

Title 4,200 to vie for 322 scholarships awards
Newspaper The Star
Issue 13/4/07

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PENANG: Application for scholarships under the Star Education Fund 2007 has increased by 10% compared with 3,800 applicants last year.

The fund's manager, Richard Foo, said 4,200 school-leavers applied for the 322 scholarship awards worth RM10.5mil this year.

"The academic results of the applicants were also very impressive this year, making it very competitive," he said at the short-listing session here yesterday.

The scholarships are offered by the fund's 50 partners this year.

The selection held in Penang was for Equator Academy of Art, Han Chiang College, Perkim-Coon Institute, Sentral Institute of Technology, Inti International College Penang,

Disted Stamford College, KDU College and Penang Medical College. Short-listed applicants will be called for an interview in the first week of May.

Penang Medical College's public relations and marketing officer Janice Leong said 184 applications were received for the two grants offered by the college.

The two partial scholarships are worth RM150,000 each, enabling the successful applicant to pursue two years' medical studies in Ireland.

"Besides academic and financial background, applicants should also submit their applications with pre-university results which, unfortunately, some of the applicants were not aware of," Leong said.

Equator Academy of Art principal

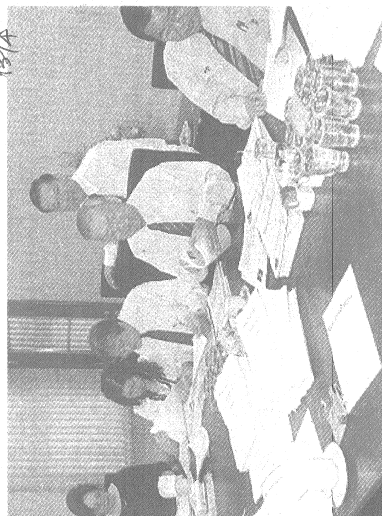
Chuah Kooi Yong said 90% of the applicants for the art courses offered at the academy were from the science background.

The academy is giving away grants totalling RM91,800 for three courses - Diploma in Graphic and Multimedia Design, Diploma in Interior Design and Diploma in Fashion Technology.

Inti College principal Dr Michael Yap Sau Moi said the short-listing process was a challenge as most of the students had excellent results.

The college is offering scholarships in TAFE Diploma in Accounting and Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

"Thousands of students have benefited from the Star Education Fund since its inception in 1994.



Selection time: Foo (standing) with some of the representatives of the educational institutions in Penang during the short-listing session yesterday.