No. All students can register first. However, if you answered "YES" to any questions in the Health Declaration Form, you must complete medical clearance by the deadline to confirm your participation.

What additional documents are needed?

Students needing medical clearance must:

- Visit a **registered medical practitioner**
- Get the [Note to Medical Examiner form](#) endorsed
- Upload the form to the registration portal

SUSS Student Life will review submissions within **5 working days** and notify you of your eligibility.

Can I visit any doctor for the health check-up?

You may visit **any GP or clinic**, as long as the doctor is willing to complete the **Note to Medical Examiner** form.

Note: TCM and chiropractic assessments are not accepted.

Call ahead to check if the clinic is able to assist.

Can I switch runs after registration?

No. Once registered, students **cannot switch runs**.

Can I attend ETB with my friends or choose the same run as them?

Students may coordinate with friends to register for the same run. However, as slots are limited and allocated on a **first-come, first-served basis**, placement in the same run **cannot be guaranteed**.

What if I encounter technical issues during registration?

Take a **screenshot** of the issue and email studentlife@suss.edu.sg for help.

What if I'm unable to attend any of the runs?

Submit the [Appeal for Deferment Form](#) with supporting documents.

While you may defer to a later year, you are **strongly encouraged to complete ETB early** as it is part of your PDE graduation requirement.

What should I do if I need to withdraw from ETB due to urgent family matters or medical reasons?

Similar to the above, if you are unable to attend any of the runs, please submit the [Appeal for Deferment Form](#) with supporting documents.

However, if you are unable to attend the ETB run that you have signed up for due to urgent family matters or medical condition, please submit the [Appeal to Change ETB Run Form](#) with supporting documents.

4. PDE & ASSESSMENT MATTERS

What must I do to fulfill the graduation requirement for PDE?

What must I complete to fulfil the PDE graduation requirement?

1. **ETB Programme:**
 - **Compulsory attendance** – absences or early dismissal requests must be supported by valid reasons and are subject to approval
 - **Active participation** throughout the programme
 - **Pass** the ETB Course Quiz
2. **SSC Learning Prospectus:**
 - Attend **at least one 'Personal Success' workshop** within your first academic year. More details will be shared during the ETB programme.
3. **Freshmen Pulse Check:**
 - Participate in a check-in after your first semester to reflect and share your experiences. This aims to support your transition into university life and help us better understand how to support you. More details will be shared during the ETB programme.

What is the ETB Course Quiz like?

1. Available from **1 July to 31 July 2025**, 12.00pm
2. Attempted on [CANVAS](#)
3. Accompanied by a **learning guide** to help you prepare.

How many attempts do I get for the quiz?

You may attempt the quiz up to **three times**. Your **highest score** will be recorded.

Minimum score to pass: **60%**

Do I have to retake ETB if I fail the ETB Course Quiz?

Yes. You must **retake the full ETB programme** with the next cohort.

Why is the quiz available before the programme starts?

To help you **familiarise with the content and safety guidelines** before participating in ETB.

How is class participation graded during ETB?

There is **no class participation grading** component for the ETB programme.

Will I receive a certificate or recognition for completing PDE?

PDE is a graduation requirement and the grade scored will be indicated in your educational transcript. There will be no separate certificate for it.